



Stellenbosch

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forward together
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saam vorentoe

**ADDENDUM TO THE
RECTOR'S MANAGEMENT REPORT
to
COUNCIL**

Monday 18 September 2023

**Prof Wim de Villiers,
Rector and Vice-Chancellor**

Contents

1. A THRIVING STELLENBOSCH UNIVERSITY	5
1.1 Ongoing engagement through Imbizo 365	5
1.2 Flexing our governance muscles	5
1.3 Council elections and appointments	5
1.4 Transformation news	5
1.5 Celebrating isiXhosa as part of Africa Month	7
1.6 SU Woordfees and Choir	7
1.7 Busy programme at SU Museum	8
1.8 Non-stop learning about teaching, learning and assessment	9
1.9 Making sense of artificial intelligence in teaching, learning and assessment	10
1.10 Excellent result for creative output subsidies and units	10
1.11 Strengthening monitoring and evaluation of social impact	10
1.12 Consultation on Anti-GBV Strategic Plan	11
1.13 Creating a more disability-aware campus	11
2. TRANSFORMATIVE STUDENT EXPERIENCE	12
2.1 New student feedback solution	12
2.2 Electing student leaders	12
2.3 Hundreds of tutors trained	12
2.4 Writing Lab a key partner on students' learning journey	12
2.5 Language Centre modules reach over half of SU first-years	13
2.6 New-age offerings to reach new student markets	13
2.7 Summit for aspiring student leaders	13
2.8 SUNStudent function will streamline postgraduate management	13
2.9 Keeping postgraduates connected and supported	14
2.10 Guidance for existing and hopeful postgraduate scholarship recipients	14
2.11 New postgraduate scholarship developments	14
2.12 Bursary students receive enriching experiential learning opportunities	15
2.13 SU students graduate from AIMS	16
2.14 Language learning enriches international student experience	17
2.15 Higher Health grant to enhance student health and wellness	18
2.16 Introducing summer school students to public health in South Africa	18
2.17 Overall student enrolments on the up	19
2.18 Undergraduate applications and admissions for 2024	20
2.19 Strengthening capacity for student advice and support	22
3. PURPOSEFUL PARTNERSHIPS AND INCLUSIVE NETWORKS	22

3.1 Writing Lab involved in national multilingual collaboration.....	22
3.2 TransGariiep partnership turns students into leaders	22
3.4 Campus Health Service supports Team SA at World Student Games	23
3.5 Old Lückhoff School epitomises purposeful partnerships	23
3.6 Crowdhelix creates opportunities for global collaboration.....	24
3.7 SU research networks boosted thanks to COST Actions grants	24
3.8 Joining forces to enhance African entrepreneurship.....	24
3.9 Advocating for open science	25
3.10 Studying religion in contemporary society as part of SA–German network.....	25
3.11 Theology publication made accessible to Francophone and Lusophone Africa	25
4. NETWORKED AND COLLABORATIVE TEACHING AND LEARNING.....	26
4.1 Unlocking visual arts for learners	26
4.2 Language Centre and FMHS team up to improve medical students' patient communication.....	26
4.3 Celebrating lecturer–interpreter collaboration	26
4.4 Evolving as digital scholars	27
4.5 Training Neelsie security officers.....	27
4.6 UPSS gearing up to become counselling internship site.....	27
5. RESEARCH FOR IMPACT	28
5.1 Ubuntu Dialogues book to launch soon.....	28
5.2 Postdoctoral project foregrounds stories of SA Cape Coloured Corps.....	28
5.3 SU showcases engineering expertise in Gauteng	28
5.4 Inaugural lectures provide window on impactful research.....	28
5.5 Stellenbosch sedimentologist helps discover new dinosaur species	30
5.6 SU scientist garners recognition from world's largest sports medicine and exercise science organisation.....	30
5.7 Research outputs to aid those affected by historical trauma	30
5.8 Three coveted 'Science Oscars' for SU.....	31
5.9 Quantum Computing professor awarded Italian order of chivalry	31
5.10 Lifetime achievement award for Genomics professor	32
5.11 Chair in human rights law leads drafting of global human rights principles for future generations	32
5.12 Postdoctoral fellows gather at SU for national research forum	32
5.13 Engineering postdoc scoops POMS award	33
5.14 NRF ratings climbing steadily.....	33
5.15 Fostering teaching, learning and assessment scholarship	33

5.16 Multilingualism workshops culminate in opinion piece.....	34
5.17 Retreats stimulate high-impact writing	34
6. EMPLOYER OF CHOICE	35
6.1 Staff eagerly learning isiXhosa	35
6.2 Language Centre's Comms Lab further streamlines office communication at SU..	35
6.3 Keeping staff safe.....	35
6.4 Monitoring the health of our workforce through MaRooN Health Passport	36
ADDENDUM: OP-EDs AND COLUMNS.....	36
Opinion editorials (8 May to 11 August 2023)	36
How multilingualism can build communities.	40
Columns (8 May to 11 August 2023)	42

1. A THRIVING STELLENBOSCH UNIVERSITY

1.1 Ongoing engagement through Imbizo 365

Themes covered as part of the Imbizo 365 engagement calendar in the past few months were our connectedness to Africa (Africa Day, 25 May), youth activism and innovation (Youth Day, 16 June) and gender (Women's Day, 9 August).

For the **Africa Day** event, the Transformation Office partnered with Stellenbosch University (SU) International to explore the African student experience at our university.

To mark **Youth Day**, the Faculty of Theology helped host a lecture (see picture alongside) on how to negotiate student wellness in higher education, with a specific focus on SU. The talk addressed post-Covid-19 mental health challenges and student leadership.



Pictured with student panellists at the Youth Day lecture are (far left) Prof Deresh Ramjugernath, Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Learning and Teaching, and (kneeling in front) Prof Shantelle Weber, an associate professor in the Faculty of Theology.

To shine a light on **gender issues in August**, an interactive book review featured Shana Fife's *Ougat: From a Hoe into a Housewife and then Some*. The event included a panel discussion with students participating in the Writing for Change programme, encouraging critical reflection.

1.2 Flexing our governance muscles

Arranging the extraordinary meeting of the Convocation on 1 June 2023 offered us an opportunity to enhance our governance framework. The Compliance Office and the Division of Development and Alumni Relations (DAR) supported the Convocation in organising the meeting, where retired judge Ben Griesel served as ad hoc chair. The meeting video and outcomes were made available online.

1.3 Council elections and appointments

At its previous meeting, Council elected Jannie Durand, chief executive of Remgro, as its deputy chair. Jannie has served on Council for many years in many capacities, including on the Executive Committee and the Audit and Risk Committee.

Moreover, Bertina Engelbrecht was appointed as a new Council member. Bertina is currently the group chief executive of the Clicks Group. A lawyer by training, she obtained law degrees from the universities of the Western Cape and Cape Town and completed a Management Development Programme at the Stellenbosch Business School. Her Council term runs from 1 September 2023 until 31 August 2027.

1.4 Transformation news

The **Transformation Office's annual report** for 2022 was finalised and distributed to strategic partners, including the Institutional Transformation Committee.

Consultative sessions on the **second draft of the Transformation Policy** continued throughout the period in review. Sessions were held with the General Managers' Meeting in June and with the faculties at their respective faculty board meetings in August. The SRC also submitted their comments towards the end of June.

The **development of our Transformation Plan** is well under way. The plan is informed by detailed indicators and targets relating to the five transformation themes conceptualised and assessed by Information Governance. The five themes are increased racial diversity, increased diversity of the student population, universal access, academic transformation, and transformation competencies. A template has been developed for further discussion with the various divisional heads to determine realistic timelines and targets.

As part of the **pilot project on restitution**, a collaboration between the Centre for the Study of the Afterlife of Violence and the Reparative Quest (AVReQ) and the Transformation Office, some 15 colleagues were invited to embark on a relational and practical journey from July to mid-September. At the initial sessions on 31 July and 14 August, participants engaged deeply with SU's restitution statement on a personal level and completed a practical challenge relating to the implementation of the statement.

The monthly **Siyakhula conversations with staff** continue to encourage reflection on how to transform the SU workplace. The following themes were explored during the reporting period:

- Personal and collective wellbeing as (rest)itution, with facilitators Ayanda Nyoka and Dr Wilhelm Verwoerd from AVReQ, 25 May
- Decoloniality as critical to transforming SU's institutional culture, facilitated by Prof Kopano Ratele, 22 June
- The SU ECARE values for a diverse workplace and culture, facilitated by Katlego Letlonkane, manager of Diversity and Capacity Development, 20 July

The MFM 92.6 award-winning **talk show Siyakhula Live** is a popular platform to stimulate conversations on diversity and transformation, both at SU and in the broader Maties community:

- On 24 May, Mawethu Nyakatya discussed the official opening of the Krotoa building, honouring the First Nations people. He also gave an update on the visual redress project, including the renaming of the dining hall at Goldfields residence to 'Sada Oms', which is Khoisan for 'our house'.
- In recognition of Workers' Month, the show on 31 May acknowledged workers' resilience in challenging socioeconomic conditions. Conversations with representatives from the Domestic Workers Union and Izwi Domestic Workers

Alliance centred on social justice and domestic workers' experiences.



- A Youth Month-inspired conversation on 7 June introduced an SU student-led initiative that promotes multiculturalism through conversation dinners with surrounding communities. Student cluster convenors also shared their efforts in shaping the SU student experience (*pictured left*).

- On 17 June, the focus was on sports as a priority for SU students and a way to reclaim national pride and liberation. Guests included the SRC sports manager and a former rugby player.

- The importance of art as a medium for self-expression and representing community voices was the theme of the show on 21 June. Linda Sikhakhane, 2022 Standard Bank Young Artist winner in the jazz category, joined in the conversation.
- On 28 June, the organisers, artists and indigenous practitioners involved in AVReQ's event Dialogues Across Violent Histories: Indigenous Arts and Social Cohesion were featured on the show. The focus was on the role of art and indigenous practices in responding to trauma and fostering healing.

Finally, as part of the **Transformation Learning Network**, SU stakeholders tuned in for sessions by Dr Kudzaishe Peter Vanyoro (29 June) and Prof Melissa Steyn (27 July), an associate researcher and the director of the Wits Centre for Diversity Studies respectively. The former focused on how language contributes to the marginalisation and exploitation of gender non-conforming individuals at universities, while the latter analysed how diversity hierarchies and institutionalised oppressions are imposed through specific social contexts and material arrangements. The Transformation Learning Network is a series of online engagements for SU staff involved in transformation work

1.5 Celebrating isiXhosa as part of Africa Month

The Language Centre marked Africa Month (May) by celebrating the isiXhosa language. IsiXhosa 'words of the day' were posted on the Centre's [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [LinkedIn](#) accounts to raise public awareness of the language. The posts, which also contained graphics depicting the meaning of the words, were widely shared and received a positive response on all platforms. Moreover, a blog in [English](#), [Afrikaans](#) and [isiXhosa](#) highlighted the important role of interpreters on the African continent (*see blog*



teasers below).



1.6 SU Woordfees and Choir

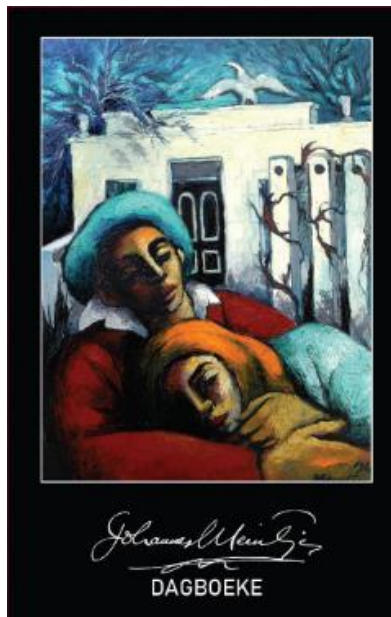
The Toyota SU Woordfees returns in October with an extensive nine-day programme. The trilingual Sanlam WOW (Words Open Worlds) Spelling Festival has started, involving over 1 000 schools, and a Counting Festival is also being piloted in the Stellenbosch region. WOW's 20th birthday will be celebrated during Woordfees with a special concert featuring artists such as Early B, Mango Groove, and Dr Victor and the Rasta Rebels.

The SU Choir had their fourth gala concert for the year in early August, and recordings of this year's repertoire will be made available on streaming platforms.

