PROGRAMME FOR THE FIFTH CEREMONY

THE FACULTIES OF ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES (QUALIFICATIONS IN DRAMA, MUSIC AND VISUAL ARTS), AGRISCIENCES, LAW

To help ensure that the proceedings run their course without disruption, will all those present kindly keep their cell phones switched off, and refrain from leaving the hall, while the ceremony is in progress.

1. Entrance of academic procession into the hall. You are requested to stand while it enters, and then to remain standing for the singing of the National Anthem.
2. Singing of the National Anthem (see inside back cover). Thereafter, please be seated.
3. Congregation formally constituted by the Vice-Chancellor.
4. Welcome by the Vice-Chancellor and Prof M Dlali.
5. Presentation of candidates receiving qualifications by the deans of the respective faculties and conferment of qualifications by the Vice-Chancellor.
6. Introduction of the candidate for Chancellor's Award and presentation of the award by the Vice-Chancellor.
7. Closing by the Vice-Chancellor.
8. The academic procession leaves the stage.

Those present are requested to remain standing until the entire academic procession has left the hall.
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Faculty of Agrifaciences

Fakulteit Agriwetenskappe

In the context of Kayamandi and broader Stellenbosch, the study found that foodways are implicated in a direct way in the tension between the ambition of cultural cohesion and misunderstanding of cultural others as it emerges in the context of Kayamandi and broader Stellenbosch. The study posits that through sensory disruptions that are enacted towards bodily transformations, foodways can be enlisted towards the facilitation of potential cross-cultural exchange through a museological mediation, which speaks in an embodied language.

**Graduate School of Agriculture and Rural Development**

**PhD**

**ARENSIE, Ebrahima (Food Science)**

Non-destructive measurement and prediction of external and internal quality of pomegranate fruit

Pomegranates are highly susceptible to quality defects which lead to downgrading and postharvest losses. In this study, non-destructive techniques based on x-ray computed tomography and near-infrared spectroscopy were successfully applied to classify fruit affected by hook scald to detect the presence of cryptic pests inside fruit with no external symptoms. In addition, predictive models were developed to estimate the volume of edible and non-edible fruit components such as peel, arils and juice. These models provide novel tools for improved postharvest management and exploitation of pomegranate fruit fractions as raw materials in food, beverage and other industrial applications.

**BAASSON, Carin Elizabeth (Wine Biotechnology)**

Transcriptional analysis of disease resistance responses using a *Bassiana cinerea* pathosystem

Insights into plant-pathogen interactions are at the core of the development of improved disease resistance strategies. This study has generated novel gene expression data for *B. cinerea*-infected tobacco and provided the opportunity to compare the timing and magnitude of transcriptional responses in susceptible and resistant plant lines. Moreover, the basis of the resistance mechanism of a grapevine defense gene could be studied. The results reinforced a defense priming role for this protein, not only at the sites of infection, but more generally in uninfected tissues on an infected plant.

**BELAY, Zinash Assafe (Food Science)**

Modelling and optimisation of active modified atmosphere packaging for pomegranate arils

Minimally processed pomegranates (called arils) are highly prone to spoilage due to short shelf life. The candidate investigated the application of actively modified atmosphere packaging to maintain aril quality. Using a novel optimisation technique called simplex lattice design approach, the optimum concentration of each gas component was determined to maintain art physico-chemical properties and minimise microbial spoilage. The low oxygen tolerance limit for pomegranate arils was identified. It was found that the optimum gas composition for active modified atmosphere storage of pomegranate arils was 6-7% oxygen and 7-8% carbon dioxide.

**DU PLESSIS, Kari (Wine Biotechnology)**

The evaluation of the impact of microclimatic factors on grapevine berries in a vineyard setting through molecular profiling

Grapes are influenced by complex interactions in vineyard settings and it is notoriously difficult to relate management actions to predictable product outcomes. Molecular analyses were used to follow the gene expression patterns and metabolic changes associated with a leaf removal treatment that resulted in increased light exposure in the bunch zone in a Sauvignon Blanc vineyard. The grapes activated several protection mechanisms against light stress and used amino acids as a source of energy to sustain development while altering the metabolism to mitigate the stress. The results contribute significantly to the understanding of how grapevine berries adapt to their environments and support possible links between grape manipulations and potential wine quality.

**GALLOWAY, Craig James (Conservation Ecology)**

The implementation of sustainable agriculture on pasture-based dairy farms: farmer perceptions, environmental impact and farm-level productivity

Three approaches were used to better understand the implementation of sustainable agriculture on pasture-based dairy farms in the Eastern Cape, South Africa. Farmers showed a positive orientation towards sustainable agriculture, but had not widely adopted sustainable practices. Environmental impacts resulted from excessive nutrients and greenhouse gas emissions, but lower environmental impacts were associated with healthier soil, higher milk production per hectare, and minimal fertiliser and feed inputs. Higher farm productivity was also associated with higher milk production per hectare and effective use of feed. Lower environmental impacts were associated with higher farm productivity, showing that profit maximization actually reduces environmental impact.

**GROOT, Dr Henk (Wine Biotechnology)**

Evaluation of the impact of light stress on grapevine berries in a vineyard setting through molecular profiling

Grapes are influenced by complex interactions in vineyard settings and it is notoriously difficult to relate management actions to predictable product outcomes. Molecular analyses were used to follow the gene expression patterns and metabolic changes associated with a leaf removal treatment that resulted in increased light exposure in the bunch zone in a Sauvignon Blanc vineyard. The grapes activated several protection mechanisms against light stress and used amino acids as a source of energy to sustain development while altering the metabolism to mitigate the stress. The results contribute significantly to the understanding of how grapevine berries adapt to their environments and support possible links between grape manipulations and potential wine quality.

**HOLM, Dr Oddgeir (Wine Biotechnology)**

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**Ikubade, Tami (Food Science)**

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MOLOTSI, Anneli Henrechetsa (Animal Science)

Genomics as part of an integrated study of smallholder sheep-farming systems in the Western Cape, South Africa

The aim of this study was to evaluate the productivity of smallholder sheep-farming systems in the Western Cape, South Africa, using an interdisciplinary approach underpinned by genomics and characterisation of the farming systems. The study found that smallholder farmers in the Western Cape preferred Dorper sheep and that their genetic resource has a higher genetic diversity than purebred Dorpers.

The foundation for looking for important alleles for reproduction in smallholder sheep was established. Selection signatures for heat tolerance, reproduction, pigmentation and polledness were obtained and important genes were characterised. Collaborations across disciplines are necessary to improve smallholder sheep-farming systems.

Supervisor: Prof K 0zama
External Co-supervisors: Prof SWP Cloete and Dr S Osinting

SELOMANE, Abram Odirilwe (Conservation Ecology)

Monitoring for sustainability: a social-ecological systems approach to indicators and measurements

Despite our understanding of the interactions between society and nature, indicators and measurements of sustainability do not reflect this integration. By harnessing the potential of social-ecological systems theory to improve existing measurements of progress towards sustainability targets, social-ecological indicators were developed globally and for South Africa. Additionally, 77 indicators of sustainable development goals were evaluated in terms of their ability to account for dynamics in monitoring. This dissertation contributes to the development of knowledge, methods and evidence for the monitoring of sustainability goals.

Supervisor (External): Prof B Rayers
Co-supervisor: Prof R Biggs

SEKHAWAT, Kirti (Wine Biotechnology)

Evaluating the effect of oxygen addition on yeast physiology, population dynamics and wine chemical signature in controlled mixed starter fermentations

This study investigated the influence of oxygenation on yeast growth kinetics and physiology. A combination of controlled fermentation strategies, transcriptomic and proteomic analyses were performed to decipher the molecular drivers of yeast-yeast interaction. The overall findings revealed that high oxygen inputs gave S. cerevisiae yeasts a fitness advantage over S. kudriavzevii, the main fermentation agent. Transcriptomic data showed that there is increased competition for micronutrients such as copper, iron and thiamine in mixed fermentation. Furthermore, S. cerevisiae and non-Saccharomyces yeasts such as Lachancea thermotolerans were found to activate different gene sets to respond to oxygen and the presence of a competing organism.

Supervisor: Dr ME Setati
Co-supervisor: Prof FF Bauer

SPICKETT, Andrea (Conservation Ecology)

Diversity and community structure of gastrointestinal helminthes of Rhabdomys spp. and other small mammals in South Africa

A field-based sampling approach recorded novel host and novel locality data for nematodes and cestodes species in South African small mammals. Life cycle-specific variation in spatial distribution of helminth parasites were recorded. Helminth diversity and community structure varied between two model rodents (Rhabdomys pumilio and R. dilectus). Environmental conditions facilitated helminth infections. Helminth species positively co-occurred in both hosts, though helminth community structure differed (structured in R. pumilio, but not in R. dilectus). Helminth assemblages, within populations, were less similar in R. pumilio, but more in R. dilectus. Potential drivers are a complex interplay of host- and parasite-related factors, compounded by environmental variation.

Supervisor: Prof S Mattee

STEYN, Lieslke (Animal Science)

The effects of supplementing alternative carbohydrate sources on production and fibre degradation of Jersey cows' grazing pasture

Energy supplements fed to pasture-based dairy cows consist mainly of starch provided in the form of maize or cereal grains. Due to the high cost of maize and increased demands for maize in human nutrition, the candidate examined alternative energy sources for grazing dairy cows. Pectin and sugar in the form of fruit by-products such as dried citrus pulp and apple pomace, were found to be suitable alternatives to replace starch in energy supplements. Although milk yield was somewhat lower when starch was replaced with pectin and sugar, the cost of milk production was reduced, making fruit by-products an attractive alternative.

Supervisor: Prof CW Cruywagen
Co-supervisor (External): Prof R Mesalek
Effects of energy sources on milk production and reproduction of dairy cows

In a first study of its kind in South Africa, the candidate showed that higher levels of energy supplementation to pasture-based Holstein cows improved reproduction and milk yields. Energy supplements were fed at either 7 kg or 12 kg/day per cow and energy sources were either starch alone or starch plus fat. Non-esterified fatty acids (NEFA) and β-hydroxybutyrate (BHB) were higher in primiparous cows receiving lower concentrate levels, while these cows also lost more weight after calving and produced less milk. Concentration of cows at 150 days-in-milk was higher at higher levels of concentrate feeding. Starch proved to be the preferred energy source during the first 60 days of lactation, while a combination of starch and fat provided after 60 days improved fertility.

Supervisor: Prof WJ Steyn
Co-supervisor: Dr M Schmeisser and Dr S Dzikiti (External)

The effect of maize vitreosity and a starch binder on in vitro fermentation parameters and starch digestibility in dairy cows

After comparing various methods, the candidate found that NIR technology, using a single absorbance wavelength of 2230 nm, is the most practical method for routine analysis in the animal feed industry to determine maize vitreosity (hardness). NIR hardness index values can now be used in dynamic feed formulation models to accurately predict the rate of maize starch degradation and the predicted ruminal disappearance of starch from the ruminant of dairy cows. Where high levels of soft maize are included in dairy cow diets, a starch binder can be used to lower the rate of ruminal starch degradation, thereby aiding in the prevention of acidosis in dairy cows.

Supervisor: Prof CW Cruywagen

PhD (Agric)

MUPAMBI, Giverson (Horticultural Science)

Water relations and sunburn in apple fruit

Sunburn causes losses of up to 50% of total apple yield in South Africa. The candidate investigated the relationship between tree water status and sunburn development. Water deficit increased sunburn incidence and severity, possibly due to phototoxic changes and oxidative stress within the peel. Foliar S-ABA (abscisic acid) application did not decrease sunburn despite an improvement in tree water status. Differences in fruit surface morphology did not explain differences in calabura and fruit sunburn severity. The study shows that good management of plant water status through irrigation is instrumental to controlling sunburn in a warm production region.

Supervisor: Prof WJ Steyn
Co-supervisors: Dr M Schmeisser and Dr S Dzikiti (External)

Fakulteit Regseleerheid
Faculty of Law
Ifakhalithi yezoMthetho

LLD

AMIN, Ameza (Public Law)

A teleological approach to the interpretation of socio-economic rights in the African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights

This study investigates the nature and implications of the teleological approach to human rights treaty interpretation for the interpretation of the socio-economic rights in the African Charter. The candidate develops a methodology for the application of the teleological approach that can guide the supervisory organs to interpret the socio-economic rights in the African Charter effectively. She also develops a teleological model of review that can assist the supervisory organs to assess States’ socio-economic rights obligations. A coherent application of the teleological approach and its model of review can guarantee the meaningful protection of the socio-economic rights on the continent.

Supervisor: Prof S Liebenberg

BROODRYK, Theo (Private Law)

Developing a structure for the adjudication of class actions in South Africa

The high cost of litigation prevents many potentially meritorious claims from being brought to court. The procedural mechanism of the class action addresses this problem by enabling claims of a number of persons against the same defendant to be adjudicated in one action, brought by a representative plaintiff. For example, consumers who purchased hazardous goods or miners who were exposed to toxic substances may rely on class actions to claim compensation. Unfortunately, no South African statute or court rule provides a procedural framework for the adjudication of class actions. Drawing on the experiences of prominent foreign jurisdictions, this pioneering dissertation contains various proposals on how to develop such a framework, and hence promote greater access to justice.

Supervisor: Prof W de Vos
Co-supervisor: Prof JE du Plessis

ROSA, Ana Solange (Public Law)

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Supervisor: Prof W de Vos
Co-supervisor: Prof JE du Plessis

ROSA, Ana Solange (Public Law)
as tools to address poverty, both in terms of substance and process.

Supervisor: Prof S Liebenberg
Co-supervisor: Prof G Quinot

SPRUYT, Wynand Max Alexander (Privatrek)

Kompleksiteit en bemiddeling: ’n model vir die ontwerp van gepaste regulerings

Hierdie studie voer aan dat bemiddeling as ’n kompleks sosiale stelsel gemodelleer kan word. Die modellering van bemiddeling maak dit nie alleen moontlik om die impak van regulerings te ontleed aan die hand van die werklike en mees fundamentele eienskappe van die bemiddelingsproses nie, maar om ook diversiteit as ’n kenmerk van bemiddeling vanuit ’n nuwe en unieke perspektief te ontleed. Die studie slaag darin om ’n teoreeties model van bemiddeling daar te stel wat sal verseker dat die gepaste en effektiewe regulerings van bemiddeling nie ten koste van die inherente aard en kenmerke van die bemiddelingsproses geskied nie.

Promotor: Prof CS Human
VOLLMER, Daniel Tyson (Public Law)

Queer families: an analysis of non-heteronormative family rights under the African human rights system

The limited engagement with sexual orientation, gender identity and non-heteronormative family rights under the African human rights system necessitates a comparative analysis of the interpretation of ‘family’ in light of the rights to non-discrimination, equality, dignity, privacy, and the ‘best interests of the child’ principle, under the international and regional human rights systems. Using the critical perspectives of postmodern feminist, queer, and gay and lesbian rights theories this dissertation examines family rights under articles 18(1) and (2) of the African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights, demonstrating that these rights are amenable to an interpretation inclusive of non-heteronormative family rights.

Supervisor: Prof A Rudman
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ROOIS, Tanisha (Veekunde met Bewaringsekologie)
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STEYN, Natalie (Grondkunde en Hortologie)
STOFFBERG, David Mark (Veekunde)
SWANIEPOEL, Jacobus Christiaan (Grondkunde en Hortologie)
SWART, Andries Johannes (Veekunde)
THEUNIEN, Schalk Heinz (Veekunde met Akwakultuur)
TOOLO, Khotsoile Boitumane (Wingerd- en Wynkunde)
UYS, Janen (Veekunde)
VAN DER SCHYFF, Hubert (Veekunde)
VAN DER WESTKUZEN, Christoff George (Veekunde met Agronomie)
VAN LEIJEFEN, Mara Magaretha (Veekunde)
VAN NIEKERK, Angus Stewart (Landbou-ekonomie en Veekunde)
VAN NIEKERK, Chloa Francois (Veekunde met Bewaringsekologie)
VAN STADEN, Yolande (Wingerd- en Wynkunde)
VAN ZYL, Tasha Anna (Veekunde)
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HOUGARD, Adrian Cornelius
LOUW, Nicola Leon
MADDEN, Anthony Luke
McCARTHY, Megan
MOOD, Karven David
OLIVER, Adrian Jacobus
OOSTHUIZEN, Christie Leandri
PIENAAR, Madeleine
ROSSOUW, Elizabeth
HOUGARD, Adriaan Cornelius
LOUW, Nicolas Leon
MADDEN, Anthony Luke
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DUN, George Philip
ENGELBRECHT, Jacobus Adrian
FAASEN, Martinique
FREY, Leandri
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HANEMANN, Joshua Christian
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Professor of private law Marius de Waal’s research encompasses three main areas: the law of property, the law of succession and the law of trusts. He has been at the leading edge of these fields, with the Supreme Court of Appeal citing his research in several matters. Having produced 28 book chapters and 40 articles in refereed journals and co-produced seven books, this B3-rated researcher of the National Research Foundation exemplifies social impact through scholarship. His dedication to his discipline has earned him an Alexander von Humboldt scholarship for research at German academic institutions on three occasions. Apart from his key role at Stellenbosch University, De Waal is also visiting professor at the University of Paris Descartes (Paris V) and holds the Belgian Journal of Private Law exchange chair.