

CENTRE FOR APPLIED ETHICS

ANNUAL REPORT 2017

1. ABOUT THE CENTRE

The Centre for Applied Ethics (CAE) is an interdisciplinary research, teaching, and service institution of Stellenbosch University, based in the Philosophy Department. It reports to the Faculty Board of Arts and Social Sciences. The Centre does work on its own, but also accommodates three units, viz. the Unit for Bioethics, the Unit for Environmental Ethics and the Unit for Business Ethics and Public Integrity.

The first part of this report deals with the general activities of the Centre as such. The reports of the different Units of the Centre follow this report. The report therefore has the following sub-divisions:

General report of the CAE: pp. 1-7

Report of the Unit for Bioethics pp. 8-12

Report of the Unit for Business Ethics and Public Integrity: pp. 13-17

Report of the Unit for Environmental Ethics: pp. 18-22

2. GOVERNING BODY 2017

Prof. **AJ Leysens** (Dean), Prof. **AA van Niekerk** (Director of the Centre and Head: Unit for Bioethics), Prof. **JP Hattingh**, Head: Unit for Environmental Ethics, Prof. **P Fourie** (Representative of the Centre for International and Comparative Politics), Prof. **V Roodt**, Chairperson of the Philosophy Department (replaced from 2018 by Dr JP Smit), **Mr. C Maasdorp**, representative of the Centre for Knowledge Management and Decision-making), Dr. **S Hall** (Representative: Unit for Environmental Ethics), Prof. **WP Pienaar** (Representative of the Faculty of Health Sciences), Prof. **Adriaan van Niekerk**, (Representative of the Depts. of Psychology, Sociology, Geography and Environmental Studies, and Social Work), Prof. **K Moodley** (Representative of the Centre for Medical Ethics and Law), **Dr. M Woermann** (Head: Unit for Business Ethics and Public Integrity), **Mr. Martin Rossouw**, representative of the Mediclinic Southern Africa, a key sponsor of the Centre and Dr. **Daniel Malan**, representative of the Centre for Corporate Governance in Africa, situated in the US Business School, **Prof. Hansie Knoetze**, representative of the Faculty of Engineering,

3. RESEARCH

(Under this heading, only activities that are not dealt with in the reports of the different Units of the Centre are reported. See also the reports of the Units).

3.1 Publications and other research outputs

3.1.1 Journal articles (* indicates accredited journal)

Van Niekerk, A.A. 2017. A department under siege: how Philosophy at Stellenbosch was split in order to survive, *Stellenbosch Journal of Theology**, 3, (1), 2017: 451-473. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.17570/stj.2017.v3n1.a21>.

Van Niekerk, A.A. 2017. Vriendskap teenoor vyandskap in taalbeplanning vir die Universiteit Stellenbosch: die bydrae van Leon de Stadler. *Stellenbosch Papers in Linguistics Plus**, vol 53, 2017, pp. 221-223.

3.1.2 Books

Van Niekerk, A.A. 2017. *Die dood en die sin van die lewe*. Cape Town: Tafelberg, 287 pp. [Death and the meaning of life]

3.1.3 Other publications (indicative of the social impact of the Centre)

Van Niekerk, AA. 2017. Kerk moet áltyd hervorm, *Die Burger* (Forum article), 4 February 2017, p. 11, as well as in *Beeld*, 11 February 2017, p. 18. [Church must always reform]

Van Niekerk, AA. 2017. Van den Heever se 'Werkstaking by die kleigat': Regtig nodig vir *Die Afrikaanse Kortverhaalboek?* (with Nico Koopman). *LitNet*, 23 March 2017. <http://www.litnet.co.za/van-den-heever-se-werkstaking-die-kleigat-regtig-nodig-die-afrikaanse-kortverhaalboek/>

Van Niekerk, AA. 2017. Waarom (nog) kinders hê?, *Die Burger* and *Beeld* (Forum articles), 6 July 2017.

Van Niekerk, AA. 2017. Die stempel van die dood" (Interview with Murray la Vita about *Die dood en die sin van die lewe*), *Die Burger* (p. 19) and *Beeld* (p. 21), 13 October 2017. [The stamp of death]

Van Niekerk, AA. 2017. Die dood en die sin van die lewe: 'n onderhoud met Anton van Niekerk (by Jean Oosthuizen)". *Litnet*, November 2017, <file:///C:/Users/aavn/Documents/Dood%20boek/Litnet%20Onderhoud%20met%20Jean%20Oosthuizen.html>

3.1.4 Publications in Press (for 2018)

1. Van Niekerk, AA. 2018. The debate between Rorty and Habermas, in: A Malachowski (ed.): *The Cambridge Companion to Rorty*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

2. Van Niekerk, A.A. 2018. “Geloof sonder sekerhede: Perspektiewe op die gesprek met Ernst Conradie”, submitted for publication in *Stellenbosch Theological Journal**.

3.2 Presentations/Attendance

At International Conferences

Prof van Niekerk attended the conference of the Nederlands Zuid-Afrikaanse Werkgemeenskap in Gent, Belgium, at the end of May 2017. This was a disappointing event in view of the fact that certain rightist political groupings apparently are trying to hijack this organization (which has staged good conferences in the past) for their own dubious agendas. The debates were nevertheless spirited and hefty!

At National Conferences and other events

1. Van Niekerk, AA. 2017. *Values at Stellenbosch University*, Plenary speaker at Strategic Planning Conference of Stellenbosch University, 22 February 2017.
2. Van Niekerk, AA. 2017. Five lectures in Philosophy of Religion (*Introduction to PR, The Cosmological Argument, The Ontological Argument, The problem of evil, The verification of religious language*), Key note, UCT Winter School, Cape Town, 7-11 August 2017.
3. Van Niekerk, AA. 2017. *Being body-in-the-world: comparative remarks on Kant, Heidegger and Merleau-Ponty*. Wild Coast Philosophy Symposium, 28 October 2017. (Plenary speaker, on special invitation).
4. Van Niekerk, AA. 2017. *The Degenaar controversy of the 1960's*. Conference on history of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Stellenbosch, 26 January 2017.
5. Van Niekerk, AA. 2017. *How do we test a social theory?* Key note lecture at the inaugural conference of the Critical Theory Society of South Africa, Bloemfontein, 17 November 2017.

4. COMMUNITY INTERACTION

As is usual, there were a number of occasions during which the director participated in radio and television programs. These dealt with diverse topics, such as the relation between faith, philosophy and ethics, the ethics of public resistance actions, death, euthanasia or assisted death, and the like.

The publication of Van Niekerk's latest book, *Die dood en die sin van die lewe* in September 2017 did draw significant public attention. Apart from a television interview on Kwêla (KykNet) and five radio interviews on the topic, eight reviews of the book – some in forefront publications (also abroad), appeared, as well a stream of invitations to address larger and smaller groups interested in the topic. It is clear that there was indeed a need for an earnest interaction with the philosophical problematic generated by the death phenomenon. Invitations to speak on the matter and the book continue into 2018.

5. OTHER GENERAL ACTIVITIES OF THE CENTRE

5.1 Teaching

5.1.1 In 2017 we saw the third intake of the one-year MPhil in Applied Ethics students. This was a group of about 25 students (split across the three specialization areas). The program is running well and excellent feedback from the students was received. The rate of throughput can, however, improve. It is clear that the thesis which every MPhil candidate must write, proves to be a much more significant barrier to success than many of these students expected to be the case.

5.1.2 Prof. van Niekerk was again asked to offer a four-hour session on philosophy and ethics in business, part of the Senior Executive Diploma Program of USB-ED. Very positive feedback was received from this.

5.1.3 Prof. van Niekerk, Dr. Woermann and Dr. Smit again offered a complete module in the PG Dip (Future Studies) program at the Business School; ethics forms an integral part of this module. Very positive feedback was received about this contribution. At the same time, we were all quite surprised to note the significant increase in administrative work that tends to accompany this service course. The matter is due to be discussed in more detail in the department and Centre.

5.2 International Co-operative Projects of the Centre

5.2.1 The Compass Group Military Ethics Partnership

The Centre, as the only Centre from Africa, participates in a comprehensive research program on military ethics initiated by colleagues at the National University of Australia in Canberra. The “Compass Group” (representatives of about 10 such centres all over the world) met for the first time early in 2016 in Canberra. This project is run from our side by Ms Liezl Groenewald, senior researcher at The Ethics Institute in Pretoria and one of our doctoral students. She has just attended another conference of the group abroad, and will hopefully publish on the matter soon.

5.2.2 Prof. Paul van Tongeren, long-standing friend and fellow of the Centre, visited the Centre in September and October. He was also writing a book on death-related philosophical matters, and had many interchanges with Van Niekerk.

5.3 Ethics committees and services

Personnel of the Centre serve as members of a variety of ethics committees/institutional review boards at Stellenbosch University and elsewhere.

5.3.1 Membership of, and service to, the following committees continued:

- Prof. van Niekerk is chair of the Senate Research Ethics Committee of Stellenbosch University – the policy making body of the University, which also appoints and accredits members of all the Research Ethics Committees of the University. In this

capacity Van Niekerk was also closely involved in the interviews for, and appointment of, the University's new Research Integrity Officer, replacing Dr Lyn Horn. The person appointed is Dr. Natalie Harriman. She will also register for the Postgraduate Diploma in Applied Ethics in 2018.

- Prof. van Niekerk was invited to serve on the task team for the reformulation and reconceptualization of Stellenbosch University's values, in view of the future strategic planning of the university in their centenary year (2018). This invitation came in the aftermath of his presentation at the comprehensive strategic planning session at the beginning of 2017. These new values have been accepted and will become part of the University's strategic plan in the course of 2018.
- Van Niekerk contributed to the comprehensive Heads of Argument document of Stellenbosch University in preparation for the court case about the position of Afrikaans as language of tuition at the university. This case was heard in September 2017, and comfortably won by the university.
- The Ethics Committee of Subcommittee A (Humanities & Social Sciences) of Stellenbosch University's Research Committee (Dr. L Horn [chair] and Dr. S Hall [vice chair from the end of 2017])
- Prof. van Niekerk is a member of the governing board of the Centre for Medical Ethics and Law (CMEL) in the FMHS.

5.3.2 Prof. van Niekerk also served as chair of the Board of Directors of the Ethics Institute (TEI), whose former CEO and current Executive Director, Prof. Willem Landman, serves as Professor extraordinaire in the Centre and Department and renders very value services to the Centre. Prof. Deon Rossouw, current CEO of TEI, has also been appointed Professor extraordinaire in the department and Centre since 2012. Van Niekerk intends to step down as chair in the course of 2018, having served as chair for 14 years.

5.3.3 Dr. Woermann is a member of the Governing Committee for the Anticorruption Centre for Education and Research (ACCERUS), as well as the Centre for Corporate Governance at the Business School, Stellenbosch University.

5.4 Personnel

Dr. Lyn Horn continued her work as extraordinary senior lecturer in the Philosophy Department and Centre. She contributes to various teaching programmes and delivered exceptionally valuable service in supervising MPhil students in Bioethics, and played a pivotal role in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences as chairperson of the Research Ethics Committee of the Humanities – a daunting task in view of the volume of work (and level of responsibility) that is associated with it. She has (unfortunately for the Centre!) decided to take up a very senior research ethics management position at UCT from beginning of 2018. We thank her for her excellent services and wish her well for the future.

Ms Andrea Palk, temporary lecturer and research assistant to Prof. van Niekerk continues her invaluable work in the Centre. She also submitted her PhD in 2017 with excellent results, about which more will be reported next year.

Prof. van Niekerk was, in October 2017, after unanimous recommendations by the department, Dean, Senate and Rector, officially invited by Stellenbosch University to postpone his retirement until 2023, when he will turn 70.

6. Sponsorship

Mediclinic's highly appreciated sponsorship of R200 000 per year continued in 2017. We thank them, as always, very sincerely for this precious contribution. Without it, the Centre (particularly the Unit for Bioethics) can hardly continue its work on the current scale. We trust that this invaluable contribution will continue in future.

We convey our sincere gratitude to Mediclinic Southern Africa, and specifically ask their representative on the Governing Committee, Mr. Martin Rossouw, to convey that gratitude to Mr. Koert Pretorius, CEO of Mediclinic Southern Africa and his entire management team and Board of Directors.



Prof. WP Pienaar
Chair: Governing Body

Prof.. A.A. van Niekerk
Director: Centre for Applied Ethics

UNIT FOR BIOETHICS

Annual Report 2017

1. RESEARCH

Completed research projects

1. *Ethical issues in risk-imposition*. (A Bijloos & AA van Niekerk). PhD dissertation, submitted and accepted in 2017. Degree was awarded in December 2017.
2. *Reconsidering counselling and consent* (D. Hall & A.A. van Niekerk). Article written with ex-student of Prof. van Niekerk. The article was written and submitted to *Developing World Bioethics*, an accredited international journal, was accepted and published early in 2017.
3. *Moral bioenhancement* (A. Palk, B. Mantovani & AA van Niekerk). Work on these PhD and MA projects was completed in 2017. The dissertations were submitted and accepted, and the degrees will be conferred in March 2018. The PhD dissertation of Ms Palk promises to be a ground-breaking achievement in this field.
4. *A decent minimum health care in the SA context*. (F Fourie). An MPhil thesis was completed on this topic, and the degree will be conferred in 2018.

Ongoing projects

1. *Ethical problems related to newer developments in genetic reproductive technologies, with special reference to human enhancement and transhumanism* (A.A. van Niekerk, S. Hall, A. Palk, L. Franken & T Obengo). Van Niekerk was also invited to write a comprehensive book chapter on the new biotechnologies and their relevance for the African context for a new book on *Ethics and Justice* (Ed. C Jones). The chapter has been submitted and the book will appear in the course of 2018.
2. *Human Life Invaluableness: an emerging African biomedical principle*. (F Rakotsoane & AA van Niekerk). An article was written on this subject and published in an accredited journal (*SA Journal of Philosophy*) in the course of 2017.
3. *Ethical issues in circumcising boys*. (AA van Niekerk, D Sidler, B Earp, K Moodley et al.) A letter in this regard was published in the *SA Medical Journal* in 2017.
4. *The legitimacy of race as variable in the deliberations of IRBs*. (A.A. van Niekerk) An article published by Van Niekerk in 2014, generated so much interest that he received a number of invitations for follow-up articles. This is now ongoing work.
5. *The morality of the idea of unlimited longevity*. (L. Franken) Work on this PhD project is progressing steadily.

6. *The moral problem of double loyalty in occupational medicine* (G. Grobler) Work on this PhD project is progressing steadily.
7. *Bio-banking in Sub-Saharan Africa: potential cultural challenges, their philosophical underpinnings and management.* (F Rakotsoane), PhD project.
8. *Shared decision-making and neo-liberalism: the origins and unintended consequences of patient-centred care.* (B Gray). PhD project.

2. RESEARCH OUTPUTS

2.1 Articles in peer-reviewed journals; (*) indicates accredited journals

1. Van Niekerk, AA & Hall, D. 2017. Reconsidering counselling and consent. *Developing World Bioethics**, 17 (1) 2017: 4-10.
2. Van Niekerk, AA & Rakotsoane, CL. 2017. Human life invaluableness: an emerging African biomedical principle. *SA Journal of Philosophy**, 36 (2), 2017: 252-262. Accessible at: <http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/02580136.2016.1223983>.
3. Ewuoso, C 2017. Models for truth-telling in physician-patient encounters: what can we learn from the Yoruba concept of Ooto? *Developing World Bioethics** <https://doi.org/10.1111/dewb.12177>. (Actual publication details still to be made available)
4. Van Niekerk, AA, Sidler, D, Earp, B, Moodley, K 2017. Targeting mothers and selling men what they do not want: a response to 'Missed opportunities for circumcision of boys', *SA Medical Journal**, 107 (4), 2017: 28. (Letter)

2.2 Publications in press (for 2018)

Van Niekerk, AA. 2018. Ethics and the biotechnology revolution of our time, in: C Jones (ed.): *Justice-based ethics: challenging South African perspectives*. Johannesburg: AOSIS, 2018:

2.3 Papers read at international conferences

1. Van Niekerk, A.A. 2017. *The sustainability of HIV management at the genetic level in Africa*. (Delivered on special invitation.) Workshop of the Merian Centre, Von Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany, 7 July 2017.
2. Van Niekerk, A.A. 2017. *Does biomedical enhancement disenchant the world?* XXXVth International Congress on Law and Mental Health, Prague, Czech Republic, 13 July 2017. (Van Niekerk was also requested by the organisers to set up the very successful session where this paper was delivered, together with the work of two of his (ex-) students (Dr. Andrea Palk and Dr. Susan Hall) who also work on enhancement, as well as other international scholars.)
3. Palk, A. 2017. *Is Moral Bioenhancement Moral?* XXXVth International Congress on Law and Mental Health, Prague, Czech Republic, 13 July 2017.

- Hall, S. 2017. *Control Yourself? The Case for Genetic Enhancement of Impulse Control*. XXXVth International Congress on Law and Mental Health, Prague, Czech Republic, 13 July 2017.

2.4 Papers delivered at national scientific conferences and/or other meetings

- Van Niekerk, AA. 2017. *Genadedood en/as Selfdood*. Discussion Group of Stellenbosch Sentraal. Stellenbosch, 15 August 2017.
- Van Niekerk, AA. 2017. *Research ethics and integrity*. Key note Research Indaba of Stellenbosch University, Stellenbosch, 23 August 2017.
- Van Niekerk, AA. 2017. *Ethical considerations of using race and ethnicity as criteria in research*, 2nd Western Cape HERC Workshop, UCT, 6 October 2017 (Key Note Speaker).
- Van Niekerk, AA. 2017. *Research ethics and integrity*. Key note, Research Indaba of Stellenbosch University Engineering Faculty, Stellenbosch, 30 November 2017.

3. TEACHING

- 3.1 The Unit takes, first and foremost, responsibility for the post-graduate teaching of bioethics in the MPhil (Applied Ethics) Program, as well as the doctoral program in bioethics. The MPhil was offered in 2017, and a group of 15 students were admitted, many of whom completed the PG Dip in Applied Ethics, also offered by the Centre. In the meantime, the supervision of a number of students' dissertations continues (see below).
- 3.2 Prof. Van Niekerk annually teaches a module on ethical issues relating to HIV/AIDS in the Postgraduate Diploma and MPhil programmes of the Centre for AIDS Management in the Workplace in the Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences. The lectures for this program are currently offered at a summer and/or winter school, as well as via satellite transmission.
- 3.3 Prof. van Niekerk, seconded by Dr. Hall, assists with the teaching of Medical Ethics to MB ChB second as well as fifth year students.

4. POSTGRADUATE SUPERVISION

Several postgraduate students were involved in, or are still, conducting research on topics that are of direct interest to the activities of this Unit. The details are as follows:

4.1 Completed Doctoral Dissertation

Bijloos, AD: *Ethics and risk: Towards a responsible approach to acceptable risk impositions*. PhD. 249 pp. December 2017. Supervisor: Prof. AA van Niekerk. (Dr Bijloos is a Dutch citizen who came to Stellenbosch to do this research.)

4.2 Completed Masters Theses

1. Mantovani, B: *Morality and freedom: a critical investigation of the relatedness of morality and freedom, and its significance for the moral justification of the practice of biomedical moral enhancement*. MA. March 2018. 100 pp. Supervisor: Prof. AA van Niekerk.
2. Fourie F: *A decent minimum health care in the SA context*. MPhil, March 2018, 102 pp. Supervisor: Prof. AA van Niekerk.

4.3 Doctoral projects in progress

1. Ewuoso, O.C. *Information management in physician-patient interaction: towards a new approach*. Supervisor: Dr. S Hall.
2. Franken, L. *Morality and immortality: assessing the ethical implications of the idea of radical life extension*. PhD. Supervisor: Prof. A.A. van Niekerk.
3. Grobler, G. *To serve two masters? A moral analysis of the conflict of interest in the profession of occupational physicians*. PhD. Supervisor: Prof. A.A. van Niekerk.
4. Kling, S. *Models of clinical ethics services in SA: a critical appraisal*. PhD. Supervisor: Prof. A.A. van Niekerk; Co-supervisor: Prof. K Moodley.
5. Le Roux-Kemp, A. *A legal-ethical evaluation of universal health coverage by means of a National Health Insurance Plan in South Africa and Ghana*. PhD. Supervisor: Prof. A.A. van Niekerk.
6. Palk, A. *Moral bioenhancement: an ethical and philosophical investigation*. PhD. Supervisor: Prof. A.A. van Niekerk. (Completed; degree to be conferred in March 2018.)
7. Gray, B. *Shared decision-making and neo-liberalism: the origins and unintended consequences of patient-centred care*. PhD. Supervisor: Prof. A.A. van Niekerk
8. Obengo, T. *A utilitarian assessment of the relevance of genetic enhancement therapies for HIV-Aids in Africa, with special reference to the situation in Kenya*. PhD Supervisor: Prof. A.A. van Niekerk.
9. Rakotsoane, F. *Bio-banking in Sub-Saharan Africa: potential cultural challenges, their philosophical underpinnings and management*. PhD. Supervisor: Prof. A.A. van Niekerk

4.4 Master's projects in progress

1. Abdool, Z. *Moral issues with regard to unlawful fetal terminations*. Supervisor: Dr. M de Roubaix.
2. Adams, S. *Moral challenges in the management of HIV positive children*. Supervisor: Dr. S Hall

3. Biyela, I.M. *People living with disabilities' competition for employment and career advancement: moral perspectives*. MPhil. Supervisor: Prof. AA van Niekerk.
4. Botha, G. *Morele kwessies rondom sub-akute sorg*. Supervisor: Prof. AA van Niekerk
5. De Vaal, C. *Raising ethical issues in the dead: An exploration of ethical challenges in forensic medicine*. Supervisor: Dr. L. Horn. (Completed; degree will be conferred in March 2018).
6. Fouché, M. *The role of race in bioethics*. Supervisor: Prof. AA van Niekerk
7. Fourie, F. *Moral issues related to the idea of a decent minimum of health care in SA*. Supervisor: Prof. AA van Niekerk (Completed: degree will be conferred in March 2018.)
8. Hambira, R. *How do people change behaviour?* Supervisor: Prof. AA van Niekerk.
9. Harbor, O. *Shades of Competence: An Exploration of the Competence Element of Informed Consent*. Supervisor: Dr. S. Hall.
10. Kooverjee, Y. *Ethical considerations in the prevention of childhood obesity*. Supervisor: Dr Lyn Horn. (Completed: degree will be conferred in December 2018.)
11. Madaka, N. *Resource allocation in public health: moral issues*. Supervisor: Dr L Horn. (Completed: degree will be conferred in March 2018.)
12. Mafanya, A. *Informed consent issues in Eastern Cape*. Supervisor: Prof. AA van Niekerk.
13. Makola, N. *Moral issues in public health*. Supervisor: Dr. L Horn.
14. Mapukata, M. *The role of nurses in end-of-life care*. Supervisor: Dr. S Hall.
15. Mashele, T.S. *An exploration of ethical challenges related to the management of drug resistant Tuberculosis in South Africa*. Supervisor: Dr. L. Horn.
16. Maswanganyi, J.V. *An exploration of the plausibility of human rights and communitarian approaches in guiding public health interventions*. Supervisor: Dr. L. Horn.
17. Mkumbuzi, J. *A moral issue in dental therapy*. Supervisor: Dr. S Hall.
18. Morkel, M. *Medical testing in the life insurance industry: bioethical perspectives*. MPhil. Supervisor: Prof. A.A. van Niekerk
19. Ogunyinka, R. *Paternalism in Medical Ethics: An Evaluation*. Supervisor: Dr. S. Hall.
20. Patel, F. *The nature of the moral obligation underlying global bioethics*. MPhil. Supervisor: Prof. A.A. van Niekerk.
21. Photo, M. *The effects of the SA Choice of Termination of Pregnancy Act on health care workers in South Africa*. MPhil. Supervisor: Prof. A.A. van Niekerk.
22. Potgieter, H. *The moral issues involved in obtaining consent from patients in duress, awaiting surgery*. Supervisor: Prof. M de Roubaix.
23. Rossouw, L. *Obtaining informed consent from vulnerable research participants in a disadvantaged SA community*. Supervisor: Prof. AA van Niekerk.
24. Seedat, S. *Therapeutic prevention of Posttraumatic Stress Disorder: Ethical analysis and proposal of a bioethical framework*. Supervisor: Prof. AA van Niekerk.
25. Thetard, R. *Morele kwessie rondom volhoubare gesondheidsverwante ontwikkelingswerk in Africa, met spesiale verwysing na Malawi*. Supervisor: Prof. AA van Niekerk

5. SERVICE DELIVERY

Prof. van Niekerk serves as chair of the Senate Research Ethics Committee.

Prof. van Niekerk was invited to serve for a further term on the Biosafety and Biosecurity Committee of the Academy of Sciences of SA (ASSAf), of which he is also a full, elected member. He was earlier responsible for the ethics part of a comprehensive research program on biosafety and biosecurity in SA, spearheaded by this committee.

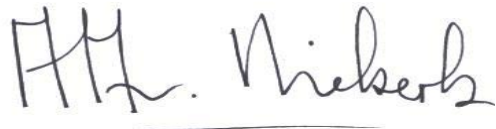
Dr Hall serves on the Ethics Committee of the Humaniora, of which Dr Horn was the chair until she left the service of SU from the beginning of 2017. In the aftermath of that event, Dr Hall has been elected vice-chair of that committee.

6. OTHER GENERAL ACTIVITIES OF THE UNIT

5.1 Bioethics at the SU “Woordfees”

The Unit/Centre has, with a sponsorship by Dr Edwin Hertzog and the Mediclinic Group, staged a bioethics event at the Woordfees for the past four years. In 2017 the topic was ethical issues in private health care in SA. The special guests were Dr Hannes Loots, Ms Clara Findlay and Dr Stefan Smuts, all senior employees of Mediclinic. (Dr Loots is also a graduate of our MPhil Program; he is now retired.) A highly stimulating discussion was offered. This event has become part and parcel of the Woordfees and will continue in future.

5.2 Willemien Brümmer, one of South Africa’s best known investigative journalists, had an in-depth interview with Prof. Van Niekerk on ethical issues relating to children with cancer. The article based on this interview appeared on Netwerk 24 and its newspapers on 26 January 2017.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "AA van Niekerk". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

AA van Niekerk
(Head: Unit for Bioethics)
12 June 2018

UNIT FOR BUSINESS ETHICS AND PUBLIC INTEGRITY

ANNUAL REPORT 2017

1. RESEARCH

1.1. International conferences

Prof Deon Rossouw:

- 11th World Forum for Responsible Economies, (Lille, France), 17-19 Oct 2017;
- World Bank and African Development Bank Integrity and Compliance Conference (Sandton), 20 -21 Nov 2017;
- The African Corporate Governance Network Conference, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Dr Minka Woermann:

- Attended: The conference on The Contribution of Business Schools and Higher Education to Inclusive Development, Stellenbosch, South Africa, 19 – 20 April, 2017.

1.2. Regional / national conferences and forums

Dr Schalk Engelbrecht:

- Facilitator, Business Ethics Forum (BEN-Africa and KPMG, theme: Ethics & Energy) (23 May 2017, Cape Town);
- Presenter, Institute of Internal Auditors (PE); Ethics and Internal Audit (31 May 2017);
- Facilitator, Business Ethics Forum, (BEN-Africa and KPMG, theme: Ethics & Energy) (9 June, 2017, Johannesburg);
- Presenter, South African Association of Medical Devices Marketing and Ethics Code Launch, 21 June 2017;
- Ethics and Accounting talk – Coca Cola Internal Audit, 28 August 2017.

Prof Rossouw:

- 16th Annual Conference of the Business Ethics Network of Africa (Stellenbosch), 9-10 Nov 2017;
- 10th Annual Ethics Officer Learning Forum.

Dr Woermann:

- Book launch: ‘Bridging Complexity and Post-structuralism: Insights and Implications’, STIAS, 11 October 2017;
- ‘Governance and the NPO sector: Board duties and responsibilities – Where does HOPE Cape Town stand?’, Board Workshop: Taking Stock of Hope Cape Town’s Board Functioning, HOPE Cape Town, Tygerberg, 30 September 2017;
- ‘Complexity thinking: Understanding and working with complex systems’, International Council on Systems Engineering (INCOSE) South Africa, Western Cape Branch Event, CSIR, 31 August 2017;
- ‘The Ubuntu challenge to business: From stakeholders to relationholders’, Stellenbosch Forum (Forum for showcasing research at Stellenbosch University, held four times per year; on invitation), 3 August, 2017;
- ‘Complexity and the normativity of law’, Departmental Seminar, Stellenbosch University, 4 May, 2017;
- Invited participant and speaker at the Complexity Workshop, titled ‘Towards a relational and process ontology for understanding complex adaptive system dynamics.’ Hosted by the Centre for Complex Systems in Transition, Stellenbosch University. STIAS, 10-12 October 2017. Title of talk: ‘Conceptualising relationality and organisational openness’;
- Attended: The 2017 Deloitte BEN-Africa conference on *Ethics & Energy*, Stellenbosch, South Africa, 9-10 November 2017;
- Attended the seminars of the STIAS project, titled ‘Boundaries and Legal Authority in a Global Context’. STIAS, 2017-2018.

1.3. Publications

1.3.1. Journal articles

- Woermann, M. and Engelbrecht, S. The Ubuntu challenge to business: From stakeholders to relationholders. *Journal of Business Ethics*, special virtual edition on Business Ethics in Africa. (Online publication November 2017; Publication in a vol.: November 2019).

1.3.2. Book chapters

- Engelbrecht, S. 2017. “Fighting Fraud with Ethics” in D. Rossouw & L. Van Vuuren (eds). *Business Ethics (6th edition)*. Cape Town: Oxford University Press.
- Rossouw, D. 2017. “Business Ethics in South Africa” in D. Jondle & A. Ardichvili (eds.) *Ethical Business Cultures in Emerging Markets*. Cambridge (UK): Cambridge University Press.
- Woermann, M. 2017. “Macro-ethics” in D. Rossouw & L. Van Vuuren (eds). *Business Ethics (6th edition)*. Cape Town: Oxford University Press.

1.3.3. Books

- Rossouw D. & Van Vuuren L. 2017. *Business Ethics (6th edition)*. Cape Town: Oxford University Press.

1.3.4. Forthcoming 2018

- Preiser, R. and Woermann, M. 2018. ‘Conceptual, practical, and ethical implications for understanding and engaging with complex adaptive systems’ in V.G. Rodriguez (ed.). *Handbook on Global Challenges, Governance and Complexity*. Cheltenham (UK):Edward Elgar Publishing.
- Woermann, M. ‘Business ethics in Africa’ in E. Heath, B. Kaldis, and A. Marcoux (eds). *The Routledge Companion to Business Ethics*. London: Routledge.
- Woermann, M. ‘Complexity and the normativity of law’ in J. Murray, T. Webb, & S. Wheately (eds). *Complexity Theory & Law: Mapping an Emergent Jurisprudence*. Routledge.
- Woermann, M., Human, O., and Preiser, R. 2018. ‘General complexity: a philosophical and critical perspective’. *Emergence: Complexity and Organization*.

2. TEACHING

2.1. Postgraduate teaching

- The primary task of the Unit's staff is to assume responsibility for the post-graduate teaching of business ethics in the MPhil (Applied Ethics) Programme. Two week-long contact sessions were held, in which prominent business ethics themes and local business ethics challenges were addressed.

The specialisation programme is primarily lectured by Dr Minka Woermann. Prof Rossouw – who is appointed as an extraordinary professor in the Department of Philosophy – also assists in this task, as does Dr Engelbrecht – who is appointed as a Research Fellow in the CAE.

Both the first and the second contact sessions were rated as either 'excellent' or 'very good' by all the students.

- Dr Engelbrecht lectured in the following programmes:
 - The MBA Programme, University of Stellenbosch Business School (subject: Business in Society – Ethics & Governance);
 - Guest Lecture, Ethics & Forensic, North-West University (12 September 2017).
- Prof Rossouw lectured in University of Johannesburg Corporate Governance Certificate Programme.
- Dr Woermann lectured in the MPhil Programme in Future Studies, Institute for Future Studies, University of Stellenbosch Business School (subjects: complexity thinking and business ethics).

2.2. Undergraduate teaching:

- Philosophy and Ethics 314 (approx. 320 students) (Dr S. Hall; Dr D.J. Louw);
- Philosophy and Ethics 474 (approx. 250 students) (Dr S. Hall; Dr D.J. Louw).

3. POSTGRADUATE SUPERVISION

3.1. On-going PhD projects (only those students set to graduate in 2018)

- Andrade, J.A. Am I my brother's keeper? Poverty, supererogation and infinite responsibility. Supervisor: Dr M. Woermann.

3.2. On-going MPhil projects (only those students set to graduate in 2018)

- Ballard, H. Non-compliance with control measures in managing ethics at a selected university. Supervisor: Prof D. Rossouw;
- Botha, S. Bridging the gap: Towards ethical consumerism. Supervisor: Dr M. Woermann;
- Hoepfl, K. Corporate governance for environmental sustainability. Supervisors: Prof J.P. Hattingh and M. Woermann;
- Horwitz, J. The ethics of outsourcing labour in business. Supervisor: Dr M. Woermann;
- Marais, F. Is discrimination in risk underwriting in the insurance industry fair and sustainable? Supervisor: Dr M. Woermann;
- Smit, A.T. Management as communicative action: Habermasian perspectives on the quest for responsible management education. Supervisor: Dr M. Woermann.

4. SERVICE DELIVERY

4.1. Designations

- Ms Groenewald continued in her position as President of the Business Ethics Network Africa (BEN-Africa) and as chairperson of BEN Africa's EXCO.

4.2. Editorial positions

- Dr Engelbrecht served as Editor-in-Chief of the African Journal of Business Ethics (AJoBE) from December 2016 to November 2017. During this time period he also served on BEN-Africa's EXCO.

4.3. Representation on editorial boards

- Prof. Rossouw continued to serve on the editorial boards of the following journals:
 - Journal of Business Ethics;
 - African Journal of Business Ethics;
 - Turkish Journal of Business Ethics.

- Prof. Hattingh continued to serve on the editorial board of the African Journal of Business Ethics.

4.4. Committee membership

- Prof Rossouw:

Served on the following governing committees:

- The King Committee for Corporate Governance in South Africa;
- The Gauteng Ethics Advisory Council;
- Social and Ethics Committees of SAIPA and 4Africa Exchange (Chair);
- Business Ethics Network of Africa Advisory Board (Chair).

- Dr Woermann:

Served on the following committees/boards:

- Governing committee of the Centre for Corporate Governance in Africa; University of Stellenbosch Business School (since 2012);
- Board member of HOPE Cape Town, an NGO affiliated with Stellenbosch University working with HIV affected communities (since 2012).

4.5. Examination, reviews and moderation

- Dr Engelbrecht:
 - Reviewed an article for Tydskrif vir Natuurwetenskappe.

- Prof Rossouw:

- External examiner for the MPhil (Applied Ethics), St. Augustine College;
 - Reviewed articles for Journal of Business Ethics;
 - Reviewed articles for the African Journal of Business Ethics.
- Dr Woermann:
 - External moderator for a Masters Business Ethics module at St Augustine College of South Africa (2017);
 - Internal moderator for the 'Ethics and Governance' Master's module, presented by the Centre for Corporate Governance; University of Stellenbosch Business School (since 2013);
 - Reviewed abstracts for the paper track of the Business Ethics Network Annual Conference (2017);
 - Reviewed journal articles for Acta Academia and the African Journal of Business Ethics;
 - Acted as internal examiner for Cloete, G.S.: 'Re-imagining the change agent and transformative praxis from a critical complexity perspective: Implications for sustainable organizational change and development', PhD (Business Management and Administration). September 2016; September 2017.



Dr Minka Woermann

(Head: Unit for Business Ethics and Public Integrity)

12 June 2018

UNIT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL ETHICS

ANNUAL REPORT 2017

1. Research

1.1 Research Outputs

1.1.1 Publications

1. Mazigo, AF, 2017. Promoting Social Innovation Through Action Research: Evidence from an Empirical Study in the Fisheries Sector of Ukerewe District in Tanzania. **JOURNAL OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND CAPABILITIES**, Volume 18, 2017, pp. 239-257. <https://doi.org/10.1080/19452829.2016.1256276>
2. Mpofu, C., Thabiso John Morodi, Johan Petrus Hattingh, 2017. Governance and socio-political issues in management of acid mine drainage in South Africa. **WATER POLICY**, Volume 19, Issue 5. Available Online 31 August 2017, wp2017068; DOI: 10.2166/wp.2017.068
3. Morodi, TJ and Charles Mpofu, 2017. Environmental Decision Making on Acid Mine Drainage Issues in South Africa: An Argument for the Precautionary Principle. **SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING**, June 2017, pp. 1-19.
4. Mpofu Charles, Morodi Thabiso John, and Hattingh Johan Petrus, 2017. A Case Study of Stakeholder Perceptions of the History, Management, and Decision-Making Approaches About Acid Mine Drainage in South Africa. **ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE**. December 2017. <https://doi.org/10.1089/env.2017.0024>

1.1.2 Other publications

1. Hattingh, JP. Redefining ourselves in the Anthropocene (Opinion statement for Johannesburg based landscape artist, Hannelie Coetzee, that will be used in brochures for her national and international art exhibitions).
2. Seeliger, L., Hattingh, JP and Gordijn, B. (2017) Bioethics in Southern Africa: 2010-2017. Unpublished research paper for the Regional Office of UNESCO in Southern Africa.
3. Seeliger, L., Horn, A. and Kloppers, W. 2018. Breede River environment plan taking shape. Popular article published in *Water Wheel*, a publication of the Water Research Council.

1.1.3 Conference papers

1. Hattingh, JP. Biotechnology, the environment and climate change in Southern Africa. **REGIONAL UNESCO CONFERENCE ON SDGS, BIOETHICS AND RESEARCH ETHICS AND EDUCATION**, 17-18 October 2017, Gaborone, Botswana.
2. Seeliger, L. Bioethics in Southern Africa: 2010-2017. **REGIONAL UNESCO CONFERENCE ON SDGS, BIOETHICS AND RESEARCH ETHICS AND EDUCATION**, 17-18 October 2017, Gaborone, Botswana.

1.2 Current Research

1. Prof. Johan Hattingh is continuing with his research in different areas of environmental ethics, and is continuing his focus on the interface between, and overlap of environmental ethics, climate change ethics, and development ethics.
2. Dr. Leanne Seeliger, Research Fellow of the Unit for Environmental Ethics works in the area of water ethics, and the ethics of sense of place.
 - 2.1. In 2017 she submitted a comprehensive research proposal to the Water Research Commission on the topic of *Water Issues in Ethical Perspective: A pilot study in the Philippi Horticultural Area (PHA)*, which was successful. Work on this project will start in May 2018.
 - 2.2. Dr. Seeliger also prepared a research project in collaboration with international partners on the topic of *Restoring Ethical Water Management in South African Townships: A Pilot Project in Khayamandi*. This project will start in July 2018.
3. Prof Louise du Toit is continuing with her research into environmental philosophy (or ‘philosophy of nature’) in which she focuses on environmental issues from a humanities’, and more specifically, from a phenomenological perspective. In this regard the field of traditional ‘environmental ethics’ is broadened to incorporate fundamental philosophical questions related to fields such as epistemology, metaphysics, ontology, and theology.
4. Dr. Tristen Taylor holds a Postdoc for 2017-18 with Prof Louise du Toit as host, working “Toward an African Eco-feminist Approach to Women, Environment, Development and Poverty”.

2. OTHER ACTIVITIES

2.1 Short course

The Unit for Environmental Ethics was again approached by the City of Cape Town to tender for the presentation of a short course in *Professional Ethics for Environmental Health Practitioners*. The tender was successful, and the short course was presented in July 2017.

2.2 Ongoing Doctoral Projects

1. LYAKURWA, M. The environmental ethics of the Wachaga and Waluguru of Tanzania: Beyond the romantic exhortation of the ideal traditional past. Ph.D. (Applied Ethics). Supervisor: Prof. JP Hattingh. Co-supervisor: Dr. Sirkku Hellsten, Philosophy Section, University of Dar es Salaam, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. (To be submitted in July 2018 for examination.)
2. CRUISE, A.J. Conserving the wildness of being: An ethical critique of the domestication of wild animals. Doctoral proposal formally accepted, and candidate has formally registered January 2017.

2.3 Ongoing Master's Projects

1. MOSWANE, M. *The Land Ethic applied*. MPhil (Environmental Ethics). Supervisor: Dr. Susan Hall.
2. VAN DER MERWE, C. *The contribution of corporate environmental codes of conduct to sustainable development in the mining sector*. Supervisor: Dr. Susan Hall.

2.4 M.Phil in Environmental Management

Prof. Hattingh is member of an interfaculty Programme Committee that has launched a MPhil Programme in Environmental Management in January 2001. Departments participating in the programme are Philosophy (Environmental Ethics), Geology, Geography and Environmental Studies, Public and Development Administration, Public Law, and Conservation Ecology. Since December 2002 a steady stream of students graduated from this program.

Within the framework of this programme Prof. Hattingh took responsibility for a module in Environmental Ethics until 2012. From 2013-2017, his duties in this regard were taken over by Dr. Susan Hall, who was succeeded by Prof. Louise du Toit in 2015.

2.5 M.Phil. in Sustainable Development

In February 2003 the Sustainability Institute under the leadership of Prof. Mark Swilling and Ms. Eve Annecke launched an innovative MPhil Programme in Sustainable Development in collaboration with the Department of Public and Development Management of the University of Stellenbosch. Having been part of the team planning the Programme, Prof. Hattingh is currently one of the co-teachers in the module on Leadership and Ethics for Sustainable Development. This module was taught again in 2017.

2.6 Activities around UNESCO's adoption of the DECLARATION OF ETHICAL PRINCIPLES IN RELATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE

1. During 2016 Prof Hattingh was invited by the Director General of UNESCO to serve on an Ad Hoc Expert Group of 25 members that produced the first Draft of a Preliminary Text of a Non-binding Declaration on Ethical Principles in Relation to Climate Change at a week-long meeting in September 2016 in Rabat, Morocco. Prof. Hattingh was also elected as President of this Expert Group.
2. During 2017 a Second Draft of this Preliminary Declaration was drafted on the basis of comments received from the Member States of UNESCO.
3. This second draft was subsequently discussed and finalized at an intergovernmental consultation of Member States of UNESCO in June in Paris, France. At this meeting, Prof. Hattingh was invited to attend as observer and expert adviser.
4. The Draft Declaration then went through several stages of further discussion internally within the hierarchy of UNESCO, and was finally approved by the General Conference of UNESCO on 13 November 2017.
5. The Declaration of Ethical Principles in Relation to Climate Change is now an international instrument of "soft law", on par with the Universal Declaration of Bioethics and Human Rights that was adopted by UNESCO in 2005.
6. Drafted in English and French, the climate change Declaration has now been translated in the six official languages of UNESCO, which are Chinese, Russian, Arabic and Spanish.

2.7 Membership of Editorial Boards

Prof. Hattingh currently serves on the Editorial Board of the following journals:

1. *Journal for Ethics Education* (This is a Springer on-line journal that was recently established by Prof. Henk ten Have, Director of the Center for Healthcare Ethics, Duquesne Universiteit, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He was invited to become member of Editorial Board in 2011, and the Journal was established in 2012.)

2.8 Guest Speakers/Facilitators at Various Events

Prof Johan Hattingh

1. Invited speaker at the MOST School of UNESCO on Sustainability Science; Sustainability Institute; Stellenbosch, South Africa, 14-17 February 2017. (MOST = Management of Social Transformation)
2. Co-facilitator of the UNESCO Training Workshop for the National Bioethics Committee of Malawi, Lilongwe, Malawi, 22 - 26 May 2017.
3. Invited as expert participant in the Third UNESCO symposium on the future of Education for Sustainable Development: 13 to 15 June 2017, Stellenbosch, South Africa.

4. Invited to address the Intergovernmental Expert Consultation of UNESCO on its Draft Declaration of a Nonbinding Declaration of Ethical Principles in relation to Climate Change, 27 June 2017, Paris, France.
5. Invited speaker at the Architectural Forum of the National Department of Public Works: Directorate Architectural Services in Cape Town. Topic: The Architectural Professional: Ethical Foundations and Practical Implications (31 August 2017)

Johan Hattingh, Louise du Toit, Susan Hall, Leanne Seeliger
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