1.7 Busy programme at SU Museum

The SU Museum has mastered the art of staging **relevant exhibitions** with a direct link to real-world events. On 19 May, the Museum hosted the launch of *Johannes Meintjes DAGBOEKE*, a collection of the artist's journal entries compiled by LM de Waal and Kobus Opperman (*book cover below left*). The book launch was accompanied by an exhibition of Meintjes's artworks drawn from SU's permanent collection.

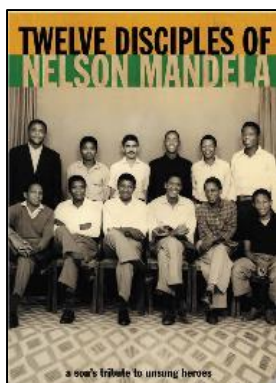
The very next day, the Museum presented an exhibition on Krotoa (*below right*) as part of the formal renaming ceremony of the Wilcocks building. The exhibition, *!Nau for now*, also featured traditional rituals led by Khoisan leaders, as well as performances.



Two **Wednesday Art Walkabouts** were hosted on 3 May and 7 June respectively. The former was themed "Printmaking" with guest artist Paddy Bouma, while the latter examined the theme "Sculpture" and featured guest artist Claudette Schreuders.

The **African Drumming Tuesdays** sessions in the reporting period (9 May and 13 June) were well attended. In fact, all sessions for the remainder of 2023 are fully booked.

The Museum also hosted two **Just Conversations** events. The first, on 10 May, featured Prof Leslie Witz discussing his book *Museum times: Changing histories in South Africa*. For the second event, on 29 June, Prof Sylvia E. Vollenhoven addressed the theme "Krotoa is present: Exploring the gift of a 17th-century story". Khoisan leaders and activists were in attendance and generated significant interest from the audience.



To mark International Museums Month (May), the SU Museum **screened the documentary** *Twelve disciples of Nelson Mandela: A son's tribute to unsung heroes*. The film focuses on the first wave of South African exiles who left their homeland in 1960 to join Nelson Mandela's global anti-apartheid movement. The event included a conversation with the film's director, Thomas Allen Harris, a filmmaker and professor at Yale University, who was raised by one of Mandela's "disciples".

From 1 January to 30 June, 6 435 people participated in the Museum's activities. This represents a significant increase from the 2 102 participants reported for the same period in 2022.

1.8 Non-stop learning about teaching, learning and assessment

The second community-of-practice meeting for **our seven teaching fellows** took place on 4 August. Here, Profs Nicola Plastow, Dennis Francis, Susan van Schalkwyk, Debby Blaine and Drs Taryn Bernard, Gretha Steenkamp and Marnel Mouton were able to share progress with their research projects and discuss challenges and opportunities.

The 53 participants enrolled for this year's **Professional Educational Development of Academics (PREDAC)** short course completed phase 2 in May and June. This involved:

- reflecting on their teaching practices and identifying areas for improvement during peer-to-peer feedback sessions; and
- attending a two-day contact session on the Designing Learning, Teaching and Assessment (DeLTA) framework.

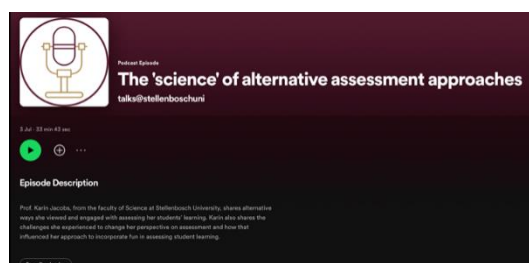
In July and August, they completed small-scale action research projects, implementing their designed learning opportunities in class, gathering student feedback, and reflecting on the results. This will form the basis for their poster presentations at the annual Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) conference in October.

The 2023 edition of the **SoTL short course** has attracted 14 lecturers from seven faculties, who will each be guided in conceptualising and designing an SoTL research study. In May and June, participants worked through self-paced online resources and literature to identify and formulate research problems and questions relating to their teaching. In the June and August contact sessions, they shared their research proposals, reflected on the significance of exploring their research questions, and selected and discussed appropriate research methodologies and education theories to inform their studies.

Having completed the **assessment short course** in the first semester, 18 participants from various faculties presented their revised assessment plans for their own respective modules in June, benefiting from interdisciplinary discussions and learning from one another's experiences. The second-semester intake already commenced their work in August. The course includes online information sessions and discussions on assessment topics in line with SU's Assessment Policy.

The May and July contact sessions of the **Scholarship of Educational Leadership (SoEL) short course** addressed the themes "Educational leadership for change" and "Educational research as leadership" respectively. In between these sessions, participants discussed and presented their draft research ideas to facilitators, preparing for their writing days scheduled for the end of August.

On 25 July, Dr Philip Southey (Physics) presented **an Auxin lunch-hour session** on "Modelling students' minds – what cognitive science can teach us about teaching". The engaging talk explored different cognitive models of 'understanding', and how these align with different approaches to teaching, learning and assessment. The cognitive science of feelings such as fear and uncertainty was also considered, and how these may present in the classroom environment.



Our **podcast series *Let's talk transformative assessment*** was launched on 3 July. In the [first episode](#), Prof Karin Jacobs (Microbiology) spoke with hosts Dr Hanelie Adendorff and

Elzette le Roux on "The 'science' of alternative assessment approaches" (*see screenshot alongside*). The [second](#) and [third](#) episodes went live on 17 July and 7 August respectively. For the former, Dr Jan Petrus Bosman (Centre for Learning Technologies) addressed the controversial issue of ChatGPT and artificial intelligence in assessment, while the latter featured Prof Herman Swart (Psychology), who reflected on what Covid-19 had taught us about assessment. The podcast series will comprise ten episodes, which will be released at two-week intervals.

The Centre for Learning Technologies continues to grow its **short-course offering on blended teaching, learning and assessment**. It has recently launched a SUNLearn training module, which guides new SUNLearn users through an overview of the basics of SU's learning management system, its functionalities and tools. Thirteen participants, mostly new academic or support services staff, have already enrolled. This is in addition to the Centre's existing two courses, "Introduction to Blended Teaching, Learning and Assessment" and "Advanced Blended Teaching, Learning and Assessment".

1.9 Making sense of artificial intelligence in teaching, learning and assessment

Another three webinars were hosted in our **AI² discussion series**, which focuses on preserving academic integrity in the face of artificial intelligence (AI).

- On 23 May, Dr Albert Strever and Dalene Joubert presented the session "AI² x Auxin: AI-enabled learning", focusing on the transformative impact of AI on higher education and how it may be integrated into teaching, learning and assessment practices.
- For the webinar "AI and assessment" on 21 June, Drs Sharon Malan and Hanelie Adendorff discussed the impact of accessible generative AI on assessment practices and suggested ways to redesign summative assessments to incorporate AI tools.
- Magriet de Villiers and Dalene Joubert explored the ethics of AI implementation in "AI and values/ethics" on 25 July.

All sessions are recorded and hosted on the [webpage of the Division of Learning and Teaching Enhancement](#).

The AI² webinars presented to date have also been converted into a **professional learning opportunity** (accredited short course) for SU staff. The pilot course offers staff a space to come to grips with the influence of AI on their teaching, learning and assessment practices. The asynchronous and self-paced course concludes with a contact session and a presentation in September.

1.10 Excellent result for creative output subsidies and units

We have received approved subsidies and awarded units from the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET) for our creative research outputs in 2020 and 2021. The Music subfield yielded the highest number of accrued units in both years. SU maintained its position as the institution with the highest number of submissions and achieved the highest cumulative total and sector proportion of awarded units of 17 institutions.

1.11 Strengthening monitoring and evaluation of social impact

In an effort to redevelop and enhance monitoring and evaluation of our Social Impact Knowledge Platform, staff from our Division of Social Impact are working with peers from Nelson Mandela University and the University of the Free State to conceptualise a monitoring and evaluation tool tailor-made for higher education institutions.

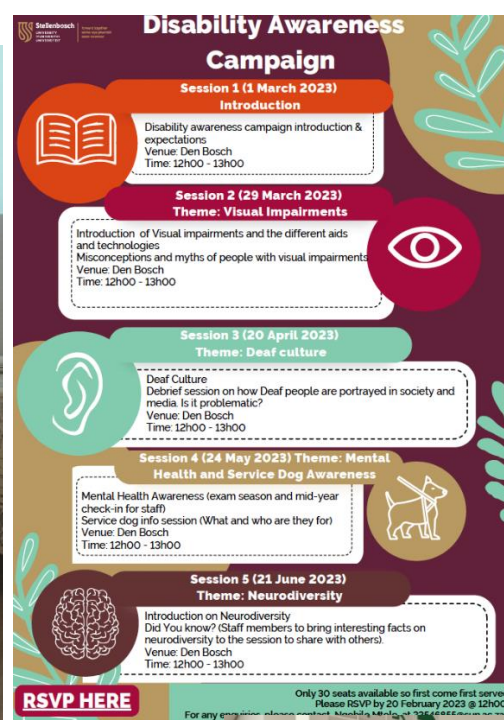
The ongoing registration and profiling of social impact initiatives on the Knowledge Platform remains a priority. To this end, engagements with the various faculties' social impact committees continue, and individuals are assisted with registering their projects.

1.12 Consultation on Anti-GBV Strategic Plan

Our Anti-Gender-Based Violence Strategic Plan was shared with the SU community for consultation and feedback in June, and input was received up until early August. The team is now considering all comments and incorporating them into the document, which will then be submitted to the Rectorate as an addendum to the updated Unfair Discrimination, Harassment, GBV and HIV/Aids Policy. The plan provides guidance on establishing and implementing infrastructure to address gender-based violence and enhance anti-GBV initiatives for both staff and students. It also outlines the reporting processes from relevant SU structures to the Rectorate.

1.13 Creating a more disability-aware campus

Towards the end of May, the **service dog organisation Honeys Garden visited** Stellenbosch campus to share information about the dogs they train and their uses. SU staff and students had the opportunity to meet some of these hardworking dogs-in-training (*pictured below left*). The visit coincided with a disability awareness session that focused on mental health and its impact on the work and study environment (*session 4 on programme depicted below right*).



To stay abreast of new developments in the disability and healthcare space, Lizelle Apollis (Inclusivity and Access support officer, Disability Unit) and Luigia Nicholas (Marketing and Training coordinator, Disability Unit) (*pictured alongside, left and right respectively*) attended **the Stellenbosch Disability Research Hub conference** on 24 and 25 May. The conference was hosted by the Hub, SU's Centre for Disability and Rehabilitation Studies, and the



London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. It attracted national and international disability advocates.

2. TRANSFORMATIVE STUDENT EXPERIENCE

2.1 New student feedback solution

A task team appointed by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Learning and Teaching considered two tenders for a new student feedback solution. Both solutions support the formative use of student feedback, assisting lecturers in their professional learning and growth. The successful bidder will be announced shortly. The aim is to have the new solution implemented for full use by the first semester of 2024.

2.2 Electing student leaders

From July to early September, leadership elections for various student governance structures took place across our campuses. The Student Governance Office in the Centre for Student Leadership, Experiential Education and Citizenship (CSLEEC) plays a vital role in supporting student leaders by providing leadership development training and guidance.

The SRC executive appointed the electoral commission who was responsible for managing and facilitating the SRC elections. Wade du Plessis and Bridget Massey served as electoral commissioners for Stellenbosch campus, while Kevin Naude served as the Tygerberg election commissioner.

2.3 Hundreds of tutors trained

Our course in peer-to-peer facilitation of learning is an online programme designed to help tutors (or peer facilitators) enhance their peer facilitation skills. In the first semester, 285 tutors joined the course. Since its inception in 2021, the programme has earned 292 students academic transcript recognition. It is currently being refreshed in terms of design and content based on stakeholder feedback.

The course's University Capacity Development Grant (UCDG) funding will be coming to an end soon, and further funding is being sought.

2.4 Writing Lab a key partner on students' learning journey

In the period in review, the Writing Lab offered writing assistance to students in Agricultural Economics, Intercultural Communication (Engineering), MBA, Texts in the Humanities as well as Theology modules, and to individual students approaching the Lab for help. From May to August, over 1 200 **writing consultations** were conducted. The Writing Lab remains active during exam and recess periods, when they mostly assist postgraduates.

The Lab's **workshops** continue in online, face-to-face and hybrid format. The 24 workshops presented from May to August attracted students from all faculties. Some sessions were collaborations with Nelson Mandela University, the Reading Lab, the Postgraduate Office, and the Centre for Higher and Adult Education. Moreover, the Writing Lab presented two sessions at the African Doctoral Academy winter school and five workshops for the Africa Centre for Scholarship's joint doctoral schools with other universities on the continent.

2.5 Language Centre modules reach over half of SU first-years

More than 50% of our first-year students completed the Language Centre's six credit-bearing academic and professional literacies modules in the first semester. The final enrolment figure surpassed all expectations, totalling 3 285. The modules are Academic Literacy for Theology, Intercultural Communication for Engineers, Science in Context, Scientific Communication, Legal Skills, and Professional Communication for Economic and Management Sciences Students.

2.6 New-age offerings to reach new student markets

Several new offerings are being developed with hybrid-learning seed funding. These include two postgraduate diplomas for the School of Public Leadership and the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, an honours programme for the Faculty of Science, and six StellenboschX courses.

The StellenboschX courses will be for inclusion in SU's course portfolio on the edX platform. The programmes will range from a professional certificate in artificial intelligence in higher education, to a series on multilingualism, incorporating courses on South African Sign Language and isiXhosa language and culture, as well as a course in media and digital policy in Africa.

Additionally, the highly successful pilot StellenboschX offering on strategic human resource management has now commenced its second implementation on edX thanks to sustained interest.

2.7 Summit for aspiring student leaders

The Leadership Summit for Aspiring Leaders (LSAL) took place at the Jan Mouton Learning Centre on 29 July. LSAL – initiated by the CSLEEC in 2020 – enables students to develop leadership skills, learn from experts, and discuss leadership challenges on campus.

The theme for this year's event was "Cultivating the leader within US", focusing on institutional culture and its role in achieving goals, inclusivity, and diversity in higher education. Speakers included Prof Zeblon Vilakazi (Vice-Chancellor and Principal of Wits University), Dr Claire Kelly (Equity and Institutional Culture director at Rhodes University), Rukshana Parker (lecturer in Private Law, SU), Ms Edwina Brooks (Student Development director at the University of Cape Town), Prof Fortunate Silinda (head of Psychology at Unisa) as well as SU student leaders Caithlin Sithole, Nina Hugo, Westley Ceasar and Kwenzokuhle Khumalo.

Attracting 842 participants (the highest number since inception), the summit also included online sessions prior to and after the event, which offered students a chance to earn recognition on their academic transcripts.

2.8 SUNStudent function will streamline postgraduate management

The SUNStudent Postgraduate Management (SUNSPGM) capability is nearly complete. Software company Serosoft hosted an online introductory session for end users on 31 July. The next steps before go-live will be user acceptance testing and training. Certain aspects of SUNSPGM will become available in 2024 only, with ongoing feature improvement expected.

SUNSPGM offers various functions, including reporting on both registered and unregistered students, linking supervisors to students, reports on supervision activities, and enabling students and supervisors to upload progress reports and memorandums

of understanding. It also allows departments to confirm postgraduate student activities, capture thesis titles and examiner information, and manage thesis examinations. Supervisors will find the pre-populated examiner nomination forms particularly beneficial and time-efficient.

Both administrative users and supervisors will require training to utilise SUNSPGM effectively.

2.9 Keeping postgraduates connected and supported

The Postgraduate Office distributed three [Postgraduate Times](#) newsletters to registered postgraduate students between mid-April and mid-July. Information on funding opportunities, ethics clearance and skills training was particularly popular.

To **engage students** beyond email, the Office took to [social media](#) to share information on available resources and support. A post about the National Research Foundation-Minds (the Mandela Institute for Development Studies) scholarship and a blog by Prof Ruth Albertyn, extraordinary associate professor specialising in postgraduate research development, achieved high engagement.

In addition, the Postgraduate Office's **skills development** programme conducted 23 [workshops](#).

To ensure that our postgraduate students receive expert guidance from their supervisors, the Division for Research Development presents regular **supervisor training** courses. Prof Chrissie Boughey and Dr Nompilo Tshuma co-presented the May/June edition, which was attended by 49 academic staff from nine of SU's ten faculties (*see alongside*).



2.10 Guidance for existing and hopeful postgraduate scholarship recipients

In collaboration with the Harry Crossley Foundation, the Postgraduate Office has launched its online '**wrap-around support**' workshops on topics such as CV writing, interview skills, career planning and coaching, personal branding, financial literacy, and money management. Altogether 26 sessions will be hosted throughout the year as a way of providing greater holistic support and assistance to our existing postgraduate scholarship recipients.

In addition, the Postgraduate Office partnered with the National Research Foundation (NRF) to host an online training session with **practical tips for completing the NRF scholarship application form**. Attendance was exceptional, with over 150 students participating. Another information session targeting prospective honours students will take place later this year.

2.11 New postgraduate scholarship developments

PhD candidates Jade Andrews (AgriSciences) and Simiso Nyandeni (Arts and Social Sciences) have been selected as SU's **2023 GreenMatter fellows**. These prestigious scholarships support student projects that aim to tackle environmental and biodiversity-related challenges.

The Postgraduate Office has also entered into an agreement with the Margaret McNamara Education Grants (MMEG) programme, which supports and empowers women researchers focusing on the wellbeing of women and children. The agreement will see SU co-fund two scholars for three years.

2.12 Bursary students receive enriching experiential learning opportunities

The Bursary Support team have designed and facilitated several experiential learning opportunities for our bursary students since the start of the second semester. Beneficiaries of the **Carl & Emily Fuchs Foundation (CEFF)-Chancellor's Bursary Programme** participated in a Gallup/Clifton StrengthsFinder workshop on 5 August (pictured below).



Pictures courtesy of Andre Engelbrecht.

CEFF students also reported on their **2022 community service activities**, connecting their academic programmes and passions with existing community structures such as churches, hospitals, hospices and the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.



Some highlights of students' submissions are shown in the collage below:

Dell Young Leaders beneficiaries took part in a leadership symposium, while **Ikusasa Student Financial Aid Programme (ISFAP) students** attended a time and stress management workshop, both on 12 August.

2.13 SU students graduate from AIMS

Seventeen SU students graduated from the African Institute for Mathematical Sciences (AIMS) at the end of June (*pictured below*). Our students also received three of the four scholarships awarded at the ceremony.

AIMS offers a structured one-year master's programme in Mathematical Sciences to build a critical mass of African academics, researchers and entrepreneurs in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). There are intakes in August and January. AIMS South Africa also offers specialised courses as part of regular honours and master's degree programmes at South African universities.



2.14 Language learning enriches international student experience



A group of 23 master's students from the **National Institute of Polytechnics Félix Houphouët Boigny in Côte D'Ivoire** completed a five-week Business English immersion course with the Language Centre (*pictured alongside*). A collaboration with SU International's Centre for Collaboration in Africa, the programme marks the first non-degree Africa mobility event of its kind and offers potential for similar future initiatives. A [video](#) was created to capture the students' experiences during the programme.

In addition, 280 students from the **SKEMA business school in Paris** completed the Language Centre's English for Academic Purposes (EAP) course in the first semester (*pictured on the right*). Another cohort is expected to attend the course in the second half of the year.

Alongside their studies at SU, 16 students visiting from the **University of Georgia in the United States** learnt basic isiXhosa and Afrikaans.

The first semester also saw **students from England, Switzerland, Germany, Finland, the United States and Dubai** attend the Beginner Afrikaans Level 1 module offered by the Language Centre through SU International's Global Education Programme (GEP) offering (*see alongside, with lecturer Dr Vernita Beukes*



third from left).



The Afrikaanse Taal- en Kultuurkursus vir Nederlandssprekendes (**Afrikaans Language and Culture Course for Speakers of Dutch**), another GEP offering, had a successful first-semester



mostly postgraduate students who have been in South Africa for some time. They were eager and excited to learn about isiXhosa culture, actively participating in lectures and completing assignments on time. The course concluded with a field trip to Kayamandi (see picture left), where students experienced the local culture, food and traditions.

Finally, the **Intensive English**

Programme (IEP) continues to draw students from all over the world. The course is designed to enhance students' English reading, writing, listening and speaking skills on six levels from beginner to advanced. The current cohort of multilingual students come from various countries. The programme also includes fortnightly excursions that allow the students to interact.

intake. The course explores the differences and similarities between Afrikaans and Dutch, while immersing students in the rich culture of the Afrikaans-speaking community. Students also enjoy unique experiences through outings (pictured during visit to the Taalmonument alongside) and guest visits.

The first-semester intake for the GEP module **isiXhosa Language and Culture** comprised



2.15 Higher Health grant to enhance student health and wellness

The Equality Unit received a R650 000 Higher Health grant for the period June 2023 to March 2025. The grant is intended to support student health, wellness, development and psychosocial support under the eight themes of HIV, sexually transmitted infections, sexual reproductive health, LGBTQIA+, disability, mental health, substance dependence, and gender-based violence. The Equality Unit will coordinate our institutional approach, collaborating with Student Affairs, the Centre for Student Counselling and Development, the Campus Health Service, and HR Wellness.

2.16 Introducing summer school students to public health in South Africa

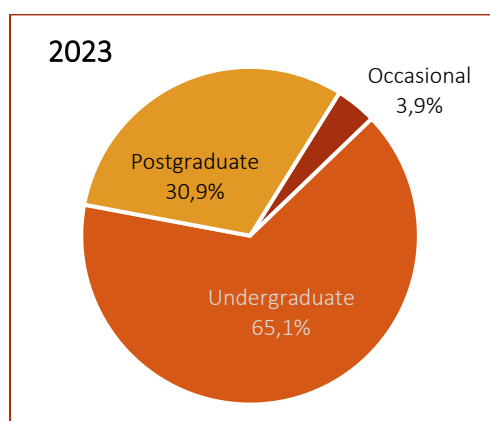
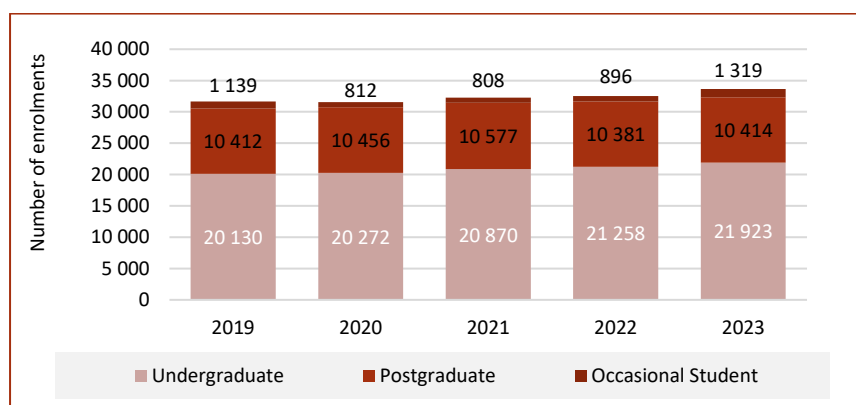
The Campus Health Service presented a course on public health in the South African context at SU's summer school in July (pictured below). In addition to learning about the local health care system in class, students also visited Stellenbosch Hospital, Bishop Lavis Community Health Centre, Tygerberg Hospital, Hesketh King Treatment Centre, and the Biomedical Research Institute on Tygerberg campus. The students in the group

were mainly from the United States.



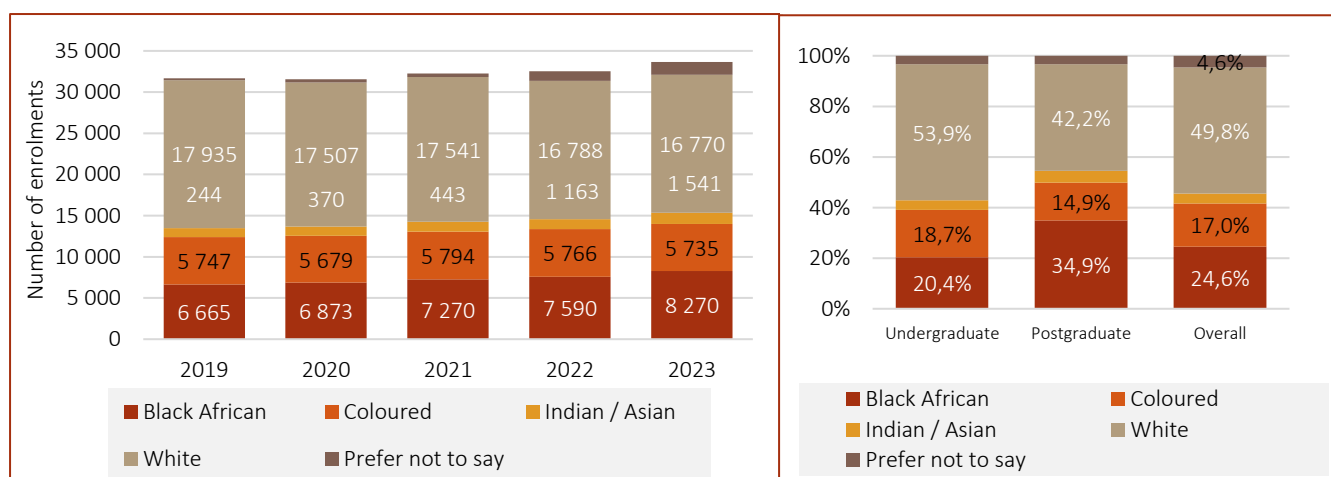
2.17 Overall student enrolments on the up

Our Division of Information Governance released SU's annual enrolment statistics in June. (For detailed information, consult their [full report](#).)



Total enrolments increased by 3,4% from 32 535 in June 2022 to 33 656 in June 2023 (see graphs below). This is attributed to a 3,1% increase in undergraduate enrolments and a 47,2% increase in occasional student enrolments (students who enrol for selected modules only). Postgraduate enrolments increased marginally by 0,3%.

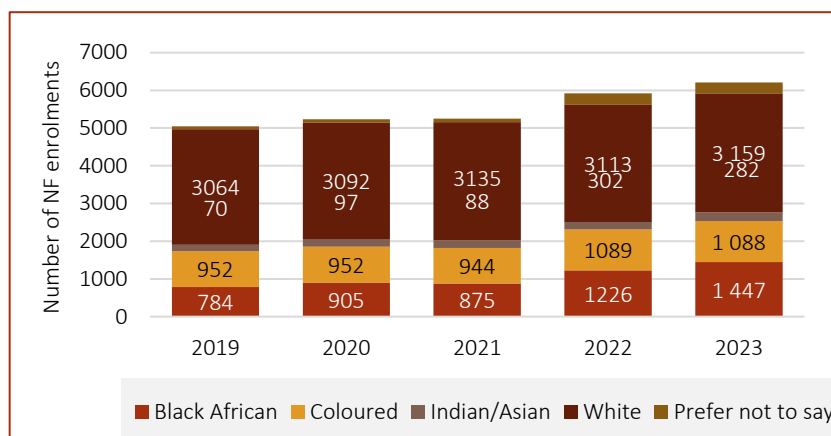
An assessment of enrolments **by population group** (see graphs below) reveals a 9,0% increase in black African enrolments from 2022 to 2023. White enrolments remained virtually unchanged in number, but decreased in proportion from 51,6% in 2022 to 49,8% in 2023.



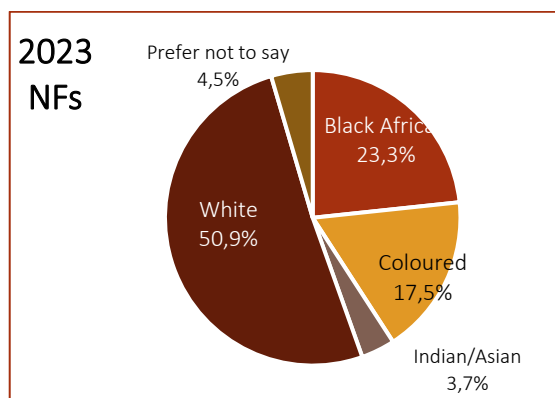
Note: For reporting purposes, Asian and Indian students were

grouped together.

The number of coloured, black African, Indian and Asian (CBIA) **newcomer first-year enrolments** increased by 10,3% from 2 506 in 2022 to 2 765 in 2023 (see graphs below). The 2023 CBIA enrolments were 14,4% above the June enrolment target. White newcomer first-year enrolments increased slightly by 1,5% from 3 113 in 2022 to 3 159 in 2023. The CBIA newcomers accounted for 44,6% of total 2023 newcomer enrolments – 1,5 percentage points above the target of 43,1%. The number of black African newcomer first-year enrolments increased by 84,6% from 2019 to 2023.

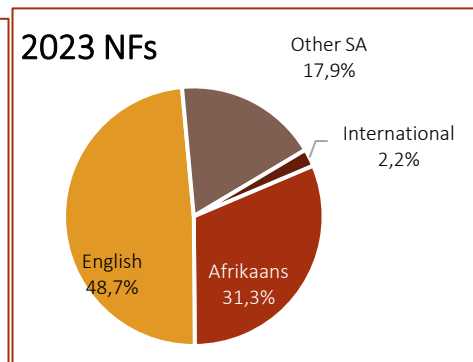
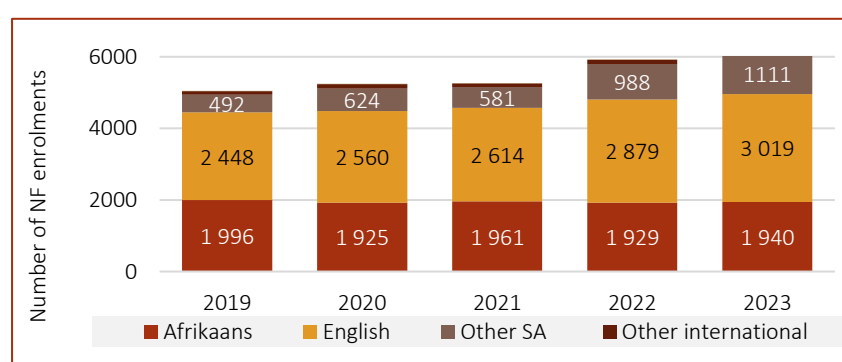


Note: NF = newcomer first-year.



In terms of enrolments by **home language group**, the number of students with Afrikaans as their home language decreased by 3,87% from 2022. In contrast, those with English as their home language increased by 1,13%. Students with an official South African language other than Afrikaans or English as their home language increased by 12,93%. The number of students speaking an international language at home remained virtually unchanged.

Narrowing it down to newcomer first-years (see graphs below), the number of students with Afrikaans as their home language increased by 0,6% from 2022 to 2023, and those with English as their home language increased by 4,9%. Enrolments from other South African and international language groups increased by 12,4% and 11,7% respectively.

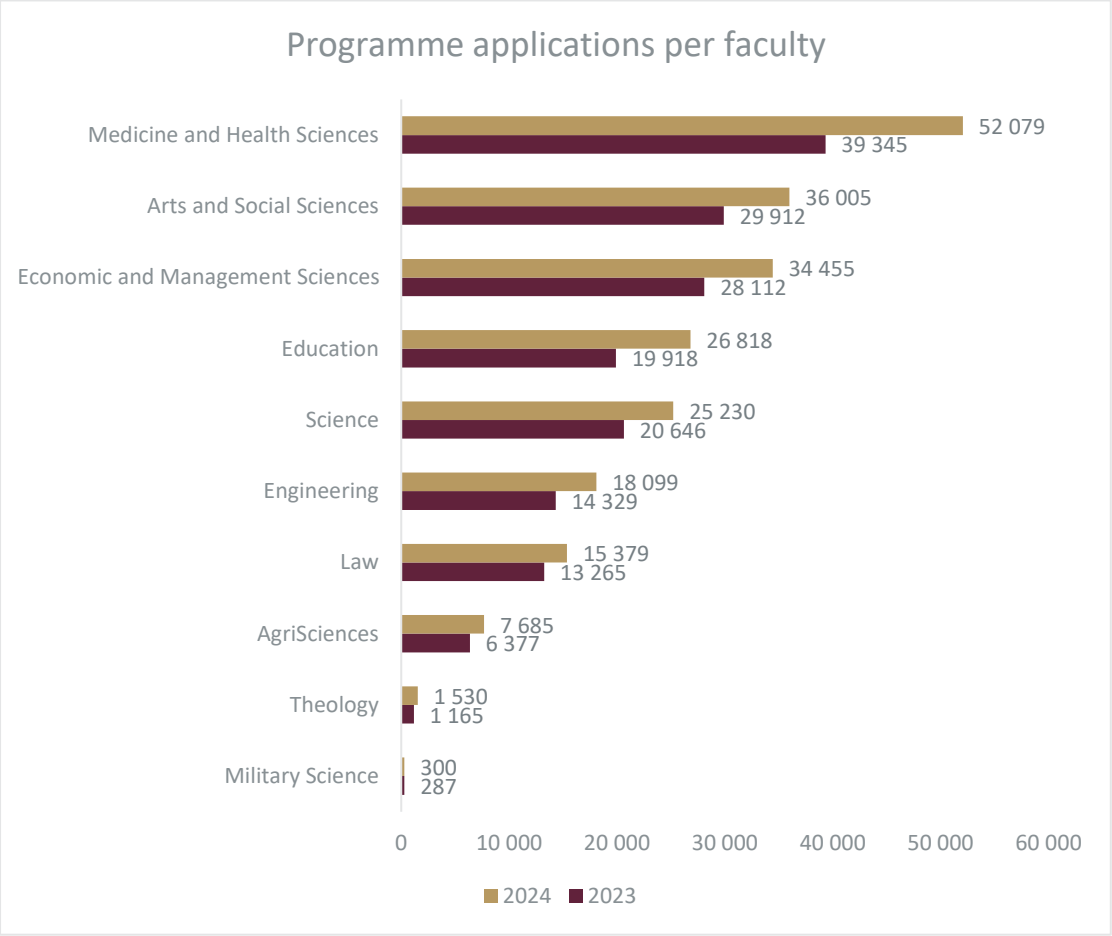


2.18 Undergraduate applications and admissions for 2024

Overall undergraduate programme applications increased by 25,5% from 173 356 for the 2023 intake to 217 580 for 2024.

Applications increased across all faculties. Medicine and Health Sciences, Education and Theology have seen increases of 30–35%. Arts and Social Sciences, Economic and

Management Sciences, AgriSciences, Engineering and Science received 20–26% more applications (see chart below).



Programme admission status (offers) by faculty as at the end of July can be summarised as follows:

Faculty	Submitted		Reviewed	Cancelled	Offer	Unsuccessful	Total
Medicine and Health Sciences	12 110		21 262	2		18 705	52 079
Arts and Social Sciences	8 909		10 108	12	2 478	14 498	36 005
Economic and Management Sciences	8 808		9 684	3	5 995	9 965	34 455
Education	6 286		3 332	1	262	16 937	26 818
Science	5 576		6 287		4 486	8 881	25 230
Engineering	4 761		4 506	4	3 403	5 425	18 099
Law	2 528		2 903		143	9 805	15 379
AgriSciences	2 092		2 667	2	900	2 024	7 685
Theology	608		373		216	333	1 530
Military Science	218		17			65	300
Total	51 896		61 139	24	17 883	86 638	217 580
	24%		28%	0%	8%	40%	

2.19 Strengthening capacity for student advice and support

In May, staff from the **Unit for Academic Counselling and Development (UACD)** commenced with the Student Affairs and Student Success training programme presented by Higher Education Leadership and Management (HELM). The training will be followed by biweekly online sessions leading up to a final colloquium in November.

UACD staff and faculty academic advisors also attended the national Academic Advising South Africa seminar in June. Here, they were exposed to the latest in academic advising practices to enhance student success and throughput.

The **Unit for Psychotherapeutic and Support Services (UPSS)**, in turn, facilitated a well-attended mental health campaign on the Rooiplein (*pictured alongside*), focusing on academic wellness and the June exams. This was in addition to seeing clients individually and in groups.

Two new staff members have joined the UPSS on Tygerberg and Stellenbosch campus respectively to increase the Unit's capacity to meet the high demand for psychological support services among students.



3. PURPOSEFUL PARTNERSHIPS AND INCLUSIVE NETWORKS

3.1 Writing Lab involved in national multilingual collaboration

The Language Centre's Writing Lab is collaborating with writing centres from the Durban University of Technology, the University of Cape Town (UCT) and Wits in hosting a nationwide creative writing competition themed "Voices". Participants may use English, isiZulu, isiXhosa, Setswana or Afrikaans to answer the question "What is voice and how do we claim it?".

Submissions may be short stories, poems, opinion pieces or multimedia works. The competition has been advertised, and online writers' workshops were conducted in June and August. Winners will be announced in October.



3.2 TransGariiep partnership turns students into leaders

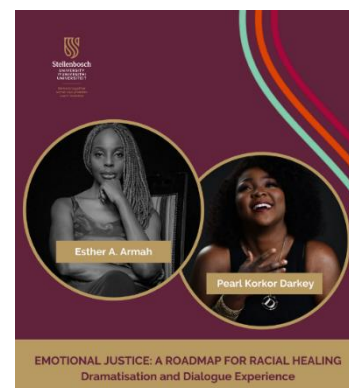
The TransGariiep Inter-Institutional Student Leadership Programme is a trilateral initiative



involving SU, UCT and Sol Plaatje University. Hosted from 2 to 8 July at SU and UCT, and from 9 to 14 July at Sol Plaatje, the programme aimed to equip students with future-focused leadership skills and competencies. It covered topics such as cultural intelligence, diversity literacy, and servant leadership. At SU, the programme included a visit to the Old Lückhoff School building (*pictured below*), where the Division of Social Impact and Lückhoff alumni executive members partnered with Centre for Student Communities to train students on university–community partnerships with a focus on restitution.

3.3 Partnering to foster emotional justice and racial healing

In July, Student Affairs, AVReQ and the Social Justice Agency jointly hosted a dialogue featuring Esther A. Armah, author of *Emotional justice: A roadmap for racial healing* (*event poster on the right*). The aim was to introduce the concept of emotional justice to students, student leaders and staff at SU. Ghanaian actress Pearl Korkor Darkey contributed to the discussion using her medium of the performing arts.



Join the Division Student Affairs at Stellenbosch University (SU), the Centre for the Affirmation of Violence and the Reproductive Justice and the Social Justice Agency as they co-host a dramatisation and dialogue experience with Esther A. Armah, author of the book, *Emotional Justice: A Roadmap for Racial Healing*.

Armah is a British playwright, political commentator, and international multimedia journalist who has worked in print, television and radio in London, New York, Chicago, Washington DC, Ghana, Nigeria, Kenya and South Africa. She is also the CEO of The Armah Institute of Emotional Justice (The AEI), an international institute creating innovative racial healing resources. Her book, *Emotional Justice: A Roadmap for Racial Healing* has been a #1 New Release on Amazon in the category General Sociology of Race Relations for six straight weeks. Armah has written five Emotional Justice plays that have been produced and performed in New York, Chicago and Ghana. Her Emotional Justice essays have featured in the New York Times bestselling book *Four Hundred Souls: A Community History of African America*, the award-winning *Line with Accountability*, the Charleston Syllabus and *Women & Migration 48*. She won the Community Impact Award at the 2020 Valuing Black Lives Global Emotional Empowerment Summit in Washington DC for her Emotional Justice work.

As part of the evening's programme, Ghanaian actress, dancer and videographer artist, Pearl Korkor Darkey, will deliver into the topic of emotional justice using the performing arts. Darkey also works as a performing artist at the AEI. She has performed at several other events in theatre productions such as *Chapman's* *Unsettled*, *The Venetian Show*, *For Anker's* *Virginia Monologues*, Esther Armah's *Safe Cargo* (Black Production's *The Man in the Dark* and *Left Abandoned*). The 2nd coming of *Neurosis*, *Divine* or *Survivor* and *What Happened to me?* (She has also gained considerable media attention through movies and TV series for *YOLO*).

Date: Thursday, 02 July 2023

Time: 18:00 - 19:00

Venue: SU Museum, Stuenkel Street, Stellenbosch

The event will be hybrid, so if you are unable to join us in person, you can join us online at <https://su.ac.za/online>

We ONLY HAVE ONE IN-PERSON SPOTS AVAILABLE, so book your seat by 14:00 ON 26 JULY 2023 at <https://su.ac.za/online>

EMOTIONAL JUSTICE

DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS

AVReQ

Centre for the Affirmation of Violence and the Reproductive Justice

the Social Justice Agency



3.4 Campus Health Service supports Team SA at World Student Games

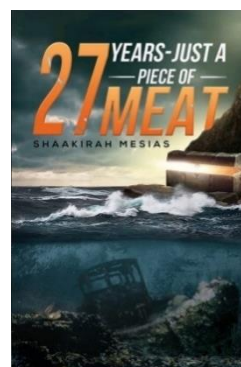
The Campus Health Service's Dr Craig Thompson was appointed chief medical officer for the South African student athletes who competed in the World Student Games in Chengdu, China. He travelled with Team SA to the event, which took place from 28 July to 8 August.

3.5 Old Lückhoff School epitomises purposeful partnerships

A decision was made to explore the creation of a community trust for the Old Lückhoff School building in collaboration with stakeholders, including Lückhoff alumni and community forums. This initiative is part of our commitment to restitution and restoring the building as a cherished community asset 53 years since the apartheid regime forcibly removed residents from the area.

The facility is already host to various impactful activities, including:

- a cybersecurity course for 22 interns by MiDO Technologies;
- a Pure Maths winter school programme for over 40 learners, as well as Saturday Pure Maths classes for grade 11 learners;
- the launch of Shaakirah Mesias's book *27 Years – Just a Piece of Meat* (*pictured below*);
- the Wiskunde Speel-Speel programme, which supports over 40 learners with computer literacy, mathematics and reading skills; and
- various learning programmes for learners up to matric by the Stellenbosch Community Learning Centre.



3.6 Crowdhelix creates opportunities for global collaboration

SU has joined the [Crowdhelix platform](#), a global 'open innovation' platform for researchers and innovators. This now enables our scholars to work with a worldwide network of more than 600 renowned universities and innovation companies. Crowdhelix uses machine learning and AI technology to connect likeminded researchers, industry experts and inspiring innovators, help them develop their ideas into funding proposals, and deliver groundbreaking projects.

Once users have completed their personal profiles and aligned their areas of expertise with Crowdhelix's 49 purpose-built research communities ('Helixes'), they have immediate access to a network of more than 11 000 academics and technology innovators.

3.7 SU research networks boosted thanks to COST Actions grants

We secured six European Union-funded COST Actions grants, which allowed SU staff and postgraduate students to grow their professional research networks. The grants enabled:

- Prof Manley Marena from Food Science to chair a scientific session and participate in the management committee meeting of the European Network for Assuring Food Integrity Using Non-Destructive Spectral Sensors (SensorFINT) in Germany;
- Mari van Wyk and Mia Schutte, MSc students in Food Science, to present a poster at the SensorFINT conference;
- Rumbidzai Matenda, a PhD student in Food Science, to participate in a short-term scientific mission for SensorFINT in Belgium;
- Dr Sebinasi Dzikiti from Horticultural Science to attend the annual meeting and workshop of Fruit Tree Crop REsponses to Water Deficit and Decision Support Systems Applications (FruitCREWS) in Italy; and
- Prof Neill Goosen from Process Engineering to network and exchange ideas at a meeting of the European Transdisciplinary Networking Platform for Marine Biotechnology (Ocean4Biotech) in Italy.

3.8 Joining forces to enhance African entrepreneurship

We have received a R4 million donation from Allan & Gill Gray Philanthropies to establish the Allan Gray Centre for African Entrepreneurship. The Centre will help create an enabling environment for high-impact entrepreneurship in South Africa, Ghana, Kenya, Rwanda and Ethiopia. The hope is that this will contribute to the eradication of unemployment, poverty and inequality, with a particular focus on Africa's youth. The Centre will be co-directed by Dr Phumlani Nkontwana (an entrepreneurship specialist from our Centre for Sustainability Transitions) and Prof Erik Stam (a leading scholar in entrepreneurial ecosystems and extraordinary professor at SU and Utrecht University School of Economics).

3.9 Advocating for open science

In June, we hosted the **18th International Open Repositories Conference (OR2023)**, the first to be held in Africa. Our Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Research, Innovation and Postgraduate Studies, Prof Sibusiso Moyo, delivered the opening address at the event, which was themed "Repositories unlocked for discovery and interoperability". Speakers included Prof Willem Fourie, founder of the South African SDG Hub, which has grown into one of the world's largest knowledge resources on the sustainable development goals (SDGs), and Ellen Tise, senior director of our Library and Information Service. The event attracted over 300 experts and delegates from 41 countries.



Pictured at the 18th International Open Repositories Conference are, from left, Ellen Tise (senior director of the SU Library and Information Service), SU Rector and Vice-Chancellor Prof Wim de Villiers, Claire Knowles (Leeds University), Prof Sibusiso Moyo (SU Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Research, Innovation and Postgraduate Studies) and Dr Torsten Reimer (University of Chicago).

Further attesting to our commitment to open science are our Library's **signed agreements with publishers** through the South African National Library and Information Consortium (SANLIC). The agreements allow SU authors to publish fully open-access in over 4 400 hybrid journals and 550 open-access journals without paying any publication fees. [Announced in April](#), the initiative is already delivering good results: To date, 149 papers have been published, saving us R432 831 in publishing fees. The publishers also conducted workshops at SU Library in June, with 160 researchers attending to enhance their capacity.

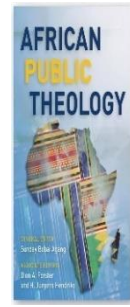
3.10 Studying religion in contemporary society as part of SA–German network

SU, Humboldt University in Berlin and the universities of the Western Cape and KwaZulu-Natal are collaborating in the International Research Training Group on Transformative Religion. Funded by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG) and the South African NRF, the joint project studies the impact of religion on social transformation processes as well as how these transformations affect religion in contemporary global societies. Prof Jeremy Punt, professor of New Testament in our Faculty of Theology, serves as co-chair of the group. The project supports a number of PhD students from South Africa and Germany for three years, offering a platform for transdisciplinary research on the complex relationship between religion and society.

3.11 Theology publication made accessible to Francophone and Lusophone Africa



The book *African Public Theology*, which was launched in 2020, has been translated into French and Portuguese in collaboration with a number of theological schools in Ivory Coast, Ghana, the Central African Republic and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Edited by Profs Sunday Agang (ECWA Theological



Seminary, Kagoro, Nigeria), Jurgens Hendriks and Dion Forster (both from SU), the book is a pan-African collaboration in partnership with NetACT (Network of African Congregational Theology). The authors (*pictured above*) explore the intersection of faith and public life through the lens of poverty, health care, education, politics, interfaith relations, and more.

4. NETWORKED AND COLLABORATIVE TEACHING AND LEARNING

4.1 Unlocking visual arts for learners

The SU Museum hosted its holiday programme Access to Visual Arts for learners from Kayamandi, Pieter Langeveld and Ikaya primary schools at the end of June. The programme introduced learners to the world of museums and visual arts through activities such as art projects and a museum walkabout and also included an educational visit to the SU Botanical Garden.

4.2 Language Centre and FMHS team up to improve medical students' patient communication

The Language Centre and the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences (FMHS) are working together to enable medical students to communicate with their patients in Afrikaans and isiXhosa in addition to English. To this end, five of six new module guides focusing on Afrikaans and isiXhosa language acquisition have already been developed, and two of the new modules, "Being and Becoming in Health Care" as well as "Health and Wellness", were offered in the first semester.

4.3 Celebrating lecturer–interpreter collaboration

The Language Centre's Interpreting Service held a 'collaboration celebration' with lecturing colleagues (*see pictures below*) to reflect on their work in creating a quality multilingual classroom experience for students. Together, lecturers and interpreters integrate educational interpreting into the teaching process, providing real-time online interpreting and troubleshooting technological challenges. The free service is available for qualifying modules in terms of faculties' language implementation plans or based on pedagogical need.



4.4 Evolving as digital scholars

Advisors from the Centre for Learning Technologies collaborated with Prof Wim van Petegem from KU Leuven to present the course "Evolving as a digital scholar" as part of our African Doctoral Academy winter school. The course, which focused on active blended teaching, learning and research in a digital world, underscored the challenges posed by the digital divide. It was offered online and drew participants from across South Africa and further afield.

4.5 Training Neelsie security officers



The Disability Unit conducted a training session for security officers at our Neelsie student centre on supporting individuals with disabilities on campus. The interactive session offered the Unit an opportunity to gather the officers' input on creating a more inclusive campus environment.

Left: Front from left, the Disability Unit's Lizelle Apollis (Inclusivity and Access support officer), Luigia Nicholas (Marketing and Training coordinator) and Dr Marcia Lyner-Cleophas (Unit head) with some of the Neelsie security officers who attended the training session.

4.6 UPSS gearing up to become counselling internship site

The Unit for Psychotherapeutic and Support Services (UPSS) has undergone a self-evaluation process conducted by the Professional Psychology Board of the Health Professions Council of South Africa in order to be accredited as a counselling internship site from 2024. Formal confirmation of accreditation is still awaited, but the interim feedback has been very positive.

5. RESEARCH FOR IMPACT

5.1 Ubuntu Dialogues book to launch soon

The SU Museum and Michigan State University Museum have consolidated the seminar papers delivered as part of the two institutions' successful Ubuntu Dialogues programme, which will now be published as a book. The manuscript is undergoing peer review, and the plan is to launch the book at the final Ubuntu Dialogues conference at Michigan State University in September.

Ubuntu Dialogues, funded by the Mellon Foundation, is a transnational dialogue and engagement initiative for students, faculty members and community partners in South Africa and the United States. The programme has been running since 2019 and aims to reimagine the nature and practices of ubuntu and dialogue itself. It comprises three components, namely seminar exchange fellowships, student graduate fellowships, and virtual student conversations.

5.2 Postdoctoral project foregrounds stories of SA Cape Coloured Corps

The Revisiting the History of the South African Cape Coloured Corps (SACCC) project, funded by the National Institute for Humanities and Social Sciences, aims to recognise the role of SACCC veterans in World War I and II. The research is led by AVReQ postdoctoral fellow Dr Danille Bester. As part of the project, AVReQ recently organised a public dialogue event to spark conversation and reflect on the history and stories of the SACCC. The event included an exhibition of photographs and artefacts from family members of soldiers

(pictured below left). Renowned historian Prof Albert Grundlingh and community organiser Patricia Debba were part of panel discussion (pictured below



the right).

5.3 SU showcases engineering expertise in Gauteng

At the SU Engineering Industry Showcase in Johannesburg at the end of May, academics and industry representatives gathered for a day of engaging presentations by our top-rated engineering experts on topics such as energy, automation, and the environmental impact of engineering. The event facilitated knowledge exchange and networking, helped foster innovation in the engineering sector, and further cemented SU as a world-class trainer of future engineers for Africa and beyond.

5.4 Inaugural lectures provide window on impactful research

Our inaugural lectures are presented throughout the year by newly appointed professors or those who have been promoted to full professor. The lectures offer our professoriate an opportunity to share their research and scientific discoveries with the rest of the academic community as well as the general public. A particular aim is for the presentations to be accessible and in plain language.

The following inaugural lectures took place in the past few months. All [lecture recordings](#) are available for viewing on YouTube.

Date	Name and faculty	Lecture title
2 May	Prof Euan Phimister Stellenbosch Business School; Economic and Management Sciences	Making economic models useful in an interdisciplinary world
9 May	Prof Wessel du Toit AgriSciences	My wine journey
16 May	Prof Nox Makunga Science	Diving deep into a medicinal plant treasure trove: A focus on South African medicinal flora and beyond
23 May	Prof Riaan Combrinck Engineering	Concrete: The journey and the destination
8 June	Prof Francois Roets AgriSciences	Life took over the globe through combat and networking
29 June	Prof Wesaal Khan Science	Safe water is a human right: Overcoming the last hurdle towards water security for all
25 July	Prof Portia Jordan Medicine and Health Sciences	To err is human: Developing evidence-based approaches for safer healthcare
3 August	Prof Nadine Bowers Du Toit Theology	"Storying" our past/Claiming our future: Theology and Development's coming of age in South Africa
8 August	Prof Sophie von der Heyden Science	A brief journey through the evolution of marine molecular ecology in Southern Africa: 15 years of perspectives
15 August	Prof Hans Strijdom Medicine and	The vascular tree of an academic career: Tortuous, turbulent, and dysfunctional, interspersed with glorious moments of laminar flow

5.5 Stellenbosch sedimentologist helps discover new dinosaur species



Dr Ryan Tucker (*pictured left*) from Earth Sciences was part of an international team who identified a new plant-eating dinosaur species said to have occurred approximately 99 million years ago. The discovery was made in the

Cedar Mountain formation in the Mussentuchit Wash, Utah, United States. The dinosaur, named *Iani smithi* after the Roman god Janus, belonged to the early ornithomimid group and had a powerful jaw with specialised teeth for eating tough plants. Dr Tucker's role in the research was to determine the specimen's age and reconstruct its environment. His findings suggest that *Iani smithi* lived around 99,6 million years ago, with the whole Mussentuchit deposit spanning approximately 600 000 years between 99,6 and 98,9 million years ago.

The discovery culminated in the research article "An early-diverging iguanodontian (Dinosauria: Rhabdodontomorpha) from the Late Cretaceous of North America" published on PLOS ONE with support from the United States National Science Foundation. The new dino was widely reported on in the media, including in the [Smithsonian Magazine](#) and by [North Carolina State University](#). Dr Tucker's work is also being showcased on our [Research for Impact platform](#).

5.6 SU scientist garners recognition from world's largest sports medicine and exercise science organisation

Prof Kathy Myburgh (*pictured right*) is only the second South African scientist to have been recognised by the [American College of Sport Medicine](#) (ACSM) for her important contributions to exercise science. She was one of six scientists selected from around the world to receive [a 2023 citation award](#). The ACSM is the world's largest sports medicine and exercise science organisation, with more than 50 000 international, national and regional members.



5.7 Research outputs to aid those affected by historical trauma

The public event "Dialogues across violent histories: Indigenous arts and social cohesion" was an international research collaboration between AVReQ, SU's Department of Visual Arts and the University of New South Wales (UNSW). The collaboration resulted in two outputs, namely "Courageous Conversations", where SU's Visual Arts students responded to apartheid trauma narratives, and the publication *Designing reparations: Creative process as reparative practice*, co-authored with UNSW professors Andrea Durbach and Jill Bennett. The initiative explored the use of arts as a language to

represent traumatic experiences and build solidarity among people affected by historical trauma.



Left: Taking part in the public dialogue on "Rethinking the archive of violent histories" were, from left, Prof Pumla Gobodo-Madikizela (AVReQ director and SARCHI chair in violent histories and transgenerational trauma), Gratia Ilibagiza (SU postgraduate student in Social Anthropology and organiser of the event), Rabia Omar (AVReQ fellow) and Kylie Huntah Gathara (Aboriginal Australian guest).

5.8 Three coveted 'Science Oscars' for SU

SU performed a hat trick at the 2022/23 National Science and Technology Forum (NSTF)/South22 awards, often referred to as South Africa's 'Science Oscars'. Eminent tuberculosis (TB) scientist Prof Novel Chegou (*left in picture below*) was honoured with a TW Kambule-NSTF award for his groundbreaking work on identifying TB biomarkers. Prof Jonathan Jansen, an esteemed education expert (*middle*), received a lifetime award for his remarkable contribution to education scholarship and advancement. Finally, Gerrit Laning (*right*), chief executive of Community Keepers, an organisation affiliated with our Department of Psychology, was recognised with the NGO award for the organisation's commendable efforts in promoting mental health and wellbeing among learners, parents and teachers in South Africa.



5.9 Quantum Computing professor awarded Italian order of chivalry

As part of Italy's Republic Day celebrations in Cape Town, Italy's ambassador to South Africa, His Excellency Dr Paolo Cuculi, bestowed [the Order of the Star of Italy](#) on Prof Francesco Petruccione from our School for Data Science and Computational Thinking. In presenting the Ordine della Stella d'Italia to Italian-born Petruccione, Cuculi described him as "one of the leading experts in quantum technologies" and a distinguished academic and researcher.

Right: Prof Francesco Petruccione (centre) receiving the accolade from His Excellency Dr Paolo Cuculi, Italian ambassador to South Africa (right), and Mr Emanuele Pollio, the Italian consul in Cape Town (left).



5.10 Lifetime achievement award for Genomics professor



Prof Tulio de Oliveira from our Centre for Epidemic Response and Innovation (CERI) received the Discovery lifetime leadership award on 22 July.

Left: Prof Tulio de Oliveira (right) with Prof Salim Abdool Karim (centre) and South Africa's health minister Dr Joe Phaahla (left) at the Discovery awards evening.

5.11 Chair in human rights law leads drafting of global human rights principles for future generations

A drafting group led by Prof Sandra Liebenberg, incumbent of our HF Oppenheimer chair in human rights law, developed the Maastricht Principles on the Human Rights of Future Generations (*group pictured on the right, with Prof Liebenberg seated front right*). The document is the result of six years of research and collaboration involving experts, United Nations human rights mandate holders, civil society organisations, and indigenous peoples. The principles address the escalating risks faced by present and future generations, including environmental crises, global health threats, and geopolitical conflicts. The Maastricht Principles were formally adopted in February 2023 and have received widespread endorsement. A detailed legal commentary on the principles will be published in an esteemed international law journal.



5.12 Postdoctoral fellows gather at SU for national research forum



We hosted the second National Postdoctoral Research Forum at the end of June (*pictured above*). Initiated by our Postdoctoral Research Support Office, the event brings together postdoctoral fellows, administrators, academic leaders, funders and policymakers to share knowledge and resources on postdoctoral matters. The aim is to create an inclusive and supportive environment for postdoctoral fellows in South Africa and on the rest of the continent. The 2023 forum has resulted in the development of national postdoctoral guidelines and the review of institutional policies.

5.13 Engineering postdoc scoops POMS award

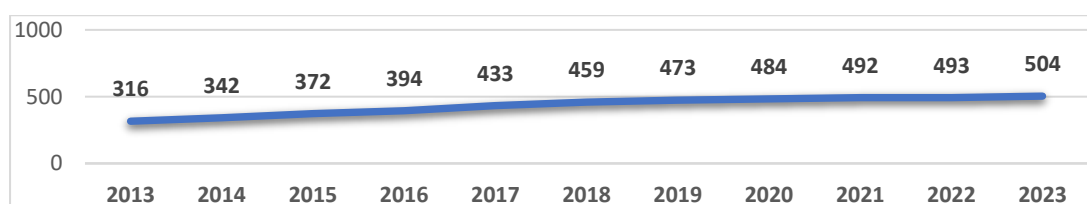
Dr Martin du Plessis, a postdoctoral research fellow in Industrial Engineering, won the Dino Petrarolo Emerging Economies Doctoral Student Award (EEDSA) from the Production and Operations Management Society (POMS) in the United States. The award ceremony took place in Florida, United States, on 23 May. POMS created the EEDSAs in 2008 to reach out to scholars in emerging economies and encourage their development. Dr Du Plessis' prize-winning research focused on quantifying emissions relating to the international distribution of fresh fruit from South Africa, considering consumer concerns about carbon emissions and their impact on climate change.



Left: Dr Martin du Plessis (left) and Prof Joubert van Eeden (right), both from Industrial Engineering.

5.14 NRF ratings climbing steadily

Since 2013, our number of NRF-rated researchers has **grown by a phenomenal 59%** (*see graph below*).



Our current 504 rated researchers include 21 A-rated scholars – the highest number ever for SU. Our **latest A-rated researcher is Prof Gerhard Walzl**, head of Biomedical Sciences in the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences. This clinician-scientist trained in internal medicine, pulmonology and immunology leads the multidisciplinary Immunology Research Group in the Division of Molecular Biology and Human Genetics.

5.15 Fostering teaching, learning and assessment scholarship

The **Fund for Innovation and Research into Learning and Teaching (Finlo)** was established in 2005 to encourage a culture of innovation and research in teaching, learning and assessment (TLA) at SU. The fund allows lecturers to evaluate TLA practices, investigate TLA challenges and solutions, and disseminate their research

results designed to improve TLA quality. The Finlo call for submissions closed on 9 June. Twelve proposals were received from five faculties, and 11 proposals were ultimately approved for funding at the Finlo committee meeting held on 25 June.

Moreover, a second call for proposals was issued as part of SU's **strategic project on assessment**. Funding is made available for projects that investigate innovative, effective and sustainable assessment practices in the post-Covid and artificial intelligence era. At the time of writing, the successful applicants were about to be announced and will be afforded three semesters to complete their projects.

Our scholars also produced the following two **noteworthy publications on TLA** during the reporting period:

- N. Herman, & J.P. Bosman. 2023. The Scholarship of Educational Leadership: a case study of developing leadership of teaching, learning and assessment in a university context, [EDULEARN23 Proceedings](#), pp. 1671-1680.
- Strydom, S.C. 2023. Uncovering epistemic and social knowledge structures that academic developers valorize in the age of technology-mediated curriculum development. In Daniel, B., and Bisaso, R. (Eds). Higher Education in Sub-Saharan Africa in the 21st Century: Pedagogy, Research and Community-engagement. New York: Springer.

5.16 Multilingualism workshops culminate in opinion piece

As reported previously, the Language Centre spent April and May conducting the workshop "Building communities through multilingualism" for student leaders across the SU community. The sessions fostered a multilingual mindset in line with the values of integrity, respect and tolerance. The Language Centre subsequently published an opinion piece on LitNet, sharing the workshop facilitators' experiences and contributing to the conversation about language at the University. Read the piece in [English](#) or [Afrikaans](#).

5.17 Retreats stimulate high-impact writing



In June, the Language Centre hosted a **three-day writing retreat** at Lanzerac for staff members seeking a conducive space for academic writing (*pictured alongside*). Dr Rose Richards from the Writing Lab

facilitated the retreat, providing guidance in setting writing goals and overcoming obstacles. The Writing Lab offers ongoing support, including an open online writing group with regular check-ins.

In addition, a **writing retreat for blended-learning coordinators and Centre for Learning Technologies advisors** took place on 24 and 25 May. The event strengthened the community of practice that had been created to produce scholarly work in the digital and blended-learning domain.

6. EMPLOYER OF CHOICE

6.1 Staff eagerly learning isiXhosa

The Masabelane ngesiXhosa ('Let us share in isiXhosa') course for SU staff is gaining popularity on campus. Two intakes during the first semester of 2023 were fully booked by our various divisions and departments (*see pictures below*). Staff members are enthusiastic about learning isiXhosa to be able to communicate with their isiXhosa-speaking colleagues and others. According to facilitator Stembele Johnson, staff acquired sufficient isiXhosa vocabulary and sentences to have basic conversations.



6.2 Language Centre's Comms Lab further streamlines office communication at SU

During the reporting period, the Language Centre's Comms Lab continued its strategic efforts to enhance office communication at our university. Collaborating with the SU Personal Assistants Network (SUPAN), the Lab facilitated the Effective Office Communication and Documentation short course. The Writing Lab workshop presenters, in turn, benefited from the Comms Lab's Crafting Confident Presentations workshop, while a crash course in English grammar helped staff from across the University gain a better understanding of the English language.

6.3 Keeping staff safe

Through our radiation safety management programme, we ensure the safe use and maintenance of ionisation radiation sources on campus, protecting the approximately 70 staff across ten departments and divisions who utilise 146 radioactive sources for research and service provision. Recent developments include internal reviews of the radiation safety manual, and a strategic development overview presented to the Rectorate. Ongoing support includes radiation safety assessments and radioactive disposal licensing. SU aims to be the first in Africa to ensure radon-safe buildings.



6.4 Monitoring the health of our workforce through MaRooN Health Passport

As of 2023, the MaRooN (Maties Risk of Non-Communicable Disease) Health Passport (MHP) shows high prevalence of mental health conditions among our staff. Some 27,3% suffer from anxiety disorders, 22,7% experience anxiety attacks, while 25,4% are affected by depression. These conditions can significantly affect productivity and pose real risks to employees. The MHP plays a crucial role in addressing these concerns, enabling immediate support for staff members in need. They may be referred to their own healthcare providers, the Campus Health Service, or the Employment Assistance Programme. In addition, the MHP helps inform organisational health and wellness interventions and measure their success.



Prof Wim de Villiers,
Rektor en Visekanselier

ADDENDUM: OP-EDs AND COLUMNS

Opinion editorials (8 May to 11 August 2023)

AUTHOR	FROM (environment or division)	HEADLINE	PUBLICATION (click for article)
Wandile Sihlobo	Agricultural Business Chamber/ Agricultural Economics	Farmers in South Africa face power cuts and a weak rand – but a number of factors are working in their favour too	The Conversation (8 May)
Ibrahim Steven Ekyamba	University of Pretoria	The rise of discriminatory rhetoric in Africa	IOL (8 May)
Bathromeu Mavhura	PhD student (Arts and Social Sciences)		
Dr Armand Bam	Stellenbosch Business School	Business in SA is badly lagging behind in employing workers with disabilities	Daily Maverick (9 May)
Prof Hester Kloppe	Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Strategy, Global and Corporate Affairs	Solving the nursing crisis needs political will and investment	News24 (13 May)
Nichola Richards	Centre for Sustainability Transitions	It's not just Eskom that needs a revamp	Fin24 (14 May)
Prof Marius Ungerer	Stellenbosch Business School	Leadership vacuum? Holding out for a hero is part of the problem	Fin24 (14 May)
Dr Mitchell Messina	PhD-based article (Curriculum Studies)	Addressing SA's reading comprehension crisis	Cape Times (14 May)
Prof Guy Lamb	Political Science	Did South Africa sell arms to Russia? Only a series of unlikely scenarios could have made it possible	The Conversation (16 May)
Prof Nic Spaull	Economics	From bad to worse: New study shows 81% of Grade 4 pupils in SA can't read in any language	Daily Maverick (16 May)
Jenna Booth	BSc students (Dietetics)	How good food can actually	News24 (17 May)

AUTHOR	FROM (environment or division)	HEADLINE	PUBLICATION (click for article)
Andrea Nel, Henrike Uys & Hannah Guthrie		boost your mood this winter	
Prof Michael Samways	Conservation Ecology and Entomology	Freshwater biodiversity key for survival	Cape Times (18 May)
Prof Nic Spaul	Economics	Look to Brazil for its remarkable turnaround of pupils' reading skills	Business Live (18 May)
Dr Heleen Hofmeyr	Economics	South Africa's education crisis – the importance of early childhood education	Daily Maverick (18 May)
Frederik van Dyk	Master's student (Law)	Nepotisme? US-bestuur pleeg nóg weerligafleiers	LitNet (18 May)
Dr Rudi Buys	Convocation	Tussen eerlike bedoelings en die Machiavelliese versoeking: Rudi Buys lewer kommentaar	LitNet (18 May)
Wandile Sihlobo	Agricultural Business Chamber/ Agricultural Economics	SA food inflation should moderate, regardless of higher global rice prices	Farmer's Weekly (19 May)
Dr Charl Deacon	Conservation Ecology and Entomology	Butterfly behaviour shows ways to protect natural habitats in a rapidly changing world	The Conversation (22 May)
Kristan Kraak	BA student (International Studies)	Die taalverbod by die US verloor broodnodige aandag, maar ek moet iets daaroor sê ...	LitNet (23 May)
Dr Gibson Ncube	Modern Foreign Languages	Abdellah Taïa is the first openly gay Moroccan writer: his work reimagines being Muslim, homosexual and African	The Conversation (24 May)
Prof Adriaan van Klinken	University of Leeds		
Dr Biandri Joubert	African Wildlife Economy Institute/University of the Witwatersrand	African wild meat trade holds huge potential	Cape Times (25 May)
Dr Chris Jones	Systematic Theology and Ecclesiology/Unit for Moral Leadership	Africa Day: Evaluating corruption on the continent and which countries are doing better	News24 (25 May)
Prof Pregala Pillay	School of Public Leadership		
Dr Gibson Ncube	Modern Foreign Languages	Ukuhlangana kobuntu – Intersecting struggles and solidarity in the fight for equality in Africa	Daily Maverick (25 May)
Prof Jason Bantjes	South African Medical Research Council/Institute for Life Course Health Research	The techno-utopian fantasy that apps will magically solve teens' mental health problems is unfounded	Daily Maverick (28 May)
Dr Boitumelo Malope	Sociology and Social Anthropology	How renewable energy can help uplift small, poor South African towns	Daily Maverick (29 May)
Dr Allen Goddard	Systematic Theology and Ecclesiology	Re-imagining love for Hilton	The Witness (30 May)
Dr Hayley Clements	Centre for Complex Systems in Transition	Half of Africa's white rhino population is in private hands – it's time for a new conservation approach	The Conversation (30 May)
Dr Dave Balfour	Nelson Mandela University		
Prof Enrico Di	University of Helsinki		

AUTHOR	FROM (environment or division)	HEADLINE	PUBLICATION (click for article)
Minin			
Kevin Foster	Centre for Sustainability Transitions	The unexpected gift of unsuccessful renewable projects	Business Live (31 May)
Chantelle Moyo	North-West University		
Dr Kathryn Smith	Visual Arts	African solutions needed to help identify SA's unknown dead	Mail & Guardian (1 Jun)
Prof Cas Wepener	Practical Theology and Missiology	'n Tyd vir onthou en 'n tyd om lief te vergeet	Beeld (3 Jun)
Prof Thuli Madonsela	Centre for Social Justice	Where is the leadership and vision?	City Press (4 Jun)
Prof Oliver Ruppel	Mercantile Law	Civil disobedience and the climate activist movement: A last resort for action?	News24 (5 Jun)
Wandile Sihlobo	Agricultural Business Chamber/ Agricultural Economics	Farming in South Africa is being hobbled by power cuts and poor roads. Rural towns are being hit hardest	The Conversation (5 Jun)
Friederike Bubenzer	Independent peacebuilding practitioner	Tension and trauma: Finding harmony for researchers on their research journey	News24 (6 Jun)
Nomzamo Ntombela	PhD student (Sociology)		
Prof Nicole Wesson	Stellenbosch Business School	Moves to address flaws in sustainability reporting	Business Live (6 Jun)
Dr Gabrielle Wills	Economics	Learning to read is a journey: a study identifies where South African kids go off track	The Conversation (6 Jun)
Prof Cally Ardington	University of Cape Town		
Jakkie Cilliers	Institute for Security Studies	South Africa's defence needs new thinking for evolving role of SANDF amid reduced resources	Daily Maverick (7 Jun)
Prof Abel Esterhuyse	Strategic Studies		
Prof Mark Swilling	Centre for Sustainability Transitions	Does Ramokgopa really need more powers to end load shedding?	Daily Maverick (7 Jun)
Courtney Gardiner	PhD student (Science)	Reversing the tide — it's not too late to save our marine resources	Daily Maverick (7 Jun)
Mark Smith	Stellenbosch Business School	Stepping up to sustainability for Africa	MBA.co.za (7 Jun)
Mumbi Maria Wachira	Strathmore University Business School		
Sherwat Elwan Ibrahim	American University in Cairo		
Anouk Cronjé	BA student (Humanities)	'RHOWL': Die langverwagte resensie van 'n nie-kyker	Netwerk24 (11 Jun)
Tian Alberts	Master's student (Law)	'n 'Staatsuniversiteit' sonder onderskeiding	Rapport (11 Jun)
Emma Swart	BEd student	Born free – now spread your wings and fly	Cape Times (13 Jun)
Prof Nicola Smit	Dean: Faculty of Law	Crisis of youth unemployment holds serious danger of social unrest	Daily Maverick (14 Jun)
Prof Thuli	Centre for Social Justice	First, we must prevent the fire	Financial Mail (15 Jun)

AUTHOR	FROM (environment or division)	HEADLINE	PUBLICATION (click for article)
Madonsela		...	
William Sezoe	BEd student	47 years on, and we are still fighting for our education rights	News24 (17 Jun)
Dr Chris Jones	Systematic Theology and Ecclesiology/Unit for Moral Leadership	Krisis op krisis – waarop stuur ons af?	Die Burger (17 Jun)
Dr Collette Schulz-Herzenberg	Political Science	South Africa's ruling party is performing dismally, but a flawed opposition keeps it in power	The Conversation (18 Jun)
Prof Robert Mattes	University of Strathclyde/ University of Cape Town		
Thobile Radebe	Stellenbosch Business School	Entrepreneurship for young people – is it the way forward with ecosystems?	Cape Times (19 Jun)
Prof Mark Tomlinson	Institute for Life Course Health Research	ANC government has consigned countless SA children to a lifetime of catch-up and struggle	Daily Maverick (19 Jun)
Dr Tristen Taylor	Philosophy	Ramaphosa's quixotic quest and the coming third Congo war	Business Day (20 Jun)
Jurie de Kock	Private Wealth Management	Don't get overwhelmed by SA's state just by looking at what's broken	News24 (21 Jun)
Dr Leslie van Rooi	Senior Director: Social Impact and Transformation		
Dr Callixte Kavuro	Public Law	Focus on housing for asylum seekers on Refugee Day	Cape Times (21 Jun)
Drs Clara Wepener & Juan Bornman	University of Pretoria	Sluit ook die gestremdes in	Die Burger (24 Jun)
Prof Cas Wepener	Practical Theology and Missiology		
Prof Bob Mash & Dr Christian Lueme	Family Medicine and Primary Care	Five questions for African countries that want to build climate-resilient health systems	The Conversation (25 Jun)
Dr Daan Steenkamp	Codera Analytics/Economics	Let the market do its work and help supervise banks	Business Live (26 Jun)
Pietman Roos	Codera Analytics		
Drs Karen Garner & Chantelle van Staden	Electrical and Electronic Engineering	International Women in Engineering Day: Mentorship is crucial for well-being and job satisfaction	News24 (26 Jun)
Prof Stan du Plessis	Chief Operating Officer	SMEs' potential to create employment cannot be overstated	Business Live (26 Jun)
Prof Danie Petzer & Vickey de Villiers	Henley Business School	Sweet or sour? Determining SA's fresh fruit future	Business Live (27 Jun)
Marianne Matthee	Gordon Institute of Business Science		
Stefanie Kühn	Business Management		
Prof Mark Swilling	Centre for Sustainability Transitions	Growing some backbone – reimagining the future of Eskom and the grid, beyond load shedding	Daily Maverick (27 Jun)
Norbert Ndjeka	University of Cape Town	National TB Indaba reveals way forward for retaking	Daily Maverick (28 Jun)

AUTHOR	FROM (environment or division)	HEADLINE	PUBLICATION (click for article)
Prof Yogan Pillay	Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation/ Health Systems and Public Health	control of tuberculosis after Covid-19 setbacks	
Prof Deresh Ramjugernath	Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Learning and Teaching	Proactively preparing staff, students for a digital future	University World News (29 Jun)
Wandile Sihlobo	Agricultural Business Chamber/ Agricultural Economics	Is South Africa's agricultural trade surplus beginning to flower?	Mail & Guardian (3 Jul)
Prof Mncedisi Maphalala	North-West University	South African universities must do more to tackle staffs' race and gender imbalances	The Conversation (4 Jul)
Prof Monwabisi Ralarala	University of the Western Cape		
Prof Nhlanhla Mpofu	Curriculum Studies		
Dr Robyn Berghoff & Prof Emanuel Bylund	General Linguistics	Africa's linguistic diversity goes largely unnoticed in research on multilingualism	The Conversation (4 Jul)
Prof Mark Smith	Stellenbosch Business School	SA ranks high on official gender equality measures – but that's not the full story	Mail & Guardian (5 Jul)
William Sezoe	BEd student	NSFAS's direct payment system: a study on how to fail poor students	Times Live (5 Jul)
Dr Chris Jones	Systematic Theology and Ecclesiology/Unit for Moral Leadership	Is die wêreld se skuld las 'n sandkasteel wat gaan tuimel?	Netwerk24 (6 Jul)
Dr Leslie van Rooi	Senior Director: Social Impact and Transformation	Krotoa adds missing piece to puzzle of Stellenbosch University's story	Cape Times (7 Jul)
Savannah Burns	University of the Free State	Inspiring young leaders show the way to overcome eco-paralysis	Daily Maverick (8 Jul)
Skylla Thornton	BSc student (Earth Sciences)		
Prof Nicolene Wesson	Stellenbosch Business School	Mandatory audit firm rotation: Lessons to be learned from SA	MBA.co.za (9 Jul)
Prof Mark Tomlinson	Institute for Life Course Health Development	The burden of climate change lies with our children	News24 (11 Jul)
Dr Justin Pearce	History	Painted messages in Angola's abandoned liberation army camps offer a rare historical record	The Conversation (11 Jul)
Prof Johann Kirsten	Bureau for Economic Research	South Africa's Land Bank can be fixed: change the funding model and narrow the focus	The Conversation (12 Jul)
Wandile Sihlobo	Agricultural Business Chamber/ Agricultural Economics		
Anika Berning-van Zyl	Business Management	Practical steps needed for sustainability	Cape Times (13 Jul)
Wandile Sihlobo	Agricultural Business Chamber/ Agricultural Economics	Russia's decision to end Black Sea grain deal puts global food security at risk	Daily Maverick (17 Jul)
Dr Carmen Brewis, Susan Lotz, Sanet de Jager & Helga Sykstus	Language Centre	How multilingualism can build communities.	LitNet (17 Jul)

AUTHOR	FROM (environment or division)	HEADLINE	PUBLICATION (click for article)
Prof Nico Koopman	Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Social Impact, Transformation and Personnel	Madiba embodies habits, values longed for by societies	Cape Times (18 Jul)
Dr Chris Jones	Systematic Theology and Ecclesiology/Unit for Moral Leadership	Dysfunctional universities betray Madiba's legacy	News24 (18 Jul)
Wandile Sihlobo	Agricultural Business Chamber/ Agricultural Economics	India's decision to ban exports of rice adds to rising global food prices risks	Daily Maverick (21 Jul)
Dr Alec Basson	Corporate Communication and Marketing	#Oproep: Mans se emosionele welstand is belangrik	Netwerk24 (22 Jul)
Wandile Sihlobo	Agricultural Business Chamber/ Agricultural Economics	South Africa's consumer food inflation should continue to slow regardless of the renewed global risks	Daily Maverick (24 Jul)
Prof Michael le Cordeur	Curriculum Studies	Dutch apology for slavery important step in acknowledging what it means to be 'completely human'	Daily Maverick (24 Jul)
Dr Francois Cleophas	Sport Science	Netball World Cup: an untold black sport history of South Africa	The Conversation (25 Jul)
Prof Michael le Cordeur	Curriculum Studies	Om te kan leer, moet ons kinders behoorlik kan lees	Netwerk24 (26 Jul)
Prof Nic Spaull	Economics	SA education is not the worst in the world	Business Live (28 Jul)
Prof Thuli Madonsela	Centre for Social Justice	Nelson Mandela's true legacy	City Press (30 Jul)
Prof Janis van der Westhuizen	Political Science	Why SA should remain a 'bridge' in international affairs	News24 (31 Jul)
Wandile Sihlobo	Agricultural Business Chamber/ Agricultural Economics	Global grain forecast looks good – but movement of supplies at risk	News24 (1 Aug)
Judith Terblanche	Milpark Education	Ubuntu can advance the global citizenship education paradigm	University World News (1 Aug)
Prof Yusef Waghid	Education Policy Studies		
Dr Gibson Ncube	Modern Foreign Languages	Zimbabwe's rulers won't tolerate opposing voices – but its writers refuse to be silenced	The Conversation (2 Aug)
Dr Tristen Taylor	Philosophy	Masses aren't stupid; they vote for grants and those who deliver them	Business Day (4 Aug)
Prof Cas Wepener	Practical Theology and Missiology	Wie bestuur in SA die lykwa en die nagwa?	Netwerk24 (5 Aug)
Caroline Halton	Institute for Futures Research	A more deurmekaar, multilingual world is emerging and the future looks a lot less English	Daily Maverick (6 Aug)
Hamond Motsi	PhD student (AgriSciences)	Food security: Russia-Africa Summit misses the boat	foodformzansi.co.za (7 Aug)
Dr Ubanesia Adams	Political Science	Women's Day in SA, but how much do we really have to celebrate?	Cape Times (8 Aug)
Prof Juliana Claassens	Old & New Testament	Struggle, solidarity, and statues: Let's answer Millicent Fawcett's call to courage	News24 (9 Aug)
Prof Sibusiso Moyo	Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Research, Innovation and Postgraduate Studies	Unlocking the exciting and diverse world of STEM careers for women	Mail & Guardian (10 Aug)

Columns (8 May to 11 August 2023)

AUTHOR	FROM (environment or division)	HEADLINE	PUBLICATION (click for article)
Prof Johan Fourie	Economics	Die slagoffers van KI	Rapport (11 Jun)
		Wat maak ons b�ter?	Rapport (9 Jul)
Prof Amanda Gouws	Political Science	Leierskrisis oral in land te siene	Netwerk24 (30 May)
		Politiek kelder di� kommissie	Netwerk24 (27 Jun)
		Sokker-skande kom 'n lang pad	Netwerk24 (11 Jul)
		Mislukking tref armes hardste	Netwerk24 (25 Jul)
		Verlange van 'n langafstand-ma	Netwerk24 (8 Aug)
Prof Jonathan Jansen	Educational Psychology	Schools exempt from blackouts? Do we live in the same reality?	Times Live (10 May)
		Pirls of wisdom: poorest schools are again let down by government	Times Live (17 May)
		Curtains, big bucks and flash rides, but the honour to lead should be a perk enough	Times Live (24 May)
		Good news! South Africa has what it takes to solve the reading crisis in a year	Times Live (31 May)
		One of the last right-wing bastions at Stellies went too far this time	Times Live (7 Jun)
		Here's why nothing adds up in our maths classes	Times Live (14 Jun)
		Everywhere all at once: why the leadership rut at universities?	Times Live (21 Jun)
		Worcester Shoprite bomber offers an alternative to the Nicole Barlows of this world	Times Live (28 Jun)
		You can't go wrong with a university rector who admits error	Times Live (5 Jul)
		First up, we need a change in education minister	Times Live (12 Jul)
		Sour note: classrooms in SA are heartbreakingly soulless	Times Live (19 Jul)
		Traumatised foreign nationals are mere prey for politicians who smell blood	Times Live (26 Jul)
		There are reasons to worry about 'Kill the Boer', but genocide is not one of them	Times Live (2 Aug)
		Now that Unisa is under administration, here's how it can reboot	Times Live (9 Aug)
Prof Nico Koopman	Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Social Impact, Transformation and Personnel	Ons gaan kerk toe, maar ons is ook die kerk	Netwerk24 (10 May)
		Ons het meer van di� soort patriotte nodig	Die Burger (7 Jun)
		Kleinkinders laat leef ons toekomsgerig	Die Burger (5 Jul)
		Oom Daan was een van SA se mooiste mense	Netwerk24 (2 Aug)

AUTHOR	FROM (environment or division)	HEADLINE	PUBLICATION (click for article)
Prof Vasti Roodt	Philosophy	Ons waardeer oorspronklike kuns oor spel van verbeelding	Rapport (14 May)
		Voortdurende stryd van die rede teen die onredelikheid	Rapport (28 May)
		Daar is dalk iets te leer uit jou nagmerrie oor 'n prysuitdeling	Rapport (11 Jun)
		Die lewe kan tree vir tree 'n bietjie ryker gemaak word	Rapport (25 Jun)
		Elkeen het plig om 'n kultuur van vertroue te bevorder	Rapport (9 Jul)
		Wedersydse plesier is sleutel tot ware humor	Rapport (23 Jul)
		Dié werk's wild, en dan moet jy ook nog soveel lêwe verbeur ...	Rapport (6 Aug)
Wandile Sihlobo	Agricultural Business Chamber/ Agricultural Economics	Economic choice is clear: It's Washington	Business Day (17 May)
		SA's agricultural growth story	Business Live (3 Jun)
		There is no cause for alarm if SA has a drier summer	Business Live (14 Jun)
		SA's huge maize surplus can meet Zim's mounting demand	Business Live (21 Jun)
		The Karoo offers far more than just wool	Business Live (28 Jun)
		Recent rains mean a good wheat crop	Business Day (26 Jul)
		Act now to avoid crisis management	Business Day (9 Aug)
Prof Anton van Niekerk	Philosophy	Dialogo volgens Sokrates-model	Netwerk24 (9 May)
		Ons regering is bloot roekeloos	Netwerk24 (23 May)
		Hoe 'bewys' jy God bestaan?	Die Burger (6 Jun)
		Nie US se taak om Afrikaans te red nie	Netwerk24 (20 Jun)
		Is sekularisasie ons voorland?	Netwerk24 (4 Jul)
		Elke burger kan 'n verskil maak	Netwerk24 (18 Jul)
		Wat laat mense dan verander?	Netwerk24 (1 Aug)
Dr Leslie van Rooi	Senior Director: Social Impact and Transformation	Hoe gemaak met mure en hekke?	Netwerk24 (3 Jul)
		Om te besef: Auschwitz macht frei	Vrye Weekblad (7 Jul)
		Hoe gemaak met graduandi in die buiteland?	Netwerk24 (1 Aug)