



**Stellenbosch**

UNIVERSITY  
IYUNIVESITHI  
UNIVERSITEIT

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forward together  
sonke siya phambili  
saam vorentoe

**ADDENDUM to HIGHLIGHTS from the  
RECTOR'S MANAGEMENT REPORT  
TO COUNCIL**

28 November 2022

Prof Wim de Villiers,  
Rector and Vice-Chancellor

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## THEME 1: A THRIVING STELLENBOSCH UNIVERSITY

In our [Vision 2040 and Strategic Framework 2019–2024](#) (click on the link for the complete document), we state the following concerning this theme: “To make SU a **thriving organisation**, we envisage a **vibrant, prosperous and systemically sustainable** university”, with ‘thriving’ defined as “being successful or making steady progress; prospering; flourishing”.

We then say: “SU recognises the major challenges associated with developing into a thriving university. We acknowledge that we need to be responsive and proactive in shaping the future of the University. We are committed to systemic sustainability, which includes people, place (social), prosperity (economic) and the environment and compels responsible corporate governance.”

### 1.1 SU ceremonial emblem

On 20 June 2022, Council unanimously approved a new emblem and seal for the University to complement the new corporate logo, which was adopted in April 2021. The ceremonial emblem is SU’s singular accreditation mark and also the highest mark of the University.

The Corporate Communication and Marketing Division (CCMD) subsequently proposed the implementation of a set of rules to ensure the consistent use of the ceremonial emblem within our uniform brand architecture. They proceeded to consult with the Registrar’s responsibility centre to compile the rules, which the Rectorate approved on 27 September.

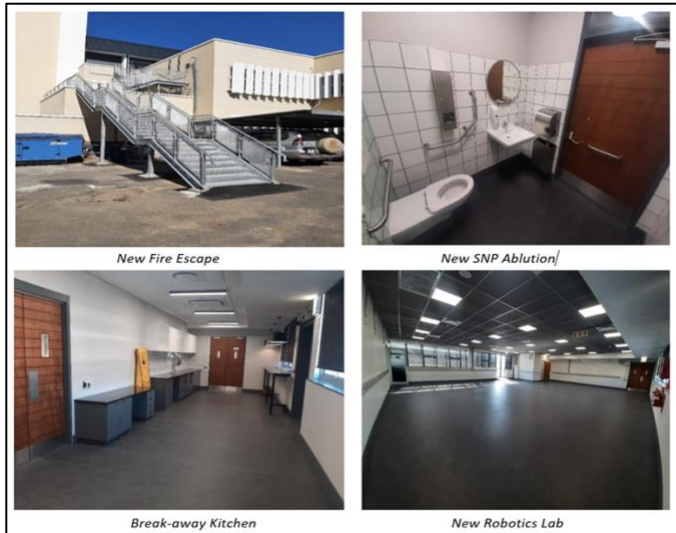
The DVC: Strategy, Global and Corporate Affairs, Prof Hester Klopper, is the overall custodian of the rules.

### 1.2 Facilities Management projects

Electrical and Electronic Engineering’s new third-floor infill (*pictured below*) was completed on 26 July, and the Department has moved back into the building.



*New third-floor infill – south elevation*



*Electrical and Electronic Engineering's upgraded spaces*

Construction on the **Civil Engineering** building is on schedule.

In addition, the new **central chilled-water cooling system for Engineering** will provide cost-effective heating and cooling for the entire complex. Phase 1 is on schedule for completion in March 2023, as planned.



*Concrete Structure complete and 2nd-floor formwork in progress*

*Transformer Bases in Progress*

*Progress on the central chilled-water cooling system for the Engineering complex*

Phase 3 of the **Biomedical Research Institute (BMRI)** construction, which includes completing renovations to levels 0 to 3 of BMRI South and the basement extension areas, is progressing well. Construction of the **new parking area near Tygerberg campus's main entrance** was completed at the end of August, and the space has been in use for general parking since September.



*The new atrium at the BMRI – southeast elevation*



*The new parking area near Tygerberg campus main entrance*

The BMRI building, the Education building as well as part of the Teaching building are now entirely run on the **central heating, ventilation and air-conditioning (HVAC) system**. The project, which was completed in mid-August, forms part of the master plan for centralising all services on Tygerberg campus.



*Phase II installation of Tygerberg campus's central HVAC system (from left): the central chiller plant, buffer tanks and water storage tanks.*

The **Victoria hub and IT fibre infrastructure project** comprises the construction of 14 Private Student Organisation (PSO) bedrooms, access to Harmonie and Monica residences for private students, and a new information and communications technology (ICT) backbone fibre route. The superstructure for the hub has been completed, and all floors have been cast.



*Second floor of Victoria hub being completed*

The upgrade to **Wilgenhof** residence was completed in October. Work involved electrical upgrades, the replacement of beds, internal room refurbishments, repainting, new floor finishes, as well as bathroom and common-area upgrades.

### **1.3 Upgrading perimeter security**

The vulnerability of the Tygerberg, Bellville Park and Worcester campuses is a concern. Therefore, Facilities Management has developed a guideline for future perimeter security. Security specialists will be working with technical advisors and consulting engineers to upgrade perimeter security. The appointed consultants are currently assessing risks and conducting detailed site surveys.

### **1.4 Relocating Stellenbosch Business School**

In September 2019, Council approved the business case for the relocation of the Stellenbosch Business School to the Stellenbosch plot donated by the Distell Group. A facility needs diagram was subsequently submitted to Distell for its approval as land donor. The diagram has been approved and will be registered at the Deeds Office.

The specialist reports and services design were completed by early August 2022, and no significant issues are foreseen. By the end of October, the consultants had completed the planning application documents. It is anticipated that the Municipal Planning Tribunal will need approximately five months to reach a decision.



*The proposed new Stellenbosch Business School campus at Oude Libertas, Stellenbosch*

## 1.5 Environmental sustainability projects

Facilities Management has upgraded the University's **building management system** and expanded it to several buildings with large HVAC systems in an effort to further improve HVAC management and control. These include the SU Library, the Neelsie, the Jan Mouton Learning Centre, the main Engineering building, Mechanical Engineering, the decanting facility, Concordia, Metanoia, Simonsberg and Bellville Park campus.

A precinct of 19 buildings has been identified for the collation of utility data as part of a **portfolio audit for the Green Building Council South Africa (GBCSA)**. This will include measuring HVAC performance, indoor air quality, lighting, noise and temperature.

The most significant contributor to SU's carbon footprint is its consumption of Eskom-supplied coal-based electricity. A feasibility study on the potential **installation of solar photovoltaic (PV) systems** found that SU could install an estimated total generation capacity of 4,667 kilowatt peak (kWp) on the Stellenbosch, Bellville Park, Tygerberg and Worcester campuses. A R72 million green loan has been approved for this purpose. A second feasibility study has been initiated to look into installing solar panels on the roofs of several residences.

Total **water consumption** at Mariendahl experimental farm is an estimated 140 kilolitres a day, which used to be supplied through the Elsenburg (potable-water) network. Since the implementation of an augmentation scheme, however, all potable-water demands at Mariendahl are now being met from a borehole. In addition, two boreholes were drilled at Lentelus to supply irrigation water for the sport fields.

Facilities Management arranged several **tree-planting projects** during the winter planting period, in which staff and students participated.



*Students and staff taking part in tree-planting activities on campus and at the arboretum on Stellenbosch mountain*

Finally, the newly elected student leaders were trained in SU's **Environmental Sustainability Plan** and were encouraged to mobilise their fellow students to help create a more sustainable campus. All first-year medical students on Tygerberg campus also attended a three-day environmental sustainability training course.



## 1.6 Academic information and communications technology

Our Academic ICT function is developing a big-data architecture and framework for researchers that will be easily accessible, affordable, secure, compliant and sustainable. As this is a greenfield initiative, we are exploring partnerships so that the outputs could be used at other higher education institutions as well.

## 1.7 Eduroam

Information Technology has made substantial progress with implementing Eduroam as the default Wi-Fi network for staff and students. With Secure and MatiesWiFi being phased out, device registration is no longer required, as staff and students are now identified by their usernames and passwords. Eduroam is being extended to Tygerberg hospital to provide seamless Wi-Fi access to staff and students working there.

## 1.8 Legal Services

The University is experiencing increased scrutiny of its decision-making processes, transparency and fairness, including a focus on internal processes and whether they are followed. This is evident from the increase in **requests for information** received from the public. We anticipate this trend to continue as public awareness of the right of access to information grows.

Since Covid-19 regulations were revoked in June, Legal Services has been able to devote their full attention to other critical regulatory matters. In terms of **compliance**, the focus has returned to institutional compliance with legal prescripts and having the necessary foundation documents in place. All relevant regulatory updates are shared with internal stakeholders.

Legal Services also continues to manage large numbers of commercial contracts on behalf of the University. From January to October, 733 new agreements and 60 advice files were registered.

Of these, 591 agreements (80%) have been completed successfully, while 43 advice files are still active and being worked on.

A total of 12 misconduct complaints were referred to **Student Discipline** in the August/September period. These comprised two complaints of disciplinary misconduct, four of academic misconduct, and six of residence misconduct. Five of these matters were referred to the Central Disciplinary Committee, and one student deregistered before the investigation could be completed. Two matters are awaiting a decision on the appropriate disciplinary channel, and four are in various stages of investigation.

In addition, the Rectorate approved the **Glossary of Governance and Management Document Types** at the end of August. The [glossary](#) will help us develop a common understanding of the terminology used in relation to our governance and management documents.

## 1.9 Template guide

The [SU template guide](#) is now available on the Corporate Identity webpage. The guide supports the design and production of communication material to ensure a consistent SU voice and brand, as well as a consistent user experience.

Based on feedback from the SU community on the use and functionality of templates, Corporate Communication and Marketing updated existing and developed additional templates in Microsoft Word and PowerPoint. Design templates for graphic designers and video animators are also provided. The templates can be downloaded directly from the template guide or from the [Corporate Identity webpage](#).

## 1.10 Woordfees and SU Choir

The first face-to-face **Toyota SU Woordfees** since the pandemic took place in Stellenbosch from 10 to 16 October.

Although we have always been the home of the Woordfees, our brand exposure at the event required attention. This year, deeper collaboration with the festival resulted in a more prominent SU brand presence as well as an SU hub at the University Museum, where a range of discourses and performances were hosted.



*Activities hosted at the SU hub during the Toyota SU Woordfees 2022*

Name sponsor Toyota has also renewed its sponsorship for another three years.

The national finals for the **Sanlam WOW Spelling Festival**, also a Woordfees project, were held in Stellenbosch during the festival. This year, the Afrikaans division attracted 586 schools, the English First Additional Language division 110 schools, and the isiXhosa division 83 schools.

Our acclaimed **SU Choir** was invited to perform at the funeral of Princess Margaret Obaigbena of the Delta province of Nigeria as guests of Arise Global Media. The funeral service was attended by several dignitaries, including Nigerian president Muhammadu Buhari. The choir also completed a national tour from in early September and performed in the Sudwala caves near Mbombela, as well as in Sasolburg, Johannesburg and Soweto.

## 1.11 SU Code 2040

SU's values, being a key component of Vision 2040, directly affect our conduct as an institution. That is why we have translated our values into a set of high-level guidelines that will govern conduct at the University. For now, we refer to the guidelines as 'Code 2040'.

Having been presented to the Rectorate for input back in June, the draft Code 2040 – drafted under the guidance of the Unit for Business Ethics and Public Integrity in our Centre for Applied Ethics – was subjected to extensive consultation. This included obtaining input from the Institutional Forum, the Social and Business Ethics Committee, the General Managers' Meeting, the executive committees of both Senate and Council, as well as the full Senate and Council.

An electronic questionnaire specifically focusing on the pledge made in the Code was also sent to staff and students. Their input not only revealed how they experienced the pledge, but has also created a foundation for compiling a practical guide for the implementation of the Code.

A final draft of the document was later presented to the various committees for finalisation and recommendation to Council at its November meeting.

## 1.12 Launch of Privacy Regulation

In May, the Division of Information Governance presented to the Rectorate the first of a series of institutional regulations that would form the foundation of an information management framework for the University. Since then, the regulations have been translated and rebranded. One of these,

our revised Privacy Regulation, was launched in October, which is also International Cybersecurity Awareness Month.

Up until International Privacy Day (28 January 2023), Information Governance plans to roll out further general awareness campaigns, specialist training and supporting tools to help students and staff navigate the landscape of information management.

### 1.13 External communication

In the reporting period, Corporate Communication and Marketing focused on generating positive sentiment and highlighting good news on a large scale. This has generated exceptional outcomes that significantly outweighed the effects of another unfortunate campus urination incident.

#### SU in the news (3 August to 19 October 2022)

The standout trends in terms of the University's media presence over the period in review are covered in the highlights report.

Here are some of the **specific stories and events** that featured in the media (please click to view the articles):

- [SU student's innovation is among the top three solutions for world challenges](#) ([Radio 702](#), [Cape Talk](#), [Times Live](#))
- [Deaf storytellers help Stellenbosch University to create teaching material](#) ([Mail & Guardian op-ed](#), [IOL](#))
- [New DVC ready to increase SU's impact in research, innovation and postgraduate studies](#) ([Bizcommunity](#))
- [Stellenbosch Green School is now even greener thanks to a new solar panel system](#) ([Die Burger](#), [Cape Argus](#), [Sunday Times](#), [News24](#), [IOL](#), [Engineering News](#))

The urination incident in Helshoogte in September received some publicity, but not as much as the Huis Marais incident.

Also in September, the [high court ruled in favour of SU in the DA/Studenteplein court case](#) against the University, our Council and Senate. (See, for instance, [Cape Argus](#), [Heart FM](#), [SAFM](#), [News24](#), [IOL](#) and [Politicsweb](#).)

Our **media releases** remain a good source of publicity for the institution. Our experts continued to provide the media with valuable content and comment, further cementing SU's reputation as an innovative and socially responsible institution. These are a few of the research-based releases in the period in review:

- [SA botanist discovers new species of the iris in the Langeberg](#) ([Cape Argus](#))
- [More evidence for link between blood clotting and severity of Covid-19](#) ([The Citizen](#), [Cape Talk](#), [EWN](#))
- [Shelters help abused women get their lives back on track](#) ([Times Live](#), [News24](#), [Cape Talk](#))

Looking at faculty-related coverage, Economic and Management Sciences led in terms of overall volume for both August and September, although Law (August) and Science (September) also featured strongly.

In terms of the general sentiment towards SU, judging by the coverage we received, the trend for August was mostly positive (53%) and neutral (41%). For September, it was 46% positive and 50% neutral.

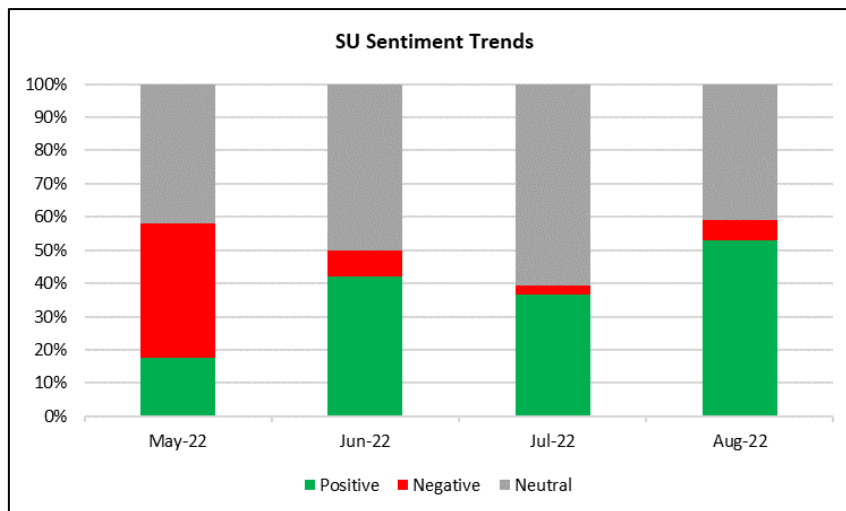
For a list of **op-eds, features and columns** produced by our prolific students and staff, page to the end of this addendum.

## Social media

In August and September, SU achieved an estimated total social media reach of 10 million and 11,6 million respectively. Online sentiment towards the University during this period was 76% positive, despite the second urination incident. This was achieved through a carefully crafted content strategy that reflected diversity, innovation, excellence as well as progress on our transformation journey, though without appearing contrived.

### Investment in media engagement

Extensive investment in media engagement over the past few months included the appointment of an additional senior journalist, proactive relationship building, and a detailed positioning plan in line with SU's message management framework. This has yielded a marked increase in positive sentiment towards our institution, as illustrated in the figure below.



Key cornerstones of our media engagement strategy include sponsored placements to heighten awareness, a structured approach to issues management and intelligence gathering, as well as showing SU's commitment to transformation by sharing news about real interventions, statistics and appointments.

### 1.14 Integrated communication campaigns

#### Women's Month

Introduced a number of years ago, the Women's Month campaign under the hashtag #WomenofSU has become an annual institution on our communications calendar. The campaign comprises a series of web articles and social media posts that showcase the work and impact of SU's female staff.

The campaign performed well on SU's social media channels in terms of engagement rates and sentiment, having achieved an average reach of over 13 000 on Facebook. A dedicated [#WomenofSU webpage](#) was also developed and promoted both externally and internally, and recorded over 1 000 views.

SU experts also contributed several opinion pieces to the campaign (see list below):

- Prof Amanda Gouws, on gender-based violence ([Daily Maverick](#))
- Prof Juliana Claassens, on the importance of leisure time ([News24](#))
- Drs Karen Garner and Chantelle van Staden, on women's contributions to engineering ([Mail & Guardian](#))
- Drs Cyrill Walters and Armand Bam, and Prof Patrizio Piraino, on the underrepresentation of women in research ([The Conversation](#))

- Prof Louise du Toit, on women as pioneers of social change ([Netwerk24](#))
- Drs Ilze Slabbert and Tasneemah Cornelissen-Nordien, who advocated for stronger support for HIV-positive teenage mothers ([Cape Times](#))

## Casual Day

To commemorate Casual Day, Corporate Communication and Marketing highlighted the achievements of SU's Disability Unit and the work under way to ensure an inclusive and transformative environment for staff and students. This included articles on the SU website and social media platforms. In addition, opinion pieces on disability support by SU experts Dr Michelle Botha ([Mail & Guardian](#)), Bongani Mapumulo ([Cape Times](#)) and Dr Callista Kahonde ([News24](#)) were published in the media.

## News section on SU website

Over the past couple of months, SU celebrated several achievements and milestones, which were featured in the news section of our website. These included the launch of the [Stellenbosch University Japan Centre](#), the appointment of [Prof Sibusiso Moyo](#) as our new Deputy Vice-Chancellor (DVC): Research, Innovation and Postgraduate Studies, the construction of the 3 000 m<sup>2</sup> [Horti Demo Centre](#) at Welgevallen experimental farm, and marking the first anniversary of the [School for Climate Studies](#). Among the achievements featured on our site were the [three prizes](#) we scooped at the annual National Science and Technology Forum (NSTF)/South32 awards, and our two students who took part in [Camp 2030](#).

## 1.15 Institutional events

### Staff and student breakfasts with the Rector

The Rector's breakfast engagements with staff and students form part of the University's strategic engagement calendar. These events build and sustain purposeful partnerships, connect people, and create inclusive networks. Staff and students are invited to nominate candidates to attend, and a selection panel makes the final choice. Breakfast guests are normally brand ambassadors who contribute to a thriving SU.

Breakfasts with staff took place on 17 and 24 August, 27 September and 27 October, while a breakfast with students was held on 28 September. Each event was attended by around 20 candidates, who were able to address specific questions to the Rector and Rectorate members, and also engage with the Rector and other guests after the formal programme.

### Staff Assembly

A hybrid staff assembly was held in the Endler hall on 24 August. A total of 310 employees attended in person and 840 tuned in online. In a lucky draw at the end, ten staff members each won a corporate gift sporting the new SU branding.

### Inaugural lectures

The following seven inaugural lectures took place in the second semester:

- Prof Ben Loos (Science) – 25 August
- Prof Allan Ellis (Science) – 1 September
- Prof Lize van Robbroeck (Arts and Social Sciences) – 8 September
- Prof Dana Niehaus (Medicine and Health Sciences) – 20 September
- Prof Willem Boshoff (Economic and Management Sciences) – 29 September
- Prof Anita Bosch (Economic and Management Sciences) – 6 October
- Prof Adriaan van Niekerk (Arts and Social Sciences) – 25 October

In addition to catering for in-person attendance, the lectures were also livestreamed, and the pre-recorded videos remain on SU's YouTube channel for future viewing. Watch the [2022 lectures](#) here.

## **Rector's Awards for Excellent Achievement**

The Rector's achievement awards were held at the Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Study (STIAS) on 18 October. The 200 guests included the nominees, their special guests, the Rectorate, deans and other staff. This year's event centred on the theme of excellence for sustainable renewal. The keynote speaker was former DVC: Research, Innovation and Postgraduate Studies Prof Eugene Cloete, who also received the Students' Representative Council award.

### **1.16 Two schools going strong**

The School for Climate Studies and the School for Data Science and Computational Thinking are strategic engines that promote collaboration between and across disciplines. The following paragraphs offer a brief overview of activities and achievements in each over the reporting period:

#### **School for Climate Studies (SCS)**

- SU is the only African member of the Global Alliance of Universities on Climate (GAUC), and the SCS is driving our efforts in this regard. The School ran an eight-week pilot training programme that equipped 150 students from across the world – including 15 SU students – as GAUC Global Youth Ambassadors on climate change. The students went on to participate in a week of youth-led climate events in the lead-up to the COP27 climate conference in Egypt.
- At the time of reporting, SCS and GAUC were also organising a side event at COP27 to engage members of the South African Presidential Climate Commission and leading African researchers and policymakers in discussing Africa's concerns relating to climate change negotiations.
- The School hosted the first African Regional Forum on Climate Change in September, with 16 African nationalities present either in person or virtually.
- During the forum, the SCS launched the *African Journal of Climate Studies*, with a strong positive response from the assembly. Subject and assistant editors are being recruited to accept scientific submissions before going live.
- SCS director Prof Guy Midgley was elected president of the JRS Biodiversity Foundation – a United States-based foundation supporting research on biodiversity informatics in Southern Africa.

#### **School for Data Science and Computational Thinking**

- The School launched its first module ("Introduction to Data Science with Python") in August. The very next month, it also hosted a graduate seminar on digital citizenship through the Venice International University, partnering with KU Leuven (Belgium) and Waseda University (Japan).
- Bootcamps in data science, software engineering and web development as well as the Standard Bank Hackathon were all launched in October.
- At the time of reporting, director Prof Kanshukan Rajaratnam and Eugene Ras (Data and Analytics head at Distell) were preparing to teach the elective course "Digital and data strategies for leaders" as part of the MBA programme in November.
- Renowned scientist Prof Frank Tanser joined the School in October.

### **1.17 Highlights from the Centre for Epidemic Response and Innovation (CERI)**

CERI hosted, co-hosted or participated in the following five training and capacity-building events in the reporting period:

- Co-hosted a microbiome training workshop with Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)/Harvard, using exploratory data analysis and modelling in R with microbiome applications (20–26 August)

- Took part in the Virus Evolution and Molecular Epidemiology (VEME) workshop in Panama (20–26 August). The 2023 edition of VEME will be hosted in Stellenbosch.
- Hosted eight researchers from Botswana, Brazil, Colombia, Kenya, Senegal and Zambia for a two-week hands-on training course in genomic sequencing and analysis (5–16 September)
- Hosted a virtual training session for the BRICS Network for Genome Surveillance (NGS-BRICS), attended by over 200 participants from BRICS countries (26–30 September)
- Participated in NGS-BRICS training in Dakar, Senegal (10–14 October)

CERI also received a new \$5 000 000 grant up to March 2025 from the World Bank for the project “Accelerating genomics-based surveillance for Covid-19 response in South Africa”. CERI director Prof Tulio de Oliveira serves as principal investigator.

In terms of its media presence, the Centre featured in [TIME](#) and the [New York Times](#). Prof De Oliveira was also profiled in [The Lancet](#).

### **1.18 MaRoON Health Passport**

Over a thousand staff and students have completed the Maties Risk of Non-Communicable Disease (MaRoON) Health Passport since its launch on 26 July. The tool identifies medical red flags and recommends further interventions for affected staff and students. Most red flags relate to mental health.

### **1.19 Breast Cancer Awareness Month**

The Campus Health Service launched a campaign in Breast Cancer Awareness Month (October) that offered students access to free breast examinations and information on breast care. Talks and referred consultations by a dietician were made possible by funding from Higher Health.

### **1.20 SU Museum**

The University Museum is hosting the photographic exhibition *Attached to the Soil* by Peter Glendinning, a professor of Art from Michigan State University. As part of the exhibition, the museum partnered with the Department of Visual Arts, the Centre for Student Communities, the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences as well as the Stellenbosch Academy of Design to host workshops and walkabouts, which 135 people attended.

### **1.21 Imbizo 365 calendar of engagement**

Themes that featured during this reporting cycle were gender (Women’s Day), and disability and access (Casual Day).

In terms of gender, the Transformation Office partnered with the Equality Unit, the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences and the Division of Student Affairs to host the online panel discussion “What does allyship with women of colour look like on campus for both staff and students?”.

And to mark Casual Day, the Transformation Office and the Disability Unit co-hosted another online discussion, this time themed “#ICelebrateSA – focusing on sports”. Students with disabilities shared their experience as passionate sportspeople and fans. The Transformation Office also collaborated with Employee Wellbeing to sell Casual Day stickers, and all proceeds were donated to the Stellenbosch Work Centre for Adult Persons with Disabilities.

### **1.22 Onwards with transformation**

#### **Progress with Transformation Policy**

Comments and input on the first draft of the Transformation Policy were incorporated into a second draft. During the consultations, a need was articulated to define ‘Africanisation’, ‘decolonisation’, ‘restitution’ and ‘transformation’. The Transformation Policy Task Team subsequently held two

workshops to define and refine these concepts. Consultative sessions on the second draft are currently being held.

### **Institutional Transformation Committee (ITC)**

The elected representatives on the ITC are as follows:

- Prof Anthony Leysens, representing the Deans' Forum
- Ms Ellen Tise, representing the General Managers' Meeting
- Prof Ronel Carolissen, representing Senate
- Prof Selwyn Mapolie, representing Senate
- Mr Banzi Bottoman, representing the Students' Representative Council (SRC)
- Mrs Susan Njeyiyana, representing academic staff
- Mr Wayde Davidse, representing professional administrative support services staff

The SRC nominated only one representative pending the finalisation of their portfolio allocations and managerial appointments.

### **Development of monitoring and evaluation framework for transformation at SU**

The Transformation Policy Task Team and the Transformation Monitoring and Evaluation Reference Group held three workshops to further distil the transformation indicators for SU. Three main themes with related indicators have been identified and will be presented to the Rectorate as transformation priorities for the next five years. These three themes will also inform the pilot phase of the roll-out of transformation key performance areas.

#### **1.23 Siyakhula Live on MFM 92.6**

Weekly radio conversations on diversity and transformation continue to foster a culture of diversity at SU and the broader Maties community.

In celebrating Women's Month, the focus in August was on five remarkable women (*see alongside*). Conversations in September addressed the themes of adults living with disabilities, disability sports, the work of SU's Disability Unit, and the National Language Policy and multilingualism.

In other exciting news, *Siyakhula Live* has been shortlisted for a South African Radio Award.

#### **1.24 Social Impact Plan to be revised**

The Rectorate has decided that the current Social Impact Plan should be revised in 2023.

#### **1.25 Copyright Amendment Bill**

At the beginning of September, the National Assembly finally passed the Copyright Amendment Bill. The actual effect will only become apparent once the law is implemented. Among others, SU will need to consider whether the Dramatic Artistic and Literary Rights Organisation (DALRO) blanket licence would still be required, and we will have to provide our staff and students with guidelines on the required regulatory and reporting measures.

#### **1.26 SU Botanical Garden**

Visitor numbers to our Botanical Garden are slowly recovering after Covid. In addition to a brand-new gatehouse at the Neethling Street entrance, construction has also started on both the

**Siyakhula Live**  
MFM 92.6

**5 Weeks, 5 Women this Women's month**

Dates: Every Wed. 03 Aug - 31 Aug Time: 18:00 - 19:00

**Nontobeko Ntombela & Perlia Malatjie**  
Curators

**Zola Budd**  
Former Olympic Runner

**Thinasonke Mbuli**  
Assistant Coach Banyana Banyana

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Host

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Writer and Lecturer at University of Pretoria

**Dumisani Chauke**  
Assistant Coach SPAR Proteas

Each week our host centres the conversation on a prolific woman who has and continues to shape communities and shape perspectives. Through their work in politics, culture and heritage, literature and sport, each woman has pioneered a way for a liberated and authentic future.

**Stellenbosch**  
UNIVERSITY  
IYUNIVESITHI  
UNIVERSITEIT

forward together  
sonke siya phambili  
saam vorentoe



restaurant kitchen upgrade and the new shop with an integrated bonsai display. The shop will be operated as part of the Matie Shop, and completion is anticipated around mid-December 2022.



*Architectural rendering of new shop at SU Botanical Garden*

## 1.27 Activities at Innovus

### Invention disclosures

Innovus receives invention disclosures from researchers when their line management deems the innovation worthy of protection. Actionable disclosures at the end of September totalled 22. Not all researchers find the new, automated disclosure process helpful. Some believe that it now takes much longer than before, so streamlining will be required.

Due to a lack of grant funding, overall actionable disclosures for 2022 are expected to be lower than in previous years.

### University Technology Fund (UTF) support

The UTF is a venture fund that focuses on commercialising the technology, intellectual property and research originating from South African universities. To date, 11 SU projects have received pre-seed funding, while over R15 million in seed funding has also been raised for spin-out companies such as Phagoflux, BioCode, the Stellenbosch Nanofiber Company (SNC), Immobazyme, GreenX and FluoroBiotech.

### Translational Fellow Programme (TFP)

The TFP is progressing well. The programme empowers recent graduates to become entrepreneurs while translating their research outputs into innovative new businesses. The call for applications for 2023 closed on 21 October.

### Instant Startup

Innovus is developing an online toolkit to assist start-ups with the complex process of turning their ideas into businesses. The toolkit, called Instant Startup, offers entrepreneurs access to templates and guidelines to help them start and manage their businesses. At the time of reporting, the first phase Instant Startup was being prepared for roll-out in November.

## THEME 2: A TRANSFORMATIVE STUDENT EXPERIENCE

[Vision 2040 and Strategic Framework 2019–2024](#) states the following in relation to this theme:

“[W]e want to ensure that SU is accessible to qualifying students from all backgrounds, including to students who face barriers to participation in university education. We regard it as a journey – from our first contact with prospective students until they graduate and embrace the role of alumni.”

Delivering a transformative student experience also entails “the provision of opportunities for growth to all undergraduate and postgraduate students, including guidance, support and services from SU to enable their success”.

### 2.1 Student recruitment activities

As shown by Information Governance’s undergraduate recruitment survey (*see highlights report*), even though prospective students may have received a study offer from the University, a number of factors influence their final decision whether or not to enrol. For this reason, our undergraduate recruitment activities in the second semester have focused primarily on converting study offers into actual enrolment.

The key component of our annual ‘conversion campaign’ is the **Maties 101** online initiative, which allows faculties to showcase their expertise and offer insight into their study programmes. This year’s Maties 101 took place from 3 to 8 October. More than 10 000 prospective students with acceptance status were invited to follow the [series of pre-recorded videos](#) and participate in ten question-and-answer sessions.

The student recruitment team also collaborated with faculties and student support entities to

present a **series of webinars** for prospective students in the last week of October. These focused on topics such as time management, study skills, stress management, Maths anxiety, advice to parents, and tips on transitioning from high school to university.

Another strong focus in the second semester has been **school engagement** in the Northern and Eastern Cape provinces. These activities ranged from in-person and online school visits to participation in the career exhibitions of the Cape Career Exhibition Association as well as presentations at parent and teacher information sessions. Promotional videos and electronic publications were made available to schools in provinces we could not reach otherwise.

Furthermore, SU participated in the 20<sup>th</sup> [Sasol Techno X online career exhibition](#). Learners and teachers from across the country were exposed to a wide range of disciplines and career choices in the fields of science, engineering, technology and maths (STEM) as well as the arts. Five SU faculties (AgriSciences, Science, Engineering, Economic and Management Sciences, and Medicine and Health Sciences) took part.

## 2.2 SKEMA second-semester intake

Due to different academic calendars, this year’s second-semester SKEMA Business School cohort started their classes at SU in mid-September. Their programme will be running until early December. The group of 189 students are attending more than 30 courses presented by lecturers from our faculties of Economic and Management Sciences, Arts and Social Sciences, and the Stellenbosch Business School.

The SKEMA students form part of a steady stream of incoming semester students we host every year. As indicated below, the number of semester students returning to in-person teaching after Covid-19 has recovered, and the cohort continues to grow.

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Total incoming semester students by year	552	499	246	661	781

## 2.3 International Food Evening

After a Covid-induced absence of more than two years, the International Food Evening returned to the University’s social calendar on 22 September (*pictured below*). The event, which SU International normally hosts every semester, allows international students to share traditional cuisine from their respective countries and cultures with local SU students. This year, there were 22 tables, and Vietnam, Nigeria and South Africa were crowned the winners of the evening.



## 2.4 International Conference of Undergraduate Research

The International Conference of Undergraduate Research (ICUR), a hybrid event that allows undergraduates to present their research, took place on 28 and 29 September. The ICUR is supported by a global network of universities, including SU, and the host institutions were the University of Warwick (United Kingdom) and Monash University (Australia).

Seventeen students or student groups from SU took part. They represented the departments of Human Nutrition, Medical Microbiology, Physiotherapy, Clinical Anatomy, Family Medicine, Biochemistry, Pathology, Speech-Language and Hearing Therapