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RECTOR'S MANAGEMENT REPORT TO COUNCIL

Monday 18 June 2018

Prof WJS de Villiers,
Rector and Vice-Chancellor

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1. Introduction

We are halfway through the Stellenbosch University (SU) **Centenary year**. This milestone was commemorated with a number of events in the first half of the year, including a gala dinner in the run-up to our official birthday on 2 April, various Homecoming events, a parade through town and a concert. SU also awarded more than the usual number of [honorary doctorates](#) this year to some of the foremost thought leaders of our time.

In addition, the University has recorded numerous significant **achievements so far this year**, such as attracting top achievers from the South African schooling system, again awarding a record number of qualifications (9 046 in total, including 1 623 master's degrees and 305 doctorates) as well as winning the Varsity Cup.

At the same time, we remain agile in responding to various **external challenges** as stewards of the SU legacy. These include the following elements present in South Africa to varying degrees: an adolescent democracy, a stagnant economy, anti-intellectual tendencies, high levels of violence (both criminal and political), growing levels of inequality, a high rate of human migration and increasing consumption of scarce resources. The SU team is **responsibly managing** such issues as the presidential announcement of fee-free higher education for students from households earning less than R350 000 per year, along with all its ramifications, as well as the VAT increase to 15%. We should always be guided by the principles contained in the King IV Report on Corporate Governance, which underlines the need for good governance, ethical leadership and transparency to counter the widespread corruption experienced in South Africa, both in the public and private sector.

The second half of 2018 will see rapid movement on a number of fronts, starting with a **new vision and strategic framework** to position the University for the future. For the past five years, the *SU Institutional Intent and Strategy 2013–2018* and the accompanying *Vision 2030* have guided the University's journey. This valuable roadmap expires this year. The Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Strategy and Internationalisation, Prof Hester Klopper, has been competently driving the process to develop a new vision and strategy. I would like to thank everyone for the inputs they have provided thus far. The next step will be to table the new framework document at Council for approval, after which all University environments will align themselves with the framework.

Another process picking up speed is work on a **new Statute** for the University. A first draft has been circulated for input, and the final version should be brought to Council by the end of the year. The process is led by the Registrar, Dr Ronel Retief.

Lastly, excitement is building about an emerging initiatives that will take SU into the future. These include exploration of the idea of a **school for data science and computational thinking**, a process led by the Vice-Rector: Research, Innovation and Postgraduate Studies, Prof Eugene Cloete, as well as extensive preparations for **Mode 2** curriculum delivery, overseen by the Vice-Rector: Learning and Teaching, Prof Arnold Schoonwinkel.

So, as we enter SU's second century, we have much to be grateful for. We are proud of our achievements, deeply aware of our challenges, and ready to go forward together.

As is customary, a member of the Rectorate is again afforded the opportunity to submit a comprehensive annual report to Council. This time, it is the turn of Prof Nico Koopman, **Vice-Rector: Social Impact, Transformation and Personnel** (SITP). In my overall management report, I will therefore highlight only a few developments in his responsibility centre (RC). Please consult Prof Koopman's report for more detailed information.

This report covers the period **21 February** (RC submission date for the previous Council meeting of 26 March) **to 18 May 2018** (submission date for the meeting of 18 June), with a few exceptions so as to cover significant developments outside this period (up to my submission date of **1 June**).

I welcome this opportunity to engage with Council.

2. Broadening access

Broadening access is one of three overarching strategic priorities listed in SU's *Institutional Intent and Strategy (IIS) 2013–2018*. It is specifically linked to the first element of our Vision 2030, namely to become more inclusive. And in SU's *Institutional Plan (IP) 2018–2023*, broadening access is further unpacked as one of seven institutional strategies. It is stated that we aim to achieve it by, inter alia, increasing the diversity profile of our staff and student corps.

2.1 Another five nGAP positions

During the fourth intake of the New Generation of Academics Programme (nGAP) in March, SU was awarded five positions in the departments of Agronomy, Civil Engineering, Computer Science, Genetics and Medical Virology. This brings SU's **total number of nGAP positions to 17**.

nGAP is a government initiative aimed at diversifying the academic staff corps at South African universities. The focus is on the appointment of black African, coloured, Indian and Asian (BCIA) as well as female academics. Young academics are recruited as part of a six-year programme to support universities in their staffing and development strategies.

The following SU departments previously received nGAP appointments: Agricultural Economics, Applied Mathematics, Private Law, Anatomy and Histology, Economics, Mathematical Sciences, Mechanical and Mechatronic Engineering, Social Work, Curriculum Studies, Food Science, Industrial Engineering, and Radiobiology.

2.2 Residence placement

The Residence Placement Policy has contributed significantly to transforming the profile of residence students.

- In total, approximately **50%** of the students residing in University housing are black African, coloured, Indian and Asian students.
- In terms of senior housing (LLL houses and senior residences) on Stellenbosch campus, about **85%** of the student profile constitute black African, coloured, Indian and Asian students.
- In undergraduate residences on Stellenbosch campus, the ratio of white to black African, coloured, Indian and Asian representation among females is nearly **50:50**, while black African, coloured, Indian and Asian representation in male residences is at **35%**. This disparity is due to an insufficient number of black African, coloured, Indian and Asian males in the applicant pool for placement in residences: Although the number of spots available in residence is fairly equal for males and females, approximately two thirds of the applicant pool are females.
- At Tygerberg campus, almost **70%** of students accommodated in residence are from the black African, coloured, Indian and Asian groups.

Accommodation type	White	%	Coloured	Black African	Indian & Asian	Total BCIA	%	Total placement
HK houses (PSO leaders)	60	63%	22	12	1	35	37%	95
LLL houses	30	16%	58	89	10	157	84%	187
Senior residences (S'bosch)	86	14%	239	248	21	508	86%	594
Undergraduate male (S'bosch)	1 659	65%	414	401	65	895	35%	2 554
Undergraduate female (S'bosch)	1 578	54%	695	524	96	1331	46%	2 909
Tygerberg junior (1 st to 3 rd years)	250	39%	150	223	21	399	61%	649
Tygerberg senior (4 th to 6 th years)	197	28%	202	258	43	503	72%	700
Maties Sport	58	60%	27	12	0	39	40%	97
Total profile	3 918	50%	1 807	1 767	257	3 867	50%	7 785

Table 1: Residence placements at Stellenbosch University

- Note that the figures above exclude international placements (approximately 180 spots).
- Also, at Tygerberg campus, one of the residences is a hybrid model that accommodates all study years. The majority of the students are in the senior phase, and the residence is therefore categorised as a senior residence.
- And Maties Sport places students in Huis Neethling.

2.3 Revision of the Residence Placement Policy

Council approved the current Policy for Placement in Residences, and in Listening, Learning and Living Houses, as well as Allocation to PSO Wards and Clusters (commonly known as the Residence Placement Policy) in 2013, with the agreement that it would be **revised after five years**. Therefore, a **task team** was recently established for this purpose.

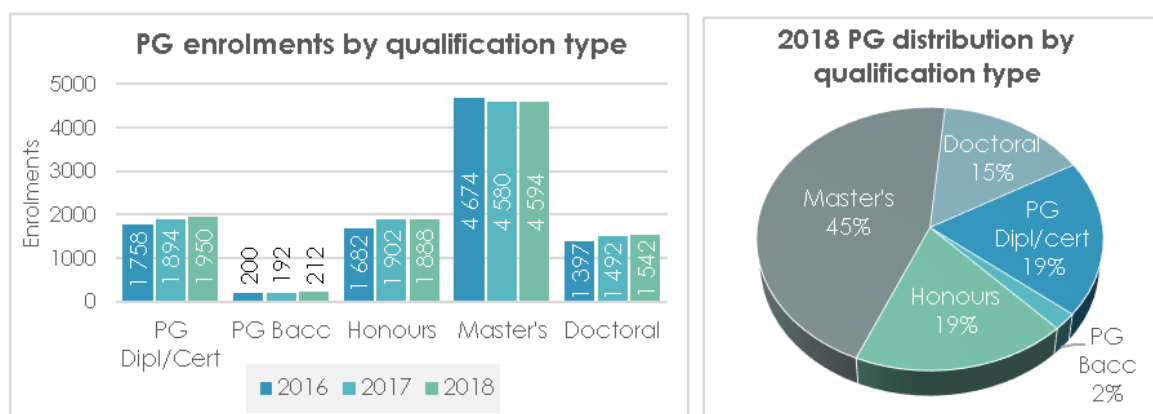
It is foreseen that the new Admissions Policy, which Council approved in February 2017, as well as the December 2017 presidential announcement of free education to students whose parents fall into the gross annual income bracket of less than R350 000, will affect the revision of the Residence Placement Policy. In light of this, the following matters should inter alia be attended to:

- Alignment with SU policy environment
- Alignment with SU goals in terms of equality and redress
- Alignment with SU goals in terms of excellence, diversity and transformation
- Consideration of implications of national policies and governing frameworks
- Review of current SU diversity factors as utilised in various other institutional policies

2.4 Postgraduate enrolments

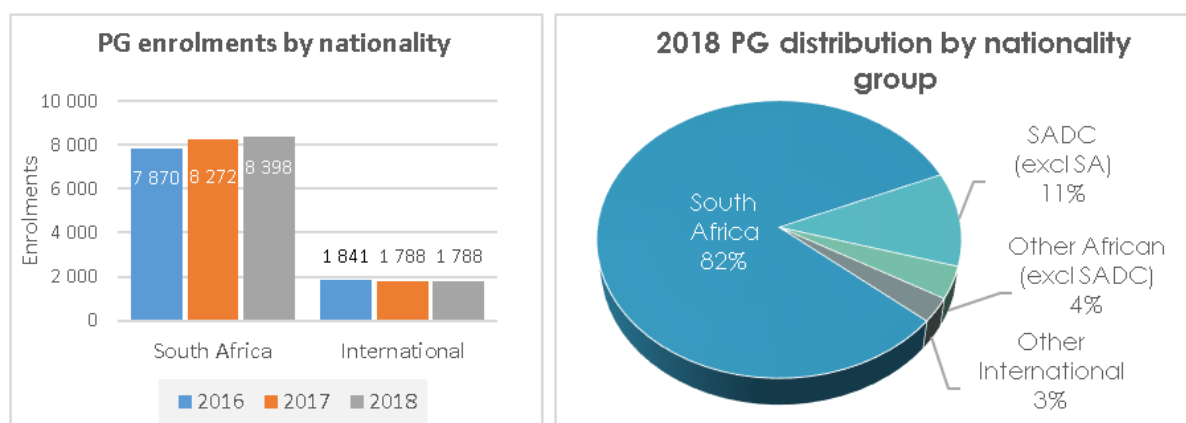
Postgraduate (PG) enrolments after the conclusion of the 2018 registration period for new master's and doctoral students (29 March) are summarised below. ([Click here](#) for the full report.)

2.4.1 Postgraduate enrolments by qualification type



- The total number of postgraduate enrolments **increased by 1,3%** from 10 060 in 2017 to 10 186 in 2018.
- This growth was mainly due to a 3% increase in the number of postgraduate diploma/certificate and doctoral enrolments respectively.¹

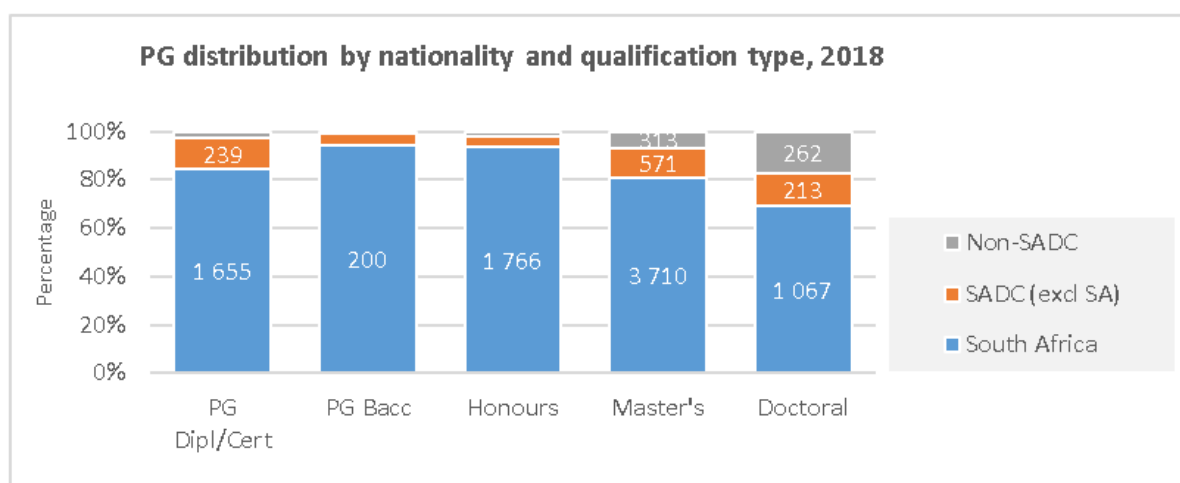
2.4.2 Postgraduate enrolments by nationality



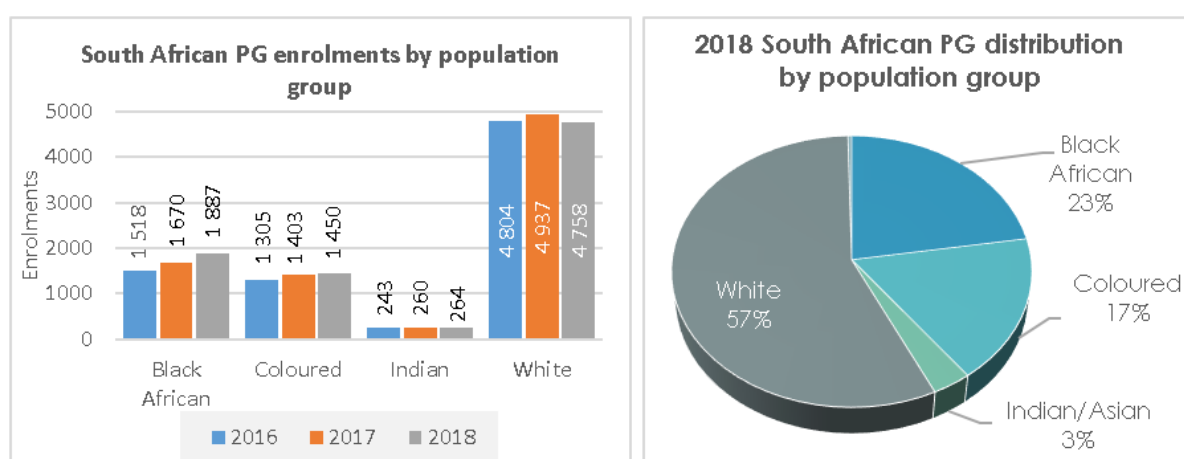
- South African postgraduate enrolments **increased by 1,5%** from 2017 to 2018, with no increase in international enrolments.

¹ "PG Bacc" refers to the LLB postgraduate bachelor's programme (Faculty of Law).

2.4.2.1 Enrolments by qualification type and nationality

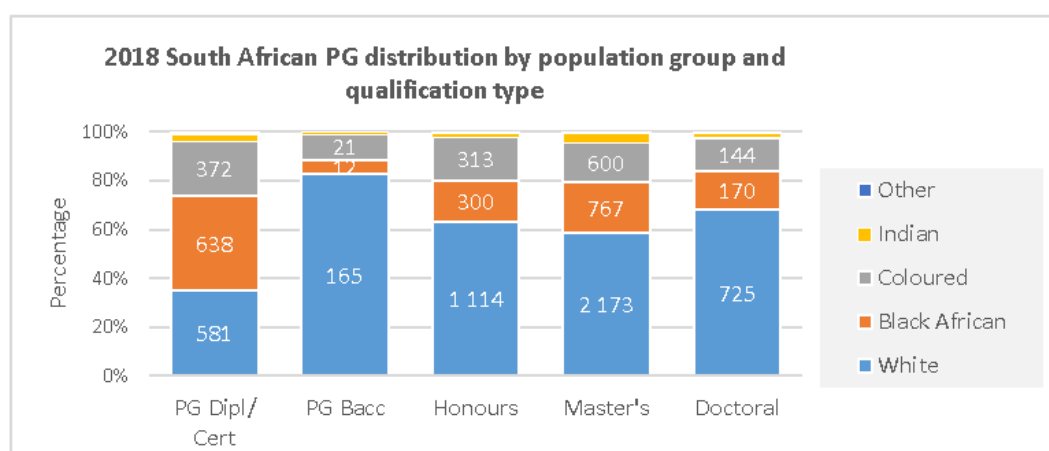


2.4.3 Enrolments by South African postgraduate students by population group



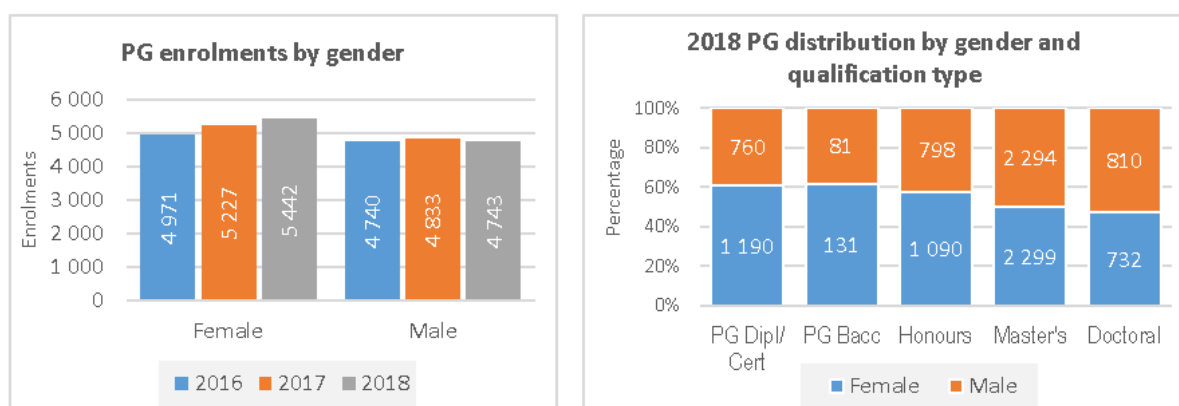
- The highest growth rate from 2017 to 2018 was among black African students (**13%**).
- The number of white students declined by 3,6% from 2017 to 2018.

2.4.3.1 Enrolments by SA postgraduate students by population group² and qualification type



² "Other" in the figure refers to Asian students as well as those who did not disclose their population group.

2.4.4 Postgraduate enrolments by gender



- Female enrolments increased by **4%** from 2017 to 2018, while male enrolments declined by nearly 2%. As a result, the percentage of female enrolments increased from 52% in 2017 to **53,4%** in 2018.
- Female students constituted the majority of enrolments (approximately **60%**) in the postgraduate diploma/certificate, postgraduate bachelor's and honours programmes.
- Enrolments in the master's programmes were evenly spread between genders.
- Male students constituted the majority (**52,5%**) in doctoral programmes.

2.5 Applications for 2019 intake

Undergraduate applications with a view to 2019 commenced on 1 March 2018. By the end of April, more or less the **same number of applications** had been received as in the corresponding period of the previous application year. The number of complete applications from black African, coloured, Indian and Asian applicants has grown by 15%, while those from white applicants has decreased by 8%. Nevertheless, while a significant number of black African, coloured, Indian and Asian applicants, particularly black African applicants, are interested in studying at Stellenbosch, many failed to submit complete applications.

The Division for Student Access will work with faculties to follow up on incomplete applications submitted by top achievers to increase the applicant pool. Applicants from schools in quintiles 1 to 3 are exempt from the R100 application fee – another measure implemented to broaden access.

Population group	2017 application year				2018 application year			
	Complete	Awaiting documents	Incomplete	Total	Complete	Awaiting documents	Incomplete	Total
Asian	59	38	44	141	61	33	46	140
Black African	1 011	3 127	3 667	7 805	1 230	3 219	4 335	8 784
Coloured	706	707	839	2 252	770	836	1 039	2 645
Indian	320	238	262	820	355	299	275	929
BCIA total	2 096	4 110	4 812	11 018	2 416	4 387	5 695	12 498
White	4 175	1 227	1 302	6 704	3 852	1 204	1 288	6 344
Other	79	38	62	179	96	61	89	246
Grand total	6 350	5 375	6 176	17 901	6 364	5 652	7 072	19 088

Table 2: Applications end April 2018 (vs. April 2017)

2.6 Financial aid to students

2.6.1 Undergraduate students

During the first months of 2018, the **task team** commissioned to review the current institutional student funding model completed their assignment and submitted a **recommendation report** to the Committee for Bursaries and Loans (CBL) and the Rectorate on respectively 16 and 27 March for their consideration and input. The report, including additional comments and recommendations, went back to the CBL and the Academic Planning Committee. At the time of writing here, it was scheduled for tabling to **Senate** on 1 June for final approval.

Reviewing the model also created an opportunity to investigate the current business processes in terms of budget allocations per spending category, disbursement and record-keeping mechanisms, the capacity and skills to support operations, as well as the efficiency and effectiveness of IT system support. The task team's observations and recommendations on the supporting and enabling capabilities required for insight-driven operations in the bursaries and loans environment will form part of a comprehensive project of business process re-engineering that the CBL will embark on in the near future. It will run concurrently with and feed into the institutional IT systems renewal project.

2.6.2 Impact of new DHET bursaries

In terms of the presidential announcement on fully subsidised free education to all first-time entering students (FTEs) from families with a household income of up to R350 000 per annum, **642** of our first-years have received funding from the National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS).

The Centre for Bursaries and Loans administered a walk-in process, through which an additional 400 students qualified for the fully subsidised NSFAS government grant. Nationally, NSFAS received 28 000 additional applications – a much higher number than anticipated – which raises concerns in terms of financial sustainability. To date, 84 of the 400 students in this group (referred to as “channel 2 students”) are funded by NSFAS.

Support to both groups – students who applied as well as walk-ins – consists of full-cost bursaries that cover tuition, accommodation, meals and books. The estimated bursary amount disbursed to these students totals **R64,2 million** for their first year of study. The bursaries will be continued in subsequent years, provided that they pass a minimum of 50% of their modules in each academic year and complete their degree programmes in the minimum duration plus one additional year.

Compared to 2017 figures, the DHET bursaries have facilitated a **substantial increase** in the number of poor students receiving financial assistance, as well as in the size of the awards. In 2017, only 332 of our FTEs in financial need qualified for financial assistance (bursary loans) from NSFAS, which totalled R19,3 million.

2.6.3 Disbursements January–May 2018

Funding categories	Bursaries	Loans	Grand total
1: Institutional	R106,4 m	R11,52 m	R117,91 m
Merit bursaries *	R31,67 m	R0 m	R31,67 m
Assistance funds	R0,12 m	R5,52 m	R5,64 m
Recruitment bursaries **	R71,01 m	R6 m	R77,06 m
Sport bursaries	R3,55 m	R0 m	R3,55 m
2: Internal	R3,16 m	R2,03 m	R5,19 m
Bequests and donations	R3,37 m	R0,52 m	R3,89 m

Funding categories	Bursaries	Loans	Grand total
3: External	R70,56 m	R9,29 m	R79,85 m
Companies, donations and trusts	R54,98 m	R0 m	R54,98 m
Departmental SU funds	R7,88 m	R0 m	R7,88 m
NSFAS	R8,59 m	R11,31 m	R19,90 m
Statutory funds	R23,11 m	R0 m	R23,11 m
Grand total	R204,32 m	R23,34 m	R227,67 m

Table 3: Actual disbursements to date by bursary category

* A total of 967 first-year merit bursaries and 1 325 senior merit bursaries were awarded. The number of candidates who qualified for senior merit bursaries grew by 15% since last year (2017).

** Recruitment bursaries were disbursed to **1 484 students**. Of these, 235 students were funded by the DHET, equating to a potential conversion of institutional funds to the value of R11 million. Recruitment loans were conditionally offered to 252 students, and 25 of these offers were converted into DHET bursaries, which equate to R1 million.

2.6.4 ISFAP funding model for the missing middle

Although 230 full-cost grants were initially earmarked for qualifying SU first-years from the “missing-middle” income bracket in specific faculties and programmes, the Ikusasa Student Financial Aid Programme (ISFAP) has unilaterally **reduced** this number **to 120** due to a lack of sufficient funding.

The number of study **programmes** included in this funding model has **also** been **decreased**. To date, approximately 112 grants have been awarded to SU students, just short of the total of 120. The programmes currently included in the model are MBChB (36 grants), BAcc (33 grants) and BEng (43 grants).

2.6.5 National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS)

NSFAS staff strike: At the beginning of the year, NSFAS employees staged a workers’ strike, which affected their key operations, especially those of their contact centre and servicing teams. NSFAS also informed institutions that their planning was lagging behind and that this would delay allowance disbursements. However, the scheme did make upfront payments to institutions in January and March to alleviate the pressure on universities’ cash flow.

Reconciliation process for remittances and NSFAS 2016/17 close-out: NSFAS experienced a national challenge in processing institutions’ outstanding claims for the 2016/17 financial year. Although an NSFAS service team is currently assisting all institutional centres for undergraduate financial aid in respect of the 2016/17 close-out, progress with the generation of backlogged loan agreement forms (LAFs)/schedules of particulars (SOPs) and payments to the University is unsatisfactory. A total of 860 students are affected and **more than R44,3 million from 2017 remains outstanding**. This was officially reported to the DHET and will be addressed with NSFAS at a national level. These unfortunate circumstances placed a heavy burden on the 2017 SU bursaries and loans budget, which carries the cost of outstanding NSFAS disbursements until the final close-out.

Number of 2018 applications processed: NSFAS requested all institutions to submit the registration data and results of all applicants eligible for NSFAS funding. The Centre for Bursaries and Loans submitted data for 2 558 students for 2018. However, NSFAS has not generated any LAFs/SOPs for these students to date, and we will continue to engage with NSFAS to resolve this.

Feedback from the Portfolio Committee: Ms Christelle Feyt, Senior Director: Student Access, and Mr Arrie Hanekom, Head of our Centre for Undergraduate Bursaries and Loans, represented SU at a meeting of the Portfolio Committee on Higher Education and Training on 29 May. The meeting discussed the student-centered fees model, in particular challenges surrounding outstanding allowances to be paid to financially needy students. A progress report was delivered by NSFAS.

The following constituencies were given the opportunity to respond: The Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET), Universities South Africa (USAf), the South African College Principals Organisation (SAPO), the South African Union of Students (SAUS), as well as the South African Further Education and Training Students Association (SAFETSA). All constituencies made it clear that they were dissatisfied with the delays in disbursements, insufficient integration of data sets, and a lack of capacity at NSFAS to manage the central application model.

The DHET briefed the meeting on challenges surrounding the allocation of upfront payments to universities in the 2017/2018 cycle (SU has 215 students whose allocations for 2017 have not been finalised yet, with an outstanding amount of R14,4 million from NSFAS); the new funding model, which had failed to be student centered; and challenges concerning outstanding allowances. The DHET and the Minister of Higher Education and Training committed themselves to conducting a comprehensive assessment of all NSFAS processes, procedures and systems by June 2018 to prevent further maladministration during the 2019 cycle.

NSFAS confirmed that only 30% of disbursements of upfront payments were made to universities and Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) colleges for the 2018 financial year. This situation creates substantial cash-flow challenges for the higher education sector, as universities and colleges are obliged to stand in for unpaid NSFAS funding.

USAf proposed a two-phased solution:

- clear up all outstanding financial obligations regarding 2017 disbursements and key bottlenecks in the NSFAS business model; and
- jointly redesign the entire student financial system.

The chairperson of the Portfolio Committee indicated that regular feedback meetings would be held to monitor and evaluate the situation.

National standards for allowances: Student allowances for meals, books, private accommodation and travel differ from one institution to the next. This disparity causes unfair practices. For instance, while some institutions paid a food allowance of just R5 000 to final-years only, SU disbursed R15 000 per student for food in 2017. NSFAS is busy standardising allowances to all NSFAS students as follows:

Allowance category	Amount
Books	R5 000
Meals	R13 500
Travel	R9 500 (only for students who are not in university residence or accredited accommodation)
Private accommodation	Average cost of university residence

Table 4: National standards for allowances

2.6.6 Financial life skills programme

The Centre for Bursaries and Loans in collaboration with ABSA is implementing a pilot phase of financial literacy workshops for all SU bursary loan recipients. The aim is to train students in **budgeting and managing their bursary funds**. From 23 to 25 May, 270 students attended the first workshop. In the near future, the workshops will be elaborated to prepare students for the workplace by providing them with, among others, valuable tips and tools for writing a CV and preparing for a formal interview.

2.7 Internal audit review of financial aid

Late last year, Deloitte performed a formal internal audit review of the bursaries and loans processes for the period 1 March to 30 June 2017. The review highlighted several moderate risks and two significant risks pertaining to policy documentation. The final audit report was scheduled to be

discussed at the Audit and Risk Committee on 24 May 2018. The Centre for Bursaries and Loans has indicated that **key controls and action plans** will be put in place to address and mitigate identified risks and improve the overall control environment.

2.8 Promotion of multilingualism

SU's multilingualism is a distinguishing factor in the higher education sector. We also want it to be one of our **graduate attributes**. This would be in line with the importance of utilising language as a way of broadening access to ensure success, with an emphasis on social impact.

Previously, the only language acquisition opportunities available were either formal language qualifications, or courses in the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, or those for our international students. Now, the SU Language Centre has started a **Language Learning Hub**, which offers support to local students wishing to acquire a new language.

Over the last few months, the Language Learning Hub has been working with student support units to develop affordable and accessible Afrikaans and isiXhosa courses. The aim is to get participants to a level where they can use an additional language functionally on campus. This should promote appreciation of the value of multilingualism.

2.9 SU Language Centre

The **Writing Lab** of the Language Centre presented research-writing workshops to academics at other South African and African tertiary institutions via the Centre for Higher and Adult Education and the African Doctoral Academy early in 2018.

The facility is also working to expand its existing Skype consultation offering to reach more distance-learning students, including those based in other countries.

Short courses play a pivotal role in the professional development of South African job seekers and those already in the workspace. These courses are generally affordable and provide an opportunity for people to acquire, improve or diversify skills. Apart from teaching credit-bearing courses to SU international students, the staff at the Language Centre's Intensive English Programme have this year expanded their portfolio to include **short courses** for external clients also. In addition, they are forging partnerships with companies, schools and institutions who wish to formalise their linguistic skills. These new projects not only have an educational impact, but also a positive social impact on participants.

The Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL) course, now also offered as a short course, has proven popular, and participants frequently travel from other parts of the country to attend.

March 2018 saw the presentation of the first Intensive English Programme (IEP) short course to staff members of the Confucius Institute at SU. The course was specifically designed to equip non-native English speakers with the oral and written skills required to establish and maintain conversation and communication with native English speakers, and was well received. The course aimed to introduce concepts of second-language acquisition and second-language teaching methodology – subjects the Confucius teachers had not previously focused on in their studies.

Between January and April, the Writing Lab presented 22 postgraduate writing workshops to 428 students. In addition, the facility provided 1 126 consultations.

The **Reading Lab** recorded more than 2 300 registrations for Labonline. It has also expanded its offering to include short courses, which have attracted interest both internally and externally. Moreover, the Reading Lab has been approached by the SU project manager for ISFAP, Beverley Fanella, to develop a reading and studying support programme for the programme's bursary students. The aim is to provide ISFAP beneficiaries with the necessary reading and study support to help them achieve academic success within the prescribed timeframe. The short-course programme

uses a blended-learning approach and includes Labonline, workshops, online modules as well as small-group and individual contact sessions for students at risk.

2.10 'Centre for Prospective Students' now 'Division of Student Access'

On the recommendation of an external evaluation panel to consider a more appropriate name for the Centre for Prospective Students that encompasses the complete range of services it provides, the management team of the Centre proposed that the **name be changed** to Division of Student Access. This is also in line with the strategic focus area of “student access with success”, as contained in the environmental plan of the Learning and Teaching responsibility centre. The Division consists of the centres for **Student Recruitment & Career Advice, Admissions & Residence Placement, Undergraduate Bursaries & Loans**, and the **Contact & Client Services Centre**, which provides services to both prospective and current students. The Rectorate approved the name change on 27 March.

2.11 Student recruitment

Over the past four months, the Centre for Student Recruitment and Career Advice reached out to communities in the **Western Cape**, and in the **Southern Cape, Gauteng, KwaZulu-Natal, the Eastern Cape and Free State**, through presentations at schools and participation in study career fairs.

With a simultaneous focus on attracting diversity candidates as well as academically excellent students to SU, the Centre identified **200 high-priority schools** to be visited by the team of recruiters or hosted for campus visits. Existing **feeder schools**, which are identified based on application and registration data, are also regularly visited to retain their loyalty towards SU.

Principals and teachers from predominantly black and coloured schools were invited to a breakfast briefing in Stellenbosch on 5 March to establish closer partnerships. The school engagement team also partnered with organisations that offer interventions for learners and educators.

2.12 SU Open Day

The annual Open Day offers the University an opportunity to reach out to schools, teachers, parents and prospective students, with a particular focus on Grade 12s to generate applications for the next intake.

Linking to the Centenary theme, the 2018 Open Day on **24 February** focused on “learning” (faculty participation), “growing” (showcasing co-curricular activities and support, sport, culture and the lived student experience) and “moving forward together” (building and strengthening internal and external partnerships, and creating opportunities for prospective students to become part of a diverse university community).



More than 6 000 learners registered at the information tent on the day. An electronic customer satisfaction survey was sent to all students who had pre-registered for the Open Day, and 968 responses were captured. More than 95% of the respondents experienced the event as valuable.

2.13 Marketing through electronic media

The Centre for Student Recruitment and Career Advice uses innovative ways to attract talent to SU. These include employing **digital platforms** such as Facebook, Twitter and Instagram to promote the University and communicate important information to prospective students. The Future Maties Facebook page has more than 20 000 followers and an estimated reach of more than 241 000, with 2 287 page views and 27 043 engagements recorded.

Video content attracts most attention in the target market. The most-watched videos were those promoting the [Open Day](#) (8 562 views), [#helloMaties](#) (6 115 views), a welcoming message by [Prof Thuli Madonsela](#) (3 324 views), as well as our student experience videos (3 600 views) in which current students ([Leonie Kokaan](#), [Ro-Eagan Petersen](#) and [Andile Mkandla](#)) shared their Maties stories with prospective students.

The website (www.maties.com) remains the most comprehensive resource in terms of information-sharing throughout the recruitment pipeline. In the reporting period, the website received 96 188 unique visitors and over 272 000 views. This was on both desktop computers and smartphones, and visitors spent on average eight minutes searching for content.

2.14 Study career advice

Study career advice was provided to various schools in the Western Cape through the structured **Careers@Maties** project as well as psychometric assessment services for senior learners. The project helps learners in educationally disadvantaged environments plan their studies with a view to entering the world of work. The intervention offers specialised psychometric assessment for a selected number of Grade 11 learners, along with workshops aimed at Grade 9s and their parents.

Careers@Maties intentionally focuses on diversity recruitment and is supported by a partnership with the SU Centre for Pedagogy (SUNCEP) talent development programme, which is run in all nine provinces of the country.



2.15 Client services to students and the broader community

The Contact and Client Services Centre continues to play a pivotal role to ensure that all enquiries are resolved and/or referred to the correct SU environment. This is done in a professional and client-centric manner. With its diverse staff component, the Centre has the necessary insight in the life experiences of the broader South African community.

From January to April, the Centre handled **more than 98 000 contacts**, including telephone calls, e-mails and live chats, which is a web-based function offered on www.maties.com.

Approximately 65% of all contacts were with prospective students. A monthly average of 36% of callers prefer to be communicated with in Afrikaans, 62% in English and 2% in Xhosa or Zulu.

2.16 Broadening access through sport

Bursaries: The athletic and academic careers of two Maties athletes received a significant boost recently when they were named the first recipients of the Bettie Harmsen scholarship. Harmsen, born Buitendag, was a keen athlete and SU graduate who received her BSc Honours in Medical Biochemistry in 1989. She had a very successful career in the pharmaceutical industry – first in South Africa, and later in the United States. Shortly before she passed away due to cancer at the age of 50 in 2016, she and her husband, Hans, decided to award a scholarship to promising SU track and field athletes. The family has committed to donate \$10 000 per year for a minimum of ten years. Track athletes and Maties students Justine Palframan and Gardeo Isaacs share this scholarship in 2018.

Hockey holiday camp: A total of 70 primary-school learners attended Maties Hockey's annual holiday camp in April. The aim was to assist the players with technical skills development and competition, and to expose them to SU's facilities.

Holiday programme: The Maties Sport school holiday programme was hosted at Pieter Langeveldt Primary School in Cloetesville during the April school holiday. Close to 100 local learners aged 4 to 16 attended the four-day programme, which taught them valuable life skills. They also participated in skills coaching sessions presented by Maties Athletics, Basketball, Rugby, Football, Netball and Tennis.

3. Maintaining momentum of excellence

Excellence is one of the overarching strategic priorities set out in our *IIS 2013–2018*. In that document, it is linked to the second element of our Vision 2030 – to become more innovative.

And in our *IP 2018–2023*, maintaining our momentum of excellence is one of our seven institutional strategies. We do this by keeping up our student success rates and by positioning the University as one of the foremost research-intensive institutions in Africa.

3.1 Academic year 2017

Six graduation ceremonies in March concluded the 2017 academic year, following eight ceremonies in December 2017. SU again set new records in terms of the numbers of qualifications awarded for the academic year. In total, we conferred **9 046 degrees, diplomas and certificates** (as per the *latest updated figures* in May 2018). These included **1 623 master's degrees and 305 PhDs** – both new records – of which **44%** and **41%** respectively went to black African, coloured, Indian and Asian recipients, demonstrating SU's contribution as a national asset.

To coincide with SU's Centenary in 2018, more [honorary doctorates](#) were awarded than usual and the names of the 14 recipients were announced in February.

3.2 SciMathUS graduation success

The Science and Mathematics at Stellenbosch University (SciMathUS) programme has again delivered good results. At the March graduation ceremonies, **16** former SciMathUS students graduated from various faculties, including Arts and Social Sciences, Science as well as Economic and Management Sciences. Since the inception of the programme in 2001, more than 1 000 students have successfully completed it, and **356** have now gone on to obtain degrees at SU.

The programme, which is presented by the Stellenbosch University Centre for Pedagogy (SUNCEP), offers talented and motivated Grade 12s from educationally disadvantaged circumstances across the country a second chance to qualify for higher education. Students are primarily assisted to improve their National Senior Certificate marks in Mathematics and either Physical Sciences or Accounting, although academic and computer literacy training is also offered. After completing the SciMathUS programme, many of the students choose to further their studies at SU.

3.3 First-year Achievement Awards

The Vice-Rector: Learning and Teaching, Prof Arnold Schoonwinkel, hosted the First-Year Achievement Awards event for last year's top-achieving first-years on 11 April. The event also highlighted the role that lecturers had played in the students' achievements. The students were congratulated on their achievements, while the lecturers were commended for their dedication to quality teaching. The group of **32 students from across all ten faculties** included **Extended Degree Programme** students who had excelled beyond what their matric results indicated.

3.4 Enhancement of learning and teaching

SU hosted the first **African Digital University Network colloquium** at STIAS from 17 to 18 April. For this event, 80 participants from 12 universities gathered to listen to 24 papers on the themes of digital scholarship, innovation and networking in African higher education. The colloquium celebrated the success of SU's lecturer support initiatives, which form part of the Council-funded ICT in Teaching and Learning project. It also offered SU an opportunity to share what it has learnt from the past four years of incorporating a blended-learning approach into programmes and modules across faculties. Visit <http://blogs.sun.ac.za/adu> for more information.

The Scholarship of Educational Leadership short course had its first two contact sessions on 2 February and 8 April respectively. The course focuses on leadership *in* and scholarship *of* teaching and learning, with the aim of building a critical mass of teaching and learning mentors at SU. Each year, a selected cohort of staff members who play leadership roles in the area of teaching and learning are invited to register for the course. On completion of the course, participants become part of a growing community of teaching and learning mentors at the University. Eleven participants enrolled this year.

As part of the institutional **academic programme renewal** initiative, a workshop for all programme leaders took place on 19 April. The aim was to discuss the draft programme leader guidelines, articulate leaders' capacity-building needs if the draft guidelines were to be accepted, and describe the enabling environment that would allow them to excel in their leadership roles. More than 50 programme leaders attended. Based on their feedback, the guidelines will be revised and further capacity-building opportunities developed.

3.5 Proposed new programmes

The Programme Advisory Committee considered **six new programme submissions in the first semester of 2018**. These are yet to be approved by Senate and submitted externally to the Department of Higher Education and Training for programme qualification mix clearance, to the Higher Education Quality Committee for peer review and accreditation, and to the South African Qualifications Authority for registration on the National Qualifications Framework. If approved, our postgraduate academic offering will be enhanced with the following new qualifications from 2020 onwards:

- Postgraduate Diploma in Research Management and Administration (Arts and Social Sciences)
- Postgraduate Diploma in Strategic Human Resource Management (Economic and Management Sciences)
- Master of Engineering Science (Engineering)
- MPhil in Defence Studies (Military Studies)
- BSc Hons in Bioinformatics and Computational Biology (Science)
- MSc in Bioinformatics and Computational Biology (Science)

3.6 Stellenbosch School for Data Science and Computational Thinking

In March, a steering group was formed for the establishment of the Stellenbosch School for Data Science and Computational Thinking. This **proposed interfaculty initiative** will span the entire academic project, from undergraduate and postgraduate training to research and specialist consultation.

The main purpose will be to coordinate and integrate SU's various activities in this area and provide a platform for collaborative learning and research as well as the generation of knowledge, ideas, applications and products. National and international partners and investors will be invited to collaborate with the School.

Small task teams were convened to investigate the current status of training activities, research and services delivered in the areas of data science and computational thinking in all SU faculties. Databases of the current and planned undergraduate and postgraduate courses, research projects and key role-players in these fields have been compiled.

An interactive undergraduate workshop on SU's data science footprint was subsequently held in May, and participants agreed that an introductory, generic "Data Science Literacy" course may be a valuable addition to the application-specific courses already presented or planned at SU. A task team is currently formulating the definition and scope of data science in undergraduate programmes and working on the details of a proposed framework for a Data Science degree programme.

3.7 Quality Enhancement Project

The Council on Higher Education is entering its **third cycle of quality assurance** (QA) after the second phase of the Quality Enhancement Project (QEP) concluded at the end of 2017. Similar to the first cycle, when institutional audits were conducted across the public higher education sector, the third cycle will again follow an institutional review approach that is focused on evaluating the QA systems of individual higher education institutions. To this end, SU is currently reviewing its QA policy and management documents as the institution enters its own fifth QA cycle.

3.8 More research chairs

Two new DST/NRF SARCHI chairs were awarded to SU recently – the chair in **innovative rehabilitation to Prof Quinette Louw** (Physiotherapy) and the chair in **food environments, nutrition and health to Prof Xikombiso Mbhenyane** (Human Nutrition). Both chairs are based in the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences.

Prof Louw's research under the SARCHI chair award will focus on promoting a long and healthy life for all South Africans by improving the quality of healthcare, with a particular focus on new and innovative approaches to rehabilitation.

Prof Mbhenyane's research, in turn, will aim to strengthen and broaden knowledge generation and capacity-building for human nutrition. This will be in line with the National Department of Health's goal of strengthening the available human resources to deliver nutrition services, particularly population-based prevention and promotion services.

SU now has 45 research chairs – **nearly double the number we had five years ago**. Of these, 27 form part of SARCHI (the South African Research Chairs Initiative) and are funded by the Department of Science and Technology. Another 18 research chairs at the University are funded by other sponsors.

3.9 SU researchers honoured

This year, researchers associated with Stellenbosch University (SU) are again among those honoured by the Suid-Afrikaanse Akademie vir Wetenskap en Kuns for their contributions to science.

The recipients are **Prof Emile van Zyl** from the Department of Microbiology, **Prof Barend Herbst**, professor emeritus of Applied Mathematics, and **Prof Lizette Joubert**, principal researcher at the Agricultural Research Council's Infruitec-Nietvoorbij Research Institute and extraordinary professor in the Department of Food Science. In addition, **Dr Wynand Beukes**'s PhD at SU has garnered the award for best history dissertation in Afrikaans.

Prof Van Zyl is awarded the Havenga prize for life sciences for his innovative research on the natural sciences, his research excellence and competitiveness, and academic expertise. He has been campaigning for the use of environmentally friendly alternatives to fossil fuels for more than a decade and has had a vast impact in this field.

The Havenga prize for physical sciences is awarded to Prof Herbst for his 40-year academic career characterised by research outputs of the highest quality and service delivery at various levels. Herbst was inter alia involved in the South African Mathematics Olympiad and the South African Symposium for Numerical and Applied Mathematics.

Prof Joubert will receive a medal of honour from the Akademie's Faculty of Science and Technology for her innovative, sustainable and applied product-based research on rooibos and honeybush over the past 35 years. Her research has led to the development of various processes currently implemented by the rooibos and honeybush industry. She also received international recognition for her work.

Dr Beukes has won the Protea Boekhuis prize for the best history dissertation in Afrikaans with his PhD titled *Van Afrikanerkultuur tot korporatief: Die geskiedenis van Sanlam se hoofkantoor-personeelkorps 1918–2008*.

The Andrew Murray-Desmond Tutu Prize for Christian and Scientific Theological Publications was awarded to **Prof Louis Jonker** of our Faculty of Theology for his book, *Defining All-Israel in Chronicles*, published by the German publishing house Mohr Siebeck. The reviewers describe the publication as "a work of excellent academic research of the highest quality".

3.10 NSTF awards

SU has **six finalists** in the 2017/18 National Science and Technology Forum (NSTF)/South32 awards: Profs Resia Pretorius, Cang Hui, Coenrad Fourie and Brian van Wilgen, as well as Drs Thorsten Becker and Willem Botes.

This annual event recognises, celebrates and rewards outstanding work in science, engineering, technology (SET) and innovation in South Africa. The winners will be announced at a gala event at Emperors Palace in Kempton Park on 28 June.

3.11 New blood test for TB

SU researchers are part of an international consortium that has designed a simple blood test that can predict the development of tuberculosis (TB) up to two years beforehand in people at high risk of contracting the disease. People in close contact with TB patients are at risk of also developing the disease. Yet it is not feasible to provide preventative treatment to everyone who comes into contact with the patient. For this reason, the research group has developed a blood test that can predict which contacts are more likely to progress to active TB, which individuals can then be singled out for preventative treatment.

Prof Gerhard Walzl, head of the Immunology Research Group at SU's Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, was the lead author of the study. The research was published in the *American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine*.

3.12 New vibrational spectroscopy facility ‘world-class’

The new Vibrational Spectroscopy Unit at SU’s Central Analytical Facilities (CAF) was launched on 6 March. This facility offers students, researchers and industry a range of new possibilities for applications across a broad spectrum of fields, such as **food quality** and **safety** as well as the **medical, agricultural, archaeological, paleontological** and **pharmaceutical** industries.

Situated in the Department of Food Science, the Unit houses brand-new hyperspectral imaging equipment that enables the study of spectral differences to resolve the chemical composition and spatial distribution of components. The physical properties of a sample can also be investigated in a non-destructive and non-invasive way with minimum or no sample preparation.

According to technicians from HySpex, this was the largest installation they had ever done on a single site. “There is no such facility in the entire world. It truly is world-class,” their report reads.

Funding was provided by the National Research Foundation (NRF) through the national equipment programme.

3.13 Excellence in sport

Academics: Maties Sport high-performance student athletes achieved a first-year throughput rate of 84% in 2017, which is in line with the SU average. Several Maties Sport athletes graduated in March, including World Parasport champion Dyan Buys, SA water polo player Lwazi Madi, FNB Maties Varsity Cup fly half Chris Smith, and Maties netball player Charmaine Baard.

Rugby: A historic double in the Varsity Cup competition was the best gift possible from Maties Rugby to SU in its Centenary year. It was Maties’ fourth Varsity Cup victory and the Young Guns’ first. In this historic match, Maties beat the Pukke by 40-7 – the biggest winning margin ever in a final of this tournament. After the final, Maties winger Duncan Saal was named the tournament’s Back that Rocks, while Marno Redelinghuys was awarded the accolade of Forward that Rocks. In addition, four Maties Young Guns – Ben-Jason Dixon, Schalk Erasmus, Dan Jooste and Sazi Sandi – have been selected for the Junior Springbok squad who will be in action at the World Rugby under-20 championship in France from 30 May to 17 June.

Athletics: Maties athletes represented SU at two Varsity Athletics meets – on 2 and 23 March. Standout performances were delivered by Justine Palframan, who won the 200 m and was named victrix ludorum at both events. Wynand du Toit, Chery-lee Schoeman and Mia Steytler also won their events. Justine continued her excellent form at the Senior National Track and Field Championships, with gold in the 200 m and 400 m. Nienka du Toit won gold in the heptathlon, while Janke van Wyk took silver in the 100 m hurdles. The Boland 4x400m relay team won a silver medal with all four members belonging to the Maties Athletics Club (Wynand du Toit, Gardeo Isaacs, Jaden Flagg and Linford Maree). Justine Palframan (200 m), Jesse Perez (decathlon) and Nienka du Toit (heptathlon) were crowned champions at the USSA Athletics Championships, while our Yvonne Steenkamp, Marina van Tonder and Gianna Marais won the half-marathon team competition. Four Maties athletes – Wynand du Toit, Gardeo Isaacs, Kwezi Mtoba and Janke van Wyk – were included in the USSA Athletics team for the 19th games of the Confederation of Universities and Colleges of Southern Africa (CUCSA), which is to be held in Botswana in June. Maties sport manager Hadley Volkwyn was appointed team manager.

Basketball: Maties Basketball’s men and women competed in the semi-finals of the Western Cape USSA qualifiers. Both teams played against Cape Peninsula University of Technology and won their matches to progress to the finals of the qualifying rounds and secure their spot in the USSA championships. The women’s team also participated in the annual WITS Ashraf Lodewyk Memorial Basketball Tournament hosted by the WITS basketball club in April, and reached the semi-finals. In addition, Maties student athlete Lerato Ngakane was selected for the basketball women’s team for the CUCSA Games.

Canoeing: Sisters Cana and Jordan Peek, members of Maties Canoeing, were crowned winners of the Dusi Canoe Marathon's women's category in February. They covered the distance of roughly 120 km between Pietermaritzburg and Durban in a combined time of 9 hours 45 minutes 23 seconds – eight minutes ahead of the team in second place.

Cricket: Maties cricketer David Bedingham received a Cobras franchise pro contract, while first-year Vezi Mntungwa was selected for the Cobras Academy side in March. At the annual Boland Cricket awards evening, Bedingham was named both player of the year and senior three-day player of the year, while Maties Cricket's women's player Faye Tunnicliffe scooped the awards for SA women's emerging cricketer of the year as well as women's 50-overs player of the year. Maties Cricket sport manager Candice Williams now forms part of the Boland Cricket executive committee. This is a significant achievement, considering the lack of women representation at this level of governance.

Hockey: After two bumper weekends of Varsity Hockey action, the unbeaten Maties Hockey men's team topped the log after the playoff rounds. In the semi-final on 14 May, Maties prevailed against NWU-Pukke, earning a home final against TUKS. That match unfortunately went the visitors' way.

Parasport: Maties Parasport club members performed well at the recent national championships for persons with disabilities. Honours student Kerwin Noemdo set an Africa record in die shot-put (F47) with a distance of 13,44 m. On the track, Anruné Weyers (T47) won gold in the 100 m, 200 m and 400 m, while Paul Daniels (T62), a double amputee and learner at Cloetesville High School, won gold in the 100 m and 200 m. Brandon Beack, a wheelchair athlete, won gold in the discus and shot-put for class-F53 throwers, as well as gold in the 100 m (T52).

Rowing: The USSA rowing competition took place at Misverstand Dam in April. Maties were placed first in the MD4+ event, and second in both the MD1x event and 5 000 m Ergo relay. The team also won the Ian Maxwell trophy for spirit and conduct.

Tennis: Maties Tennis competed in the annual Sun City invitational tournament in April. Our first team took third place.

Water Polo: The Maties Water Polo women's team won silver at the SA Water Polo National Championships, while the men's team ended fourth.

New appointment: Maties Sport recognises the importance and value of using technology in training high-performance student athletes. Therefore, it has created the new position of sport technology and training innovations manager in the High-Performance Unit. Grant van Velden, who has been working with Maties teams as a sport technologist for the past few years, has been appointed for the job. The aim is to address the growing need in the tertiary sporting environment for innovative ways to maximise the potential of student athletes who are students first and athletes second.

4. Enhancing social impact

Having a greater social impact is one of SU's core strategic objectives. We understand social impact to be systemic, as it is embedded in all SU environments. Consistent and intentional focus on the generic and specific social impact of both learning and teaching as well as research and innovation enhances the overall transformative social impact of and through the University. This vision is guided by the SU Social Impact Strategic Plan (SISP).

4.1 Rector-Mayor Forum

Effective collaboration between the University and Municipality to save water in Stellenbosch was high on the agenda of the Rector-Mayor Forum on 24 May. The joint structure facilitates **cooperation between SU and Stellenbosch Municipality** to the benefit of the town and community.

It was reported that Stellenbosch now consumes as little as 15 mega litres of potable water from the supply provided by the City of Cape Town, compared to an average of 45 mega litres before the

drought. This was contributed to, inter alia, municipal water restriction and boreholes, success in the war on water leaks at SU, as well as students and staff heeding calls to use water more sparingly.

The University and the Municipality have a joint drought response plan. What we have accomplished here illustrates the advantages of working together. However, this can only be a real success story if the changes are permanent. Thus we continue our awareness drives and water saving measures (also see 7.7).

4.2 Agreement with Oudtshoorn Municipality

SU's social impact was taken a step further on 18 May when the University signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the Oudtshoorn Local Municipality. This is the sixth agreement of its kind with a local authority following those with the Local Municipalities of Stellenbosch, Drakenstein, Saldanha and Hessequa, as well as Eden District Municipality. Through our membership of the Cape Higher Education Consortium we also have agreements with the City of Cape Town at metropolitan level, and the Western Cape Government at provincial level.

The Oudtshoorn agreement was signed by the Vice-Rector: Social Impact, Transformation and Personnel, Prof Nico Koopman, and the Executive Mayor of Oudtshoorn, Alderman Colan Sylvester. The role of Dr David Piedt, SU Council member from 2006 to 2010 and recipient of an honorary degree from the University in 2012, deserves special mention. As community leader he assisted in putting this agreement in place.

The strategic focus of the agreement will be on the Oudtshoorn **schools partnership** project supported by the Centre for Pedagogy at SU, the **Eden Arts Academy** and the **schools arts festival** strategically guided by the director of the SU Woodfees, Ms Saartjie Botha. The establishment of an **Agri Park** that can service the needs of the entire Little Karoo with respect to the local agricultural economy forms the third strategic focus. The University will further support Oudtshoorn's strategies of implementing sport tourism; building healthy and socially stable communities; capacitating a workforce and communities; promoting good governance; and growing the local economy through the Integrated Development Plan and local economic development.

As is the case with other similar MOUs, this agreement will draw on the intellectual capital of SU and on the civic infrastructure of the municipality, through capacity building and joint initiatives to address the development needs of the municipality.

4.3 SA's first data centre for democracy

The Transformation Research Unit in SU's **Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences** launched South Africa's first data centre for democracy research and the development of social sciences in May. The centre is headed by Dr Cindy Steenekamp, a senior lecturer in the Political Science Department. It is supported by the National Research Foundation (NRF) in pursuit of the goal of remaining competitive in the research arena, internationalising research and innovation on the African continent, further improving the country's global reputation, and gaining access to global knowledge and expertise.

4.4 LaunchLab Ideas Programme

The SU LaunchLab has introduced the **seventh edition** of its annual Ideas Programme. The programme is primarily intended for businesses in a very early development phase looking to validate their concepts or improve their technology offering to their market. This ties in with the LaunchLab's overall mission to facilitate valuable connections for start-ups to help them excel.

In last year's competition, 24 entries were selected for the LaunchLab's incubation programme, ten pilots were pursued with LaunchLab clients, four projects received direct investments from LaunchLab clients, and R1,18 million in prize money was paid out.

4.5 Legacy celebration concert

The **Music Department** celebrated both **Nelson Mandela** and SU's centennial with the legacy celebration concert on 11 May at the Endler Hall. The concert also paid tribute to the legendary artist, activist and composer **Hugh Masekela**, with vocal soloists Sima Mashazi, Babalwa Mentjies and Mynhardt Krüger performing some of his familiar melodies. The **SU Jazz Band**, one of the ensembles of the certificate programme, took centre stage under the direction of Felicia Lesch.

More specifically, the evening was dedicated to launching the Music Department's new social impact initiative, **Roots@SU**. This initiative encompasses a number of projects that the Music Department is involved with through its certificate programme, the rural engagement and service learning programmes, the Stellenbosch International Chamber Music Festival (which scooped an award for the Best Contribution to the Visual Arts, including Public Arts, at the Cultural Affairs Awards of the Western Cape Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport in March), the Endler concert series and many off-site partnership programmes.

4.6 SU Museum

On 3 March, the Western Cape Department of Cultural Affairs bestowed an **award** on the SU Museum for **promoting social cohesion**. Through its public programmes, the museum has become a safe space for intergenerational conversations and exchange.

4.7 Computers donated

IT staff from the Library and Information Service travelled to McGregor in December 2017 to donate **80 computers to McGregor Primary School** and help set up and program the machines. The computers had been withdrawn from SU's library stock as part of its equipment replacement programme. In her letter of thanks, the principal shared the learners' excitement, saying that the computers had given them a different view on the world.

4.8 MGD partnering with old-age home

MGD has established a relationship with **Sarepta Old-Age Home in Kuils River**, a 130-bed facility for the elderly. Although it is a state institution, it heavily depends on outside partners. On 1 February, MGD visited with a group of over 50 student volunteers, and there have been monthly visits ever since. The facility could potentially become a clinical placement site for SU students.

5. Expanding internationalisation

Expanding internationalisation is one of seven institutional strategies outlined in our *IP 2018–2023*, which clarifies that SU seeks to use internationalisation to equip its graduates and academics to prosper as citizens of a potentially more volatile and a fast-paced technologically advancing world. We want to empower them to make **internationally significant contributions** that have a positive impact on society worldwide.

5.1 25 years of international relations

About 400 people gathered in the Endler Hall on 13 April for a gala celebration to mark 25 years of formalised international activities at SU. In my remarks at the event, I pointed out that SU has become what it is today in large measure thanks to internationalisation, and that we will rely on internationalisation to help sustain us into the future as we enter the second century of the University's existence.

International activities at SU can be traced back to **1993**, when the Office for International Relations was established. That year marked the start of coordinated efforts to grow and cultivate international relations and advance international academic networks and mobility systematically.

At the event, SU International, the Tygerberg International Office and the USB International Affairs Office recognised the following 25 SU staff members or groups for their contribution to the activities of the three international offices.

Mr Robert Kotze, Senior Director: Stellenbosch University International, received special recognition for his role in establishing the University's international office 25 years ago, and for promoting internationalisation over the years long before it was fashionable to do so.

5.2 Stellenbosch International Academic Network meeting

SU International hosted the 16th annual Stellenbosch International Academic Network (**SIAN**) meeting from 10 to 14 April. This took place within the framework of celebrating 25 years of international relations since the inception of the University's then Office for International Relations in June 1993. SIAN delegates were joined by the participants in the Erasmus+ staff training week and SUPIA. In total, **48 participants from 41 universities across 20 countries** (eight in Africa) attended the event (most included in the group photograph below).



5.3 Global reach

Prof Hester Klopper attended the international conference of the **Association of International Education Administrators** (AIEA) in Washington DC in February. Several meetings with partner universities took place, including with Northwestern University, the University of North-Carolina in Charlotte, and Coventry University (USA office).

From 15 to 18 March, SU co-hosted the **Consortium of Universities for Global Health** (CUGH) international conference with Columbia University in New York. The event brought together 1 800 leaders in health, engineering, business, science and education. This served as a powerful platform to showcase SU and raise our profile internationally. SU was the first South African university to become a member of CUGH, and Prof Klopper serves on its council. She and Prof Jimmy Volmink served on the core organising committee, both moderated panel discussions during plenaries, and I was also a panellist in two discussions.

SU International's Centre for Partnerships and Internationalisation (CPI) presented **staff training** from 9 to 13 April. Apart from the CPI's own employees, participants included counterparts from the universities of Porto (Portugal), Bologna (Italy) and Maastricht (Netherlands) as well as from Masaryk University (Czech Republic) and TU München (Germany).

From 14 to 18 April, SU International staff attended the conference of FAUBAI (the **Brazilian Association for International Education**) in Rio de Janeiro. This was followed by a visit to the University of São Paulo (USP) to explore collaboration in business, arts and humanities (in accordance with an existing agreement) and in agrisciences. USP's agrisciences offering is ranked number 3 in the world.

Prof Klopper and I participated in the **British Council's 'Going Global'** conference from 2 to 4 May in Kuala Lumpur, where we had several meetings with vice-chancellors and deputy vice-chancellors from partner universities to strengthen collaboration. I was privileged to participate in the keynote panel discussion. SU received several requests for collaboration and seems to be a favoured partner from Africa. During the conference, Prof Klopper also met with **Times Higher Education** staff responsible for their world university rankings. Among other things, this meeting emphasised the importance of feeding accurate data into the ranking process, and Prof Klopper was therefore tasked to develop a strategy to ensure this going forward.

A delegation from SU visited **Southeast Asia** (28 April–8 May) to explore academic collaboration with Nanyang Technical University (Singapore), the National University of Singapore (Engineering), Gadjah Mada University, Yogyakarta (Indonesia), the Chinese University of Hong Kong as well as the University of Hong Kong. During our visit to the Chinese University of Hong Kong, we signed a student exchange agreement. This will be expanded in the year ahead to include research collaboration and staff exchanges.



Visit to the Chinese University of Hong Kong

Finally, Prof Jonathan Jansen, distinguished professor in our Faculty of Education, was invited to [address](#) the **Academic Council of Stanford University** on 17 May to mark 50 years since the founding of its **Faculty Senate** in 1968. He is an alumnus of Stanford, having obtained his PhD there.

5.4 Africa focus

SU's Centre for Collaboration in Africa (CCA) received a visit from the European Commission and the African Union to evaluate the **TRECCA Intra-ACP mobility programme** these two organisations are undertaking at SU. The CCA also met with the European Commission's Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) in Brussels to share information on the Stellenbosch experience as well as provide feedback on intra-ACP mobility programmes.

The **NEPAD Southern African Network of Water Centres of Excellence (SANWATCE)** secretariat attended the Zambezi Watercourse Commission (ZAMCOM) Water-Energy-Food Nexus project partners' meeting in Harare, Zimbabwe, as well as the World Water Forum in Brazil to present on the NEPAD SANWATCE ACEWATER2 human capacity development project. For the latter project, workshops were conducted in all five Southern African Development Community member states that form part of the pilot phase (Malawi, South Africa, Mozambique, Zambia and Botswana). The workshops brought together national stakeholders to discuss draft national human capacity development plans/frameworks.

Representatives of SU International and the Faculty of Law visited **Strathmore University**, Kenya, to discuss the bilateral partnership between SU and Strathmore. This partnership aims to develop an

exchange programme for law students through the Africa Centre for Scholarship and establish Strathmore as host for SU's BCom International Business students.

The CCA hosted the second SU Programme for International Administrators (**SUPIA**) in collaboration with the EU's EACEA in the week of 9 April. Delegates from the universities of Ghana, Nairobi (Kenya), Botswana, Dar es Salaam (Tanzania), Eldoret (Kenya), Namibia, Mauritius and Mekelle (Ethiopia) as well as from Strathmore (Kenya) and Makerere universities (Uganda) participated in training sessions focusing on managing and implementing international programmes. The group also joined the Stellenbosch International Academic Network (SIAN) meeting (see 5.2).

5.5 Visiting delegations

SU International hosted **42 delegations** in the reporting period. They were from Germany (12), the United Kingdom (UK) (3), the United States (USA) (9), Sweden (1), Romania (1), France (1), the Netherlands (1), Botswana (2), Zambia (1), Iceland (1), Ethiopia (2), Belgium (3), Colombia (1), Norway (1), Zimbabwe (1) and Brazil (2).

Delegations from the Seattle, Clark, Texas Christian, Northwestern and Fordham universities (all USA-based) focused on developing Study Abroad programmes for their students. Research collaboration was the focus of the visits by Universidad del Rosario, Bogotá, in Colombia, the Norwegian Institute of Bioeconomy Research (NIBIO) and the universities of Zambia, North Georgia (USA) and Pennsylvania State (USA). The delegations from Michigan University (USA), King's College London (UK), FU Berlin (Germany) and the universities of Hamburg (Germany) and Uppsala (Sweden) sought to develop their existing partnerships with SU. Finally, benchmarking visits were received from Botswana International University of Science and Technology (looking at student affairs and student leadership), Mekelle University of Ethiopia (internationalisation) and Botswana University (enterprise strategy).

5.6 Internationalisation through sport

Stellenbosch is one of two new venues on the **UCI World Cup** calendar, and Coetzenburg played host to the season opener for cross-country cyclists in March. Maties Sport aims to establish SU as a preferred destination for major events.

Two of Maties Parasport's stalwarts, Dyan Buis and Charl du Toit, added to South Africa's medal count at the **Commonwealth Games** in Australia in April by winning silver and bronze in the 100 m item in the T38 class. Charl, who usually competes in the T37 class, also broke the world record in this class. Reinhardt Hamman (T38) won a bronze medal in the shot-put item, while Maties swimmer Christian Sadie won a silver medal in the 50 m freestyle (S7) and achieved a personal best time.

6. Advancing systemic transformation

Systemic transformation is one of seven institutional strategies outlined in our *IP 2018–2023*. All dimensions of university life are involved in the transformation and renewal process, and at the same time contribute to the transformation of society.

6.1 Visual redress

In August 2017, we reported to Council that visual redress had been identified as a key institutional priority following the finalisation of SU's Transformation Plan. We also mentioned that a task team chaired by the Vice-Rector: Social Impact, Transformation and Personnel had been convened to develop recommendations on renaming procedures, as well as policy provisions that would advance visual redress and the transformative renewal of public spaces, symbols, buildings and facilities.

The latest update is that a **new policy for visual redress** is being developed. Until its adoption, an **interim Visual Redress Committee** will advise and guide University environments in terms of specific forms of redress they wish to undertake. In the meantime, the Committee for the Naming of

Buildings and Venues led by the Registrar continues with their task in line with the relevant policy and procedures, the University's Transformation Plan as well as in consultation with Facilities Management.

6.2 New residence named after Nkosi Johnson

A new residence on our Medicine and Health Sciences campus at Tygerberg was named after the iconic child Aids activist Nkosi Johnson on 21 May after a student had proposed it in a campus-wide competition. The Rectorate approved the name in the interest of visual redress (see 6.1), inclusivity and the promotion of a welcoming campus culture.

By the time the young Nkosi Johnson died at the age of 12 in 2001, he had made an impact on the world stage with the powerful message that we should accept and care for those with HIV/Aids in a non-discriminating way.

He was also a critical voice in the struggle for social justice at a time when Aids denialism was rife. In 2002, he was vindicated when the Constitutional Court ordered government to make antiretroviral drugs available to pregnant women in all state hospitals and clinics to help prevent mother-to-child transmission of HIV. This followed a court challenge by the Treatment Action Campaign and others.

Nkosi Johnson House accommodates 200 senior students and is the latest of three new residences erected on the Tygerberg campus over the past four years. It holds the title of "greenest residence in Africa" due to its EDGE ("Excellence in Design for Greater Efficiencies") certification. Its construction required 45% fewer building materials and much less water than conventional methods, and produced only 0,25% waste compared to the 25% waste generated by standard construction. Solar panels are used to generate electricity for lighting and heating, and an extensive greywater system captures shower water, which is then treated and used for irrigation.

6.3 Transformation structures

The **Transformation Office** has been revamped to become a more student and staff-friendly space, and also appointed a new programme coordinator, Ms Babalwa Gusha. In addition, the Office will soon welcome a communication officer as well as a faculty programme manager, which will allow it to further implement the Transformation Plan and support transformation-related structures at SU.

The **Institutional Transformation Committee (ITC)** has championed the development of faculty-based transformation committees. A Student ITC has also been constituted to ensure broader student representation. The student body will function in close collaboration with the ITC. Both these structures will report to the Rectorate on an annual basis.

See the separate report of the Vice-Rector: Social Impact, Transformation and Personnel for more information.

6.4 Imbizo365 strategic engagement calendar

The strategic engagement calendar has advanced public engagement at SU by linking **national days** of importance to the University's **strategic priorities**. This institutional function is coordinated by the Transformation Office and involves most faculties, PASS environments and, in some instances, external stakeholders as well.

The engagement calendar was rebranded in 2018 and is now known as **Imbizo365**. It uses creative arts, film discussions, debates and excursions to engage stakeholders on eight calendar themes extrapolated from the University's Institutional Intent and Strategy. These are human rights and social justice, democracy, Afrocentrism and consciousness, youth leadership and innovation, social impact and engaged citizenship, gender issues, disability, heritage and identity. The aim is to deepen and widen conversations on campus in order to have an impact on institutional culture.

Imbizo365 highlights for March and April included the following:

- The #22yearslater campaign, which entailed several discussions on human rights and the Constitution post-1994, including a public lunch-hour gathering
- A film screening of *Winnie* and a discussion of Mrs Winnie Madikizela-Mandela's legacy
- A public engagement and lectures on the theme "The role of struggle songs in the attainment of our freedom" in the Music Department, featuring Muntu Nxumalo, ex-political prisoner and musician, as speaker

6.5 Africa Day

Africa Day is celebrated annually on 25 May to commemorate the formation of the forerunner of the African Union – the Organisation of African Unity – in 1963. As usual, SU marked Africa Day with a number of events.

The first took place on 24 May – the **inaugural SU Annual Africa Day Lecture**, delivered by Prof Jonathan Jansen, distinguished professor in our Faculty of Education. His topic was "Can schools build an inclusive African identity? Tracing changes in the racial demographics of schools since 1994" ([click here for a video recording](#)).

In my opening remarks I explained that I established this lecture series to give effect to SU's proposed vision of becoming "Africa's leading research-intensive university, globally recognised as inclusive and innovative", a place "where we advance knowledge in service of society".

I quoted former Higher Education and Training Minister, Dr Blade Nzimande, who said in 2015: "Building African universities does not mean creating universities that are globally disengaged. They should be globally engaged, but not only by being consumers of global knowledge. They should be producers of knowledge as well, knowledge that is of relevance locally, continentally, in the South and globally."

Looking at the map of Africa, the footprint of Stellenbosch is everywhere. We have more than 400 active projects with more than 600 African partners in 42 African countries. This makes Stellenbosch University an important role player in research collaboration in Africa.

As pointed out by Mr Nico Elema, Manager of SU's Centre for Collaboration in Africa, through these initiatives and the fruit that they bear, SU is strengthening the message that Africa is capable of developing itself, of creating a better future for its people and of being a fully fledged role player on the international stage.

The second Africa Day event at SU this year was a seminar on our **Tygerberg campus**, with the theme "**Global health: A time for action in Africa**".

Later in the year, we will also observe **African University Day**, which is celebrated annually on 12 November to mark the day the Association of African Universities (AAU), of which SU is a member, was founded in 1967.

In 2017, 11,5% of our student body was made up of people from more than 100 countries, and 67% of our international students came from African countries other than South Africa. That is why we believe SU needs to be characterised by inclusivity, deep and intentional transformation, and diversity in order to become a thriving organisation.

6.6 SU takes a stand against gender-based violence

In a statement on 4 May, SU joined Universities South Africa (USAf) and other higher education institutions in condemning gender-based violence. This was in response to the murder of a female student at Mangosuthu University of Technology.

SU is aware of our role to **equip our students** to recognise and act against gender violence. Our support and development initiatives are geared towards making our students agents of change –

not only by equipping them to recognise abuse of power, gender violence and manifestations of rape culture, but also enabling them to act against social structures and systems that keep this type of behaviour entrenched. We will be rolling out an ambitious **training and awareness programme** that will equip students and staff with the competencies to act on and change the practices, attitudes and beliefs on rape culture and gender violence embedded in our society.

6.7 Transformation in sport

For 2018, Maties Sport high-performance teams have achieved a black African, coloured, Indian and Asian profile of **35%** for women and **32%** for men. This represents an improvement in this profile of 33% for women and 28% for men in 2017. The objective is for all high-performance sport teams to have a black African, coloured, Indian and Asian representation of 40% by 2020.

7. Enhancing systemic sustainability

Improving SU's systemic sustainability is a focus area of the University listed in the *IIS 2013–2018*. In the *IP 2018–2023*, sustainability is defined as a systemic concept relating to the continuity of economic, social, institutional and environmental aspects of human society. We also recognise that the critical activities of a higher education institution must at least be ecologically sound, socially just and economically viable, and should continue to be so for future generations.

7.1 Vision 2040 and Strategic Framework 2019–2024

The iterative and consultative process to develop the SU Vision 2040 and Strategic Framework 2019–2024 is **nearing completion**. The process is led by Prof Hester Klopper, Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Strategy and Internationalisation. In February, members of the Institutional Planning Forum (IPF) had the opportunity to provide input on the proposed core strategies and goals. They also helped define the first level of objectives for these goals, as well as high-level key performance indicators. This was an important consultative step, as the participants included executive management as well as senior management from both faculties and professional administrative support services (PASS) divisions.

The input from the IPF was refined and incorporated into the presentation to Council on 26 March. Council members, faculties and PASS division heads were given the opportunity to comment on the draft document, with the intention of finalising the document for approval at the Council meeting on 18 June. This will indicate the end of **Phase 1** of the strategy process. **Phases 2 and 3** – respectively the roll-out of the framework, and closing the gap between strategy formulation and implementation – will commence after that.

7.2 Revision of the Statute

A **first draft** of a proposed new Statute for the University was released in April as part of an internal and public **consultation** process. This flows from a Council decision on 26 September 2016 that called for a comprehensive revision of the Statute. A task team led by the Registrar, Dr Ronel Retief, compiled the draft in collaboration with experts and based on input gathered through workshops.

The task team indicated that the document would be tabled to faculty boards and other University bodies for consideration and comment. External stakeholders were also invited to comment. According to the planning timeline, a final draft will be submitted to **Council** for approval in **November**. [Click here](#) for more information.

7.3 Revision of Teaching and Learning Policy

The Vice-Rector: Learning and Teaching initiated the process to revise the Teaching and Learning Policy (of 2012) in May 2017. The Rectorate approved the following **terms of reference** for the task team established for this purpose:

- Aligning the policy with the revised SU Teaching and Learning Strategy (adopted by Senate in March 2017)
- Taking current theories with regard to learning and teaching into account
- Taking the current South African higher education learning and teaching context into account
- Considering the alignment of the Teaching and Learning Policy with other internal as well as potentially relevant national policies
- Considering any other contextual issues that might be relevant

The task team had five meetings and presented two drafts of the policy to faculties and PASS environments for comment and feedback. The feedback was incorporated into subsequent meetings wherever possible. Faculties were informed as to how their feedback could be incorporated into the policy, or if not, why not.

The final **draft** of the policy was submitted to the Rectorate for comment in April, and at the time of writing this report, the task team was scheduled to have a final meeting in May to incorporate the feedback. The policy will then follow the formal approval route to **Council** via the **Institutional Forum** and **Senate**. The task team also plans to prepare a closeout report on issues that could not be addressed by the revised policy.

7.4. Faculty renewal strategy

A renewal strategy for the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, as well as the Faculty of Education was identified as a strategic priority. A process was develop to support the faculties in the renewal strategy. At our meeting on 18 June, Prof Hester Klopper, who is leading the initiative, will update Council on progress thus far.

7.5 SU Centenary project

The SU Centenary project continued within the framework and context created during the welcoming of first-years in January. Guided by the branding team of Corporate Communications in collaboration with Dr Barbara Pool, Centenary Project Coordinator. the **Centenary branding** has been applied to selected buildings and spaces in accordance with the phased branding approach.

The first special Centenary event, the **100% Stellenbosch** production, took place from 23 to 25 February in conjunction with the SU Woordfees.

On 1 March, we launched our **Centenary book**, *Stellenbosch University 100: 1918-2018*, (Afrikaans edition, with English to follow) and unveiled the **Centenary exhibition** at the University Archives. Two previous SU rectors, Profs Andreas van Wyk and Chris Brink, joined us at the event.

The Centenary Homecoming concert took place on 2 March, again in conjunction with the SU Woordfees.

On 3 March, the **Centenary walk** started out in a reflective mood at the Old Lückhoff School in Banhoek Road. This was intentionally chosen as the starting point to recognise the residents who had been forcibly removed from the neighbourhood Die Vlakte during apartheid.

In Victoria Street, students from the Military Academy and the Navy band joined in and led the way to Coetzenburg, where the South African National Defence Force held a parade.



On 5 March, SU utilised the opportunity presented by the **Varsity Cup match between SU and the University of Cape Town (UCT)** to commemorate the establishment of both these universities in 1918. The Maties team did the University proud and won the match. This was followed on 16 April by an overall victory for Maties in the **Varsity Cup** tournament. The match was televised with the Centenary branding clearly visible – from the walk to the stadium and the alumni tent to inside the stadium and on the field.



Another highlight on our calendar this year was the **Centenary commemoration gala dinner** on 23 March. Guests included the Western Cape premier, the Stellenbosch mayor, recipients of honorary doctorates, community members

and other stakeholders. My speech at the event ([click here](#) for a video recording) was turned into an op-ed, which was published in the [Cape Argus](#) and [Die Burger](#) around the time of the University's official birthday on 2 April.

Also as part of our Centenary commemorations, the SU Museum hosted the third **Nelson Mandela colloquium** in partnership with the Nelson Mandela Museum on 12 April. I opened the event, which featured Prof Jonathan Jansen, Dr Wilhelm Verwoerd, Ms Malaika Mahlatsi and Ms Nwabisa Makunga as speakers. The theme was "Nelson Mandela and Stellenbosch University at 100", as both SU and Madiba were born in 1918.

The Museum will also be hosting three Centenary exhibitions this year. An exhibition on the **museum building** itself, which used to be Bloemhof School, opened on 8 May.

SU through 100 artefacts will open on 5 December. This exhibition will tell the story of the University over the past century through 100 items. (The curator has requested contributions. [Click here](#) for more information.) Also opening on 5 December is an exhibition entitled **forward? FORWARD! Forward ...**, which is set to use crowd-sourced artworks that imagine the future of the University and higher education in the next 100 years. [Click here](#) to read more.

7.6 Campus security

The four main components of SU's security strategy are (i) visible security patrols and timeous incident response capacity, (ii) communication and awareness aimed at especially the student community, (iii) utilisation of closed-circuit television (CCTV) and security technology to support patrols, arrests and convictions, and (iv) partnerships with external crime combating agencies.

Campus crime statistics over the past 12 years show a varying tendency, with a marginally downward long-term trend. The graph below illustrates a combination of all crime incidents recorded by Campus Security from 2005 to 2017. Although we are grateful for the **decreasing trend**, we cannot become complacent, as it only requires a single major crime incident to cause institutional damage.

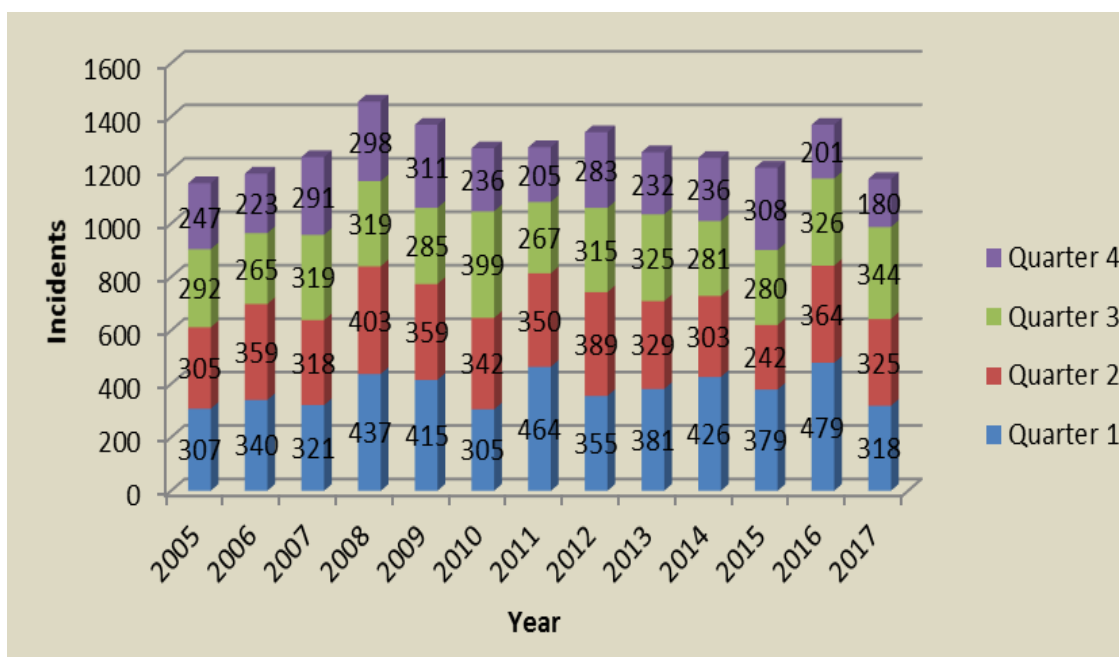


Table 5: Total crime-related incidents reported per quarter, 2005–2017

At **Tygerberg**, muggings close to the campus have increased in recent months and are also accompanied by increasingly violent behaviour. Campus Security engaged with contract service providers and external partners to safeguard the area outside the campus main entrance. Recently, these interventions paid off when a notorious group of muggers were apprehended.

At Ukwanda campus in **Worcester**, no crime incidents occurred during the past year. This may be attributed to the layout of the campus, fencing and access control, efficient security and response services rendered by a competent local security service provider, as well as a student community who effectively manages its own security risks while on campus.

Security measures at Welgevallen experimental farm, the Coetzenburg sports facilities, the contour roads in the mountain as well as the horse stables have been improved recently with the deployment of **two multi-terrain patrol vehicles**.

At the beginning of April, our new security service provider, **Pro Events**, took over from **G4S**. Pro Events has also accommodated most of G4S's staff. The changeover went smoothly, and we are very pleased with the company's performance in April, including its investment in vehicles and equipment for our campuses as well as excellent management practices.

7.7 Water crisis

SU has reduced its consumption of potable water by 45% since 2015 by means of a significant systemic change in both the institution's handling of water and patterns of use by staff and students.

Facilities Management put in place a water optimisation strategy aimed at ensuring the best use of various water sources. Specific steps include the management of water quantity and quality, new electronic meters and a dashboard, as well as a drought response plan. Greywater master plans have also been completed for Stellenbosch and Tygerberg campuses. A number of boreholes have been sunk on our campuses to ensure water security – six in Stellenbosch, five at Tygerberg and three at Mariendahl. In Bellville, water will be drawn from the quarry. All of this water will be fed into the existing water supply networks to reduce our dependence on municipal water.

A water supply master plan has been completed for Coetzenburg and Welgevallen, and the first phase is being implemented. This will secure continued supply and provide additional capacity for future expansion at Welgevallen. (Also see 4.1).

7.8 Utilities management

More than **400 electricity meters** and **200 electronic water meters** have been installed at SU to better manage utilities. This will help reduce our dependence on fossil fuels, shrink our carbon footprint and decrease our greenhouse gas emissions, thereby making the University more environmentally and financially sustainable in the long term.

Thanks to the new water meters we are now able to measure the consumption of specific buildings individually, instead of measuring the total consumption of a number of buildings, as in the past. In this way, we located a major leak at one of our residences, which we could not do before. And our response time in our 'war on water leaks' has now been cut to a maximum of one hour.

7.9 Corporate Communication

In implementing its Integrated Communication Strategy (ICS), the Corporate Communication Division (CCD) initiated two university-wide processes in the reporting period, namely the **Content Hub** and a **web redesign panel**. These and other CCD activities are discussed below.

7.9.1 Content Hub

The **pilot phase** of the Content Hub, which is a priority element of the implementation of the ICS, started on 1 March and will run until 31 August. During this phase, solutions will be explored for effectively identifying and gathering SU content, news and information, and disseminating it to primary and secondary stakeholders in a synchronised, aligned and well-governed structure. The ultimate goal is to communicate key strategic messages based on institutional priorities – which for 2018 are maintaining excellence, broadening access and increasing social impact.

So far, the Content Hub has established the following:

- A **newsroom** with three journalists, a multimedia producer and a Content Hub manager
- Basic **work routines and processes**, such as a shared, central e-mailing system, integrated news meetings for all role-players, technical training in the operation of systems and equipment, and quality control for the approval of content, editing and translation
- An internal **communication network** within CCD to streamline workflows and promote teamwork among CCD subdivisions and SU communicators
- External communication channels between the Content Hub and communicators from some **faculties, departments, support services and other units**
- Content selection according to specific institutional themes and key messages. This sharper **focus on key messages** has been tested on several SU events and activities.

7.9.2 Web redesign panel

The second priority process, led by CCD's Digital Communication Unit, is the establishment of a **web redesign panel** (WRP). This new structure will support the redesign of the SU website, subject to approval and the availability of funding. The **rationale** is that the website fulfils a much greater role than merely providing information to site visitors – it serves as a vital touchpoint for SU's branding and positioning.

7.9.3 Centenary brand identity

The [Centenary brand manual, toolkit and artwork](#) are proving useful for internal stakeholders, with the CCD Brand Department offering additional support with the application and roll-out of the branding. The overall goal is to establish a comprehensive, integrated brand management system to

equip stakeholders to become brand advocates in their environments as part of the brand alignment and governance process.

Lessons from the Centenary brand identity roll-out will be used as points of reference for the SU brand review process driven by Dr Phumzile Mmope, Senior Director: Corporation Communication. A brand valuation process will soon commence as the next step in this review process. With this in mind, a visual representation of the current SU brand architecture and landscape has been developed, as depicted below:



The current SU brand architecture and landscape

In addition, the **March graduation ceremonies** were an opportunity to create awareness of the Centenary among the honorary doctorate recipients, graduates, their family and friends.

A further opportunity to cultivate the SU Centenary brand was the **Centenary commemoration gala dinner**. All the visual touchpoints centred on the Centenary brand identity, which ran through every event element like a “platinum” thread – from the e-mail invitation to the branding in the entrance hall as well as the décor, including the



under-plates and table name cards. This event was also a platform to communicate SU's core messages, including acknowledgment of its role in the injustices of the past, and its commitment to restitution and moving forward together.

7.9.4 Centenary communications

CCD's contribution to the University's Centenary year also consists of **communication initiatives** for each month of 2018. These are outlined in the Centenary communication plan and are guided by the institutional strategies and themes, SU's approved broad engagement themes as well as the Centenary objectives, theme and narrative. To date, the following Centenary communication elements have been rolled out:

- **#MatieVoices:** This campaign, run in collaboration with Development and Alumni Relations (DAR), traces the journeys of SU alumni, students, staff and stakeholders. The campaign is executed on the SU's social media accounts, including Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and LinkedIn, as well as on the [Centenary website](#), which received a total of 11 692 page views during the reporting period.



- **#SUinHistory:** Highlighting the changes that have occurred at SU over the past 100 years, this campaign is also executed on SU's social media platforms.



- **Special Centenary newsletter** for staff: A special edition of the regular electronic newsletter, news@StellenboschUni, specifically focused on the Centenary [\[click here to access\]](#)



7.9.5 Integrated communication campaigns

Campus events and the University calendar provided various good social media opportunities, which increased CCD's reach and engagement across social media channels.

SU's **social media presence** grew at a steady rate, with Facebook nearing the **100 000 follower mark**. A contributing factor is the Content Hub, which ensures a steady flow and wide selection of content to use.

Videos have been well received. Ones worth mentioning are as follows:

- Short video clips of honorary doctorate recipients did exceptionally well. An average of 500-600 Twitter views were recorded with retention rates of 12-20%.
- On-the-spot interviews with me during the Cape Town Cycle Tour received 4 000 views on Facebook, a 25% retention rate on Twitter and an average of 105 clicks on Instagram.

Specific campaigns

- **#SUgrad:** In addition to Content Hub-generated content, considerable user-generated content was also created. These posts serve as striking testimonials to SU's impact on the lives of students and their families.



shakbad_xcv Me and my extraordinary family at my graduation last night💕🥳. Through all the obstacles and setbacks our family got blessed with a BComm graduate 🎓. Im also using this post to salute all the single mothers out there working extra hard everyday to give their children a better life 🌱💕 Shukran to the Almighty for all the guidance and mercy which was bestowed on me over the years. Its been a tough and wonderul journey till now, but im definitely not settling down👀 on to the next one🔥🔥 #SUgrad #2018 #Commerce
elsaeksteen97 Proud of you ❤️

- **Water campaign:** SU's water-saving campaign, which was implemented in 2017, was refreshed in the reporting period. The campaign was given a new look and feel, and communication

messages were adjusted in line with the latest drought-related developments. The campaign components included the following:

- A water e-mail banner was introduced.
- Water restriction notices detailing water restriction levels were posted on SU's Facebook and Twitter accounts.
- Short video recordings featuring students sharing water-saving tips were posted on social media, as were animated videos showcasing SU's water-saving initiatives.
- Articles promoting water-saving methods and research conducted by SU academics were placed on the SU website, Facebook, Twitter and Instagram platforms, and water-saving tips were posted weekly.

Below are some examples of water-saving articles, tips and polls posted.



7.9.6 Internal communication

The results of the internal communication audit conducted in February are being analysed. The final audit report was received in May. The audit comprised an online survey and focus groups with students and staff. The results and recommendations will inform the conceptualisation and implementation of an internal communication plan to enhance communication channels, protocols and processes in line with SU's strategic priorities.

Bounce rates remained extremely low for all newsletters (below 1%) and can be attributed to the high-quality data received from both the Human Resources Division (staff) and Student Information System (students).

Some of the best-read items among staff were the call for volunteers to teach adult learners, Communication from Council (28 March) and international mobility opportunities for staff.

CCD assisted the Registrar's Division with public participation communication for the revision of the SU Statute, including advertisements in the media and the distribution of a mass mailer to staff and students on 24 April. The Afrikaans and English mass mailer respectively registered opening rates of 33,6% and 33,6% for staff, and 63% and 61,4% for students.

In support of the revision of SU's Vision and Strategic Framework, a mass mailer was distributed to staff and students on 3 May, of which the Afrikaans and English versions respectively received opening rates of 26,8% and 28,2% for staff, and 55,7% and 55,9% for students.

7.9.7 Integrated annual report

SU's **integrated annual report 2017**, including the faculty reports and financial report, was tabled at the 18 April meeting of the Audit and Risk Committee of Council. The report was approved, with suggestions for improvement. It will be laid out and tabled for Council approval at this Council meeting (18 June), and will then be published.

7.9.8 Stakeholder engagement

CCD's Stakeholder Relations team has had a particularly busy two months owing to the many activities linked to the SU Centenary commemoration. In the week of 19 to 23 March, this team and other members of CCD were involved in six graduation ceremonies, the Chancellor's lunch and the Centenary gala dinner. This encompassed stakeholder relations, event management and brand positioning.

Compliance with events-related legislation is a prerequisite for SU. For this reason, and due to the ever-growing number of graduates (and, therefore, graduates' guests at graduation ceremonies), CCD led a pilot project that involved issuing **guest tickets per graduate**. Along with live-streaming facilities in the Sports Science building, this alleviated the space constraints that are increasingly experienced during graduations.

7.10 SU in the news (external communication)

In February, SU claimed the **top spot** among South African universities in the monitoring agency PEAR's data set, ahead of Wits and UCT. This can be attributed to the SU's busy calendar of events, which this year included the Centenary commemoration events on top of the annual Woordfees and graduation ceremonies in March.

The media also covered institutional news such as the sod-turning ceremony for the [Jan Mouton Learning Centre](#) (*Die Burger*) and the passing of legendary Matie academic [Prof Sampie Terreblanche](#).

SU researchers and other thought leaders produced over **75 opinion editorials** (see Addendum) over this period. Regular contributors in this regard are Profs Pumla Gobodo-Madikizela, Amanda Gouws, Jonathan Jansen, Nico Koopman and Thuli Madonsela, as well as Drs Chris Jones and Leslie van Rooi. It is encouraging that a growing number of SU staff members are making use of these opportunities.

The Media Office at CCD provided the media with lists of experts on the International Day of Women and Girls in Science, the State of the Nation Address (SONA), the budget speech, Human Rights Day and Freedom Day, Workers' Day and World Intellectual Property Day.

Research articles that did well in the media included the following:

- [Legal industry discriminates against people with dyslexia](#)
- [SU scientists help develop blood test that predicts onset of TB](#)
- [Maths teachers struggling with English](#)
- [Fives ways to use 5 g of salt or less per day](#)
- [Meet the KUZE – an innovation to promote health in children](#)
- [Capetonians don't read information on food labels](#)
- [Biodiversity suffers as climate warms](#)
- [Med student chosen to help 'change the world'](#)
- [Family physicians improve healthcare in SA's rural communities](#)

The [SU Law Clinic's representation of SA Paralympic swimmer](#) Hendri Herbst, who was refused entry to a restaurant because his guide dog accompanied him, attracted much media attention and was featured in, amongst others, the [Cape Argus](#).

The March **graduation ceremonies** were again a rich source of media stories, such as these:

- [SciMathUS success at SU graduation](#)
- [Graduate School reaches major milestone in University's centenary year](#)
- [Alberto obtains first Master's in Disaster Risk Science and Development](#)
- [Completing a master's degree cum laude in her senior years](#)
- ['Helping the community' motivated Rory's PhD](#)

- [SU student's master's degree upgraded to a PhD](#)
- [Mom and daughter graduate together at SU](#)

Most of these articles were compiled by CCD, and some by the communications staff in faculties.

The awarding of 13 [honorary doctorates](#) as part of the SU Centenary also received good media coverage. Articles appeared in various media, including the [Cape Times](#) and [Die Burger](#).

SU Centenary events have been widely covered in the media. Examples include an interview with me in the [Sunday Times](#), the welcoming event ([Die Burger](#), [Eikestadnuus](#)), the Centenary book and exhibition launch ([Eikestadnuus](#), [Son op Sondag](#), [Cape Argus](#)), the Centenary concert and family day ([Die Burger](#)) and the Centenary gala dinner ([Die Burger](#), [Eikestadnuus](#), [Tygerburger](#)).

The [profile article](#) "Stellenbosch sets course for the future" in *Sunday Times* led to various follow-up articles in other media – especially on the issue of decolonisation. These included a piece in [Die Burger](#), which unfortunately created the wrong impression that plans to renew ten programmes centred on decolonisation only. A much more balanced article appeared on [News24](#).

The current affairs programme *Prontuit* on kykNET dedicated a full, three-part programme to the Centenary – watch it here: [Part 1](#), [Part 2](#), [Part 3](#). Apart from various inserts on RSG during the Woordfees, I was also interviewed on [Cape Talk](#) as well as [SAfm](#), and Prof Hester Kloppe on [Voice of the Cape](#). In addition, the Varsity Cup offered various opportunities for exposure. Of course, winning the competition in our Centenary year was the icing on the cake! (See [Die Burger](#) and [Cape Times](#).) Moreover, my Centenary address was converted into op-eds that were used in [Die Burger](#), [Beeld](#), [Volksblad](#) and the [Cape Argus](#).

The University also received some criticism, an example being criticism in [Die Burger](#) of SU's approach to Afrikaans.

On a lighter note, some 500 learners of Hoërskool Stellenbosch, which is marking its 50th anniversary, visited the University at the end of March to congratulate SU on its Centenary (see article in the [Eikestadnuus](#)). Gifts were exchanged and Prof Arnold Schoonwinkel, Vice-Rector: Learning and Teaching, fired the school's miniature canon.

In a special project facilitated by CCD and DAR, I was joined by Prof Schoonwinkel and some 60 other SU staff, students and alumni in taking part in the "Argus" to raise funds for student bursaries ([Cape Town #CycleTour2018 a great success for #Maties100](#)).

7.11 Policy on centres, bureaus and institutes

A task team has been appointed to revise SU's current policy on centres, bureaus and institutes (CBIs). Their brief is to provide guidelines for the establishment of entities that are aligned with SU's new vision, mission and strategy, and that will advance the University's strategic goals.

Among other things, the new policy will provide for entities that span across faculty boundaries, which is not clearly guided by the current policy. The aim is to request approval from Council at its meeting on 26 September.

7.12 Revised process for risk reporting

Risk reporting is one of five key components of an institution's risk management programme, along with risk identification, assessment, management, and communication and consultation. The existing risk reporting process at SU was developed in 2011.

From 2011 to 2016, risk reporting was primarily a function of the responsibility centre (RC) heads and the Rectorate. The process was revisited and refined in 2017 by including risk classification owners as institutional functional experts. Towards the end of 2017, it was concluded that the inclusion of classification owners was a step in the right direction, but that the 30-member Risk Management Committee (RMC) was too large to function optimally.

The Rectorate decided to **discontinue the large RMC** and incorporate its functions into **existing RC management meetings**. This means that risk classification owners provide an overview and feedback to their respective RC heads during RC management meetings. After the RC meetings, the vice-rectors and the COO are then informed, updated and empowered to lead a discussion about each of the risk classifications at a **Rectorate meeting constituted as the RMC** for this purpose. This proposed refinement will also create an opportunity for RC heads to assess the accuracy of risk identification, the quality and suitability of existing controls, further mitigation actions, timelines, progress and risk priorities.

7.13 Progress on POPI and PAIA

The Centre for Institutional Information launched two privacy training-and-awareness initiatives during April. The first is **“POPI DIY”, an e-mail-based awareness programme** for staff. Participants receive an e-mail once a week explaining an element of privacy legislation in plain language, supported by practical examples and exercises. The programme is currently being piloted with 20 staff members. Should the pilot prove successful, the content will be available for reuse and even repackaging for a broader audience.

Secondly, the Centre launched a **privacy training-and-awareness stakeholder analysis** to identify who needs privacy-related training and how best to meet that need. The Centre aims to present a strategy in this regard to the Rectorate in July.

7.14 Student information system

In June 2017, SU embarked on a journey to replace its current student information system (SIS). In May and June 2018, the three shortlisted vendors will present their systems to staff members from various centres and divisions. This will inform further decisions on **replacing the SIS**.

7.15 SRC Constitution review

The Manager for Student Governance in SU’s Student Affairs Division met with the Students’ Representative Council (SRC) to discuss possible amendments to the SRC Constitution. The SRC’s Policy Officer will be spearheading this process. Proper mechanisms will be put in place pertaining to the structure that will facilitate and oversee this process. The intention is for a diverse group of students to serve on such a task team. Professional support will be offered to students should a need arise. Student Affairs would like this process to continue in the same spirit as the rewriting of the University’s Statute. The Registrar will be consulted.

7.16 Programme and qualification mix (PQM)

The Centre for Student Information System Support (SISS) will be responsible for capturing the aligned PQM data on the SIS after receiving it electronically from the Programme Advisory Committee (PAC) via the Centre for Academic Planning and Quality Assurance. During 2018, the data elements needed for successful implementation will be designed and modelled, and the database will be updated with the new information. The SIS will house the approved PQM as data elements and will therefore be the master source of programme and module offerings at SU. The process will occur in conjunction with key stakeholders. The Division of Information Governance will also propose a workflow process as part of the design and submission of new programmes and modules.

7.17 VAT rate increase

In the budget speech on 22 February, the Minister of Finance announced that the value-added tax (VAT) rate would increase by 1% to 15% with effect from 1 April. This has significant financial and systems **implications for the University**. It is important to note that there is no central fund to cover the additional costs implied by the VAT rate increase. Therefore, all environments should plan to absorb the additional costs in the short term, and then budget accordingly for the increased costs in the future. The impact on the main budget and allocations will be considered as part of the

budgeting process. The Finance Division is working with the Division of Research Development, SUNCOM and Facilities Management to ensure that all stakeholders are informed about the implications of the increased VAT rate.

Meanwhile, I am proud to report that two of our academics were appointed as members of the panel that will review the list of **VAT zero-rated items**. They are **Prof Ingrid Woolard**, who started as our new Dean of Economic and Management Sciences on 1 May, and **Prof Ada Jansen** of the same faculty. Prof Woolard chairs the panel.

On 29 May, the terms of reference for the independent inquiry was amended by the national Treasury. *Business Day* reported that this will enable the panel to make proposals that may alter the fiscal framework for the 2019-20 financial year and beyond. The proposals of the panel may be taken into account in the 2019 February budget. The panel will also be able to consider zero-rating non-food items to provide relief to poor and low-income households.

Because of these adjustments and at Prof Woolard's request, the deadline for the final report of the panel was extended to 31 July 2018.

7.18 Journal subscriptions

As reported before, the Wiley comprehensive journal package was re-evaluated in order to meet budget targets. Initially, subscriptions were restricted to 52 Wiley journals to the value of R3,6 million for 2018. However, thanks to **improvements in the exchange rate** since December 2017, it later became possible to increase this number to 70 journals at an additional R1,2 million.

8. Executing the Campus Renewal Project

The Campus Renewal Project (CRP) was approved by Council in December 2014. The project was initiated when the risk was raised that much of SU's physical infrastructure was dysfunctional and rundown due to long-term lack of maintenance and as such poses a risk to the sustainability of the academic project at SU. In September 2017, Council approved the expansion of the CRP, extending its timeline to 2027 and voting an additional R1,456 billion towards the initiative. This was in recognition of the fact that our physical facilities are strategic assets and essential enablers of a world-class and a sustainable university.

8.1 Engineering complex

Bulk sewer upgrade: This project aims to replace the Engineering Faculty's old sewer pipes and provide a new bulk sewer reticulation system. A contractor has been appointed and a phased construction process will commence shortly. The project will be executed in small sections to limit the impact on the Faculty's day-to-day activities. The anticipated completion date is December 2018.

Upgrades to Joubert Street parking area: Upgrades to the existing Joubert Street parking adjacent to the Mechanical Engineering building will commence shortly to create new staff parking bays. The area will be fenced with gated access to provide 24-hour security. A contractor has been appointed. At the time of drafting this report, construction was scheduled to start in May, and completion is planned for November 2018.

8.2 Bellville Park campus

Planning for campus renewal initiatives to the value of R45 million at Bellville Park commenced in January 2017. However, after the project was evaluated and the campus renewal principles – including the move-in-once principle – were applied, a final project budget of R105 million was approved. The project will be executed in four phases to minimise disruption for campus users. Phases 1 and 2 are in progress, with an estimated completion date of February 2020.

8.3 Jan Mouton Learning Centre

The project is continuing according to plan, and no major delays are foreseen. Facilities Management is monitoring and managing the contractor strictly in terms of the building contract. The bulk excavation for the basement parking area is complete, and the installation of the foundation piles and pile caps is under way.

8.4 Library refurbishment

The **Medicine and Health Sciences Library** on our Tygerberg campus was officially reopened on 22 May after being refurbished as part of the Council-approved Campus Renewal Project. A complete overhaul was necessary, as the 44-year-old facility had become outdated and was no longer meeting contemporary needs. Now, the 3 000 m² library is an ultramodern facility with inviting and technology-rich spaces, such as a research commons, a digital commons, a visualisation wall and eight seminar rooms spaces for collaborative learning and research, as well as state-of-the-art video-conferencing and e-classroom amenities. A yellowwood tree has been planted in a small courtyard in the centre of the library, which symbolises the facility's central role in the growing knowledge and creative thinking. The refurbishment is in line with international trends about the place of the library in the 21st century, which is more about "connections" than "collections" (according to Jeffrey Schnapp of Harvard). The varied spaces in the new library bring users together in different ways – promoting collaborative teaching and learning.

The refurbishment of the **Bellville Park Campus Information Centre (USBI)** started at the end of April. The library and its staff will move into temporary spaces, and services will continue uninterrupted during the construction and upgrades.

The Library and Information Service continues to work in close partnership with Facilities Management and the newly appointed architects to plan the next phase of **the refurbishment of SU Library**. Plans include a new entrance, circulation and security areas, offices, computer work areas for students, a collaborative learning space, a coffee breakaway area and the upgrade of the area outside the entrance. Work will commence later in 2018, and construction should be completed by May 2019.

9. Conclusion

I wish you well for the rest of the Centenary year. May we have fruitful deliberations as Council members of SU, a world-class university in and for Africa.



Prof WJS de Villiers
Rector and Vice-Chancellor

ADDENDUM: OP-EDS AND COLUMNS

Opinion editorials (21 February to 18 May 2018)

AUTHOR	FROM (environment or division)	HEADLINE	PUBLICATION (click for article)
Dr Martin Gustafson	Economy	Joining the dots: why education is key to preserving the planet	The Conversation (20 Feb); Parent24 (21 Feb)
Lee-Ann Steenkamp	SU Business School	South Africa's finance minister played the tax cards he had left: wealth and VAT	The Conversation (21 Feb)
Prof Johann Kirsten Wandile Sihlobo	Bureau for Economic Research Agricultural Business Chamber	Land seizures are complex, costly and unwise — just ask Zimbabwe	Business Live (23 Feb)
Prof Jonathan Jansen	Educational Psychology	SA's mortal fear of loving together	Sunday Independent (25 Feb)
Prof Thuli Madonsela	Social Justice	Is budget aligned with social justice?	City Press (25 Feb)
Prof Pumla Gobodo-Madikizela	Historical Trauma and Transformation	Answer our dreams, Mr President	Mail & Guardian (26 Feb)
Prof Marius Ungerer	SU Business School	In business, we become what we think: vicious or virtuous	Business Live (26 Feb)
Dr Verbra Pfeiffer	Curriculum Studies	Being multilingual is a challenge, but also to children's advantage	Cape Times (27 Feb)
Dr Francois Cleophas	Sport Science	'A nation with only half a memory'	The Star (28 Feb)
Dr Wamuwi Mbaao	English	No, the award-winning film Inxeba isn't a disrespectful gay sex romp	The Conversation (1 Mar)
Doris Viljoen	Institute for Futures Research	Higher education – a vast and changing future landscape	Business Live (1 Mar)
Eldridge Moses	Economics	Cities of hope and promise for poor	Cape Argus (1 Mar)
James Lotter	Master's Student (Political Science)	LGBTQ rights as human rights – the Sisulu factor	Daily Maverick (1 Mar)
Prof Josephine Musango & Paul Currie	School for Public Leadership	Cape Town's plans for what happens after Day Zero just won't work. Here's why	The Conversation (1 Mar); Times Live (2 Mar)
Dr Taime Sylvester	Molecular Biology and Human Genetics	World Wildlife Day: silencing the roars of the king	News24 (2 Mar)
Dr Theo Broodryk	Legal Aid Clinic (doctoral-based article: Private Law)	Why South Africa needs formal rules for class action lawsuits	The Conversation (2 Mar); The New Age (14 Mar); The Star (14 Mar); Sunday Tribune (18 Mar)
Prof Johann Kirsten	Bureau for Economic Research	Die groot geveg oor grond	Rapport (4 Mar)
Prof Nic Vink	Agricultural Economics		
Dr Tristen Taylor	Philosophy	A case of mixing up the profit motive	Business Live (5 Mar)

AUTHOR	FROM (environment or division)	HEADLINE	PUBLICATION (click for article)
Dr Nadia Mans-Kemp & Prof Suzette Viviers	Business Management	Diversity makes for a dynamic workplace	Business Day (6 Mar)
Prof Nico Koopman	Vice-Rector: Social Impact, Transformation and Personnel	A male perspective on the plight of women, presumptuous as that may seem	Cape Times (8 Mar)
Prof Juliana Claassens	Old and New Testament	Let's honour, support the courageous women	Cape Argus (9 Mar)
Nthabiseng Moleko	SU Business School	Prince Charming does not exist. It's time for SA to save itself	Business Live (12 Mar)
Dr Jason Bantjes	Psychology	Prison suicide shock statistics	Daily News (12 Mar)
Alease Brown	PhD student (Theology)	Black people beware: don't let Black Panther joy mask Hollywood's racism	The Conversation (13 Mar); IOL (14 Mar); Pretoria News (15 Mar); The Star (15 Mar)
Tshepo Gwatiwa Michael Sam	Centre for Military Studies Graduate School for International and Development Studies (Geneva)	How the free movement of people could benefit Africa	The Conversation (14 Mar)
Prof Michael le Cordeur	Curriculum Studies	When is a school full?	Daily Maverick (15 Mar)
Prof Thuli Madonsela	Social Justice	A land fable	Financial Mail (15 Mar)
Dr Chris Jones	Practical Theology and Missiology	Criminalising sex work wholly unconstitutional	Cape Argus (16 Mar)
Prof Michael le Cordeur	Curriculum Studies	Afrikaans ... in bruin hande: Regtig?	Die Burger (17 Mar) Part 1 ; Part 2
Tian Alberts	BCom (Law) student	Die verdelende wêreld van TransforMaties	Rapport (18 Mar)
Dr Camaren Peter	School for Public Leadership	Holistic education liberates potential	Business Live (23 Mar)
Dr Tristen Taylor	Philosophy	Amid a fog of deception, what if Malema is not lying?	Business Live (23 Mar)
Prof Thuli Madonsela	Social Justice	Use Constitution to reach our dreams	News24 (25 Mar)
Prof Desmond Painter	Psychology	Rapport is vyandig oor 'TransforMaties'	Rapport (25 Mar) Part 1 ; Part 2
Martin Butler	SU Business School	Is the Fourth Industrial Revolution nothing more than a technical evolution?	Business Day (26 Mar)
Prof Sandy Liebenberg	Public Law	Sacred covenant of human rights in global community	Cape Times (27 Mar)
Prof Stephanus Muller	Music	Reflections on the historic recordings of an iconic South African composer	The Conversation (28 Mar)
James Lotter	Master's student (Political Science)	From homonationalism to homopopulism – why are gays voting right?	Daily Maverick (28 Mar)
Prof Wim de Villiers	Rector and Vice-Chancellor	Maties vier sy eeufees	Die Burger (31 Mar)
Prof Wim de Villiers	Rector and Vice-Chancellor	SU set on renewing our offering to be relevant	Cape Argus (3 Apr)
Jeff Rudin Shumi Mudavanhu	Alternative Information & Development Centre (AIDC) Sustainability Institute	Renewable energy claims and counterclaims	Daily Maverick (4 Apr)

AUTHOR	FROM (environment or division)	HEADLINE	PUBLICATION (click for article)
Prof Nuraan Davids Prof Yusef Waghid	Education Policy Studies Acting Dean: Faculty of Education	Embrace the ecological university	Mail & Guardian (6 Apr)
Martin Butler	SU Business School	The implications of having an industrial revolution in one generation	Fin24 (9 Apr)
Prof Amanda Gouws	Political Science	Winnie Mandela: 'n enigma	LitNet (10 Apr)
Dr Nonso Obikili	Economics	Thinking about aviation infrastructure in Africa	Business Day Online (11 Apr)
Prof Thuli Madonsela	Social Justice	Winnie — an inimitable symbol of resilience	Business Live (12 Apr)
Dr Harlan Cloete	School for Public Leadership	Skills at root of municipalities' woes	Cape Times (12 Apr)
Dr Nic Spaull	Economics	Basic education thrown under the bus — and it shows up in test results	Business Day (16 Apr)
Stephen Cousins Elzanne Singels Dr Tineke Kraaij	PhD student (Conservation Ecology) University of Cape Town Nelson Mandela University	Invasive alien plants in South Africa pose huge risks, but they can be stopped	The Conversation (18 Apr)
Prof Nuraan Davids	Education Policy Studies	Teachers feel excluded from South Africa's schools by race and culture	The Conversation (23 Apr)
Dr Gera de Villiers	Doctoral-based article: Visual Arts	Models of two Stellenbosch museums show shortfalls and a way forward	Cape Times (23 Apr)
Dr Tristen Taylor	Philosophy	White SA: It's the progressive forces vs conservatives	Business Day (24 Apr)
Prof Mark Tomlinson, Xanthe Hunt & Marguerite Louw	Psychology	A more comprehensive approach to child literacy	Cape Argus (25 Apr)
Cobus Jooste	Mercantile Law	How will intellectual property rights survive in the digital environment?	Business Live (25 Apr)
Dr Chris Jones	Practical Theology and Missiology	Freedom comes with strings	Daily News (26 Apr)
Prof Thuli Madonsela	Social Justice	We must not leave anyone behind	News24 (29 Apr)
Sarah Babb	USB-ED	Why more women are falling off the corporate glass cliff	Huffington Post (30 Apr)
Prof Bob Mash & Dr Klaus von Pressentin	Family Medicine and Primary Care	Family physicians are improving healthcare in South Africa's rural communities	The Conversation (1 May)
Dr Bernard Wessels	Private Law	South Africa should create a fund to compensate victims of crime	The Conversation (1 May); News24 (2 May); The New Age (3 May); Mercury (3 May)

AUTHOR	FROM (environment or division)	HEADLINE	PUBLICATION (click for article)
Prof Yusef Waghid	Acting Dean: Faculty of Education	What happens when you put African philosophies at the centre of learning	The Conversation (2 May)
Dr Faiq Waghid	Centre for Learning Technologies		
Dr Zayd Waghid	Cape Peninsula University of Technology		
Prof Lizette Rabe	Journalism	Die stryd moet voortduur	Die Burger (3 May)
Dr Mike Lamont	Business Management	New order in the government bond market is now 20 years old	Business Day (3 May)
Dr Francois Cleophas	Sport Science	South Africa must look to history to level the playing field for school kids	The Conversation (3 May); Weekend Argus (6 May); The New Age (7 May)
Gawie Cillié	SU Business School	South African labour-employer relations worst in the world	Daily News (4 May); IOL (7 May)
Prof Ian Liebenberg	Centre for Military Studies	Tussen vryheid en massamoord in Hornkranz-skadu	Beeld (5 May)
Dr Gustav Hendrich	History	Terrible toll of the end of 1918	Cape Argus (8 May)
Dr Marina Joubert	Centre for Research on Evaluation, Science and Technology (CREST)	Platform for critical, credible science news and views	The Star (8 May)
Mercy Kannemeyer	Master's student (Drama and Theatre Studies)	'n Blik op die toekoms waarde van Afrikaans	LitNet (8 May)
Dr Morné Mostert	Institute for Futures Research	Why academic freedom is essential for business success	Fin24 (9 May)
Heilet Bertrand	Institute for Futures Research	Technology – what lies beyond the horizon?	Eikestadnuus (10 May)
Dr Dieter von Fintel	Economics	Purse strings and power: Sassa cards' surprise benefits empower women	Business Day (14 May)

Columns (21 February to 18 May 2018)

AUTHOR	FROM (environment or division)	HEADLINE	PUBLICATION (click for article)
Prof Faadiel Essop	Physiological Sciences	Slut lists, social media and the 10-second rule	Paarl Post (12 Apr)
Prof Johan Fourie	Economics	Do consultants add value?	Finweek (1 Mar)
		A moment to remake South Africa	Finweek (15 Mar)
		Prioritiseer dit wat vir jou welvaart skep	Rapport (18 Mar)
		When well-intentioned laws have bad consequences	Finweek (29 Mar)
		No better time to be alive	Finweek (12 Apr)
		Land: Learning from the Chinese	Fin24 (19 Apr)
		Is this <i>the</i> solution to poverty?	Finweek (10 May)

AUTHOR	FROM (environment or division)	HEADLINE	PUBLICATION (click for article)
Prof Amanda Gouws	Political Science	Moet ons Steve se idees verdra?	Netwerk24 (27 Feb)
		'n Ope brief aan Cyril Ramaphosa	Die Burger (13 Mar)
		Moenie die EFF só versterk nie	Die Burger (27 Mar)
		Is dit debat of agendas opdis?	Die Burger (10 Apr)
		As jou kultuur 'n verskoning word	Die Burger (24 Apr)
		Vir vroue is dit hel om só te leef	Die Burger (8 May)
Jan Greyling	Agricultural Economics	Hef in eie hand	Landbouweekblad (4 May)
Prof Jonathan Jansen	Educational Psychology	Dear President Ramaphosa ... we need more action on education	Times Live (22 Feb)
		The monsters of race still lurk in our shadows every day	Times Live (1 Mar)
		A good dose of humility from white people will advance the land debate	Times Live (15 Mar)
		Winnie and Vicki: They both tell the South African story	Times Live (5 Apr)
		Answer honestly: Would you keep your child in a black-majority school?	Times Live (10 May)
		Degrees of deceit: SA's professors of academic fraud	Times Live (17 May)
Prof Nico Koopman	Vice-Rector: Social Impact, Transformation and Personnel	'n Gebed vir ons president en sy ministers	Die Burger (21 Feb)
		Ongelykheid vervreem ons van mekaar	Die Burger (14 Mar)
		Ons Handves van Regte word nog só bedreig	Die Burger (21 Mar)
		Monddood is nie 'n bousteen vir demokrasie	Die Burger (11 Apr)
		Demokrasie vir talle nog net 'n hersenskim	Die Burger (18 Apr)
		Paar lesse uit die lewe van 'n swart teoloog	Die Burger (9 May)
		Geloof vra nie intellektuele selfmoord nie	Die Burger (16 May)
Dr Leslie van Rooi	Senior Director: Social Impact and Transformation	Om deel van 'n gemeenskap te wees	Netwerk24 (8 Mar)
		Verweefde stories wys ons het baie in gemeen	Netwerk24 (29 Mar)
		Hoekom fassineer Winnie se storie(s) ons so?	Netwerk24 (19 Apr)
		Wat het van die reënboognasie geword?	Netwerk24 (27 Apr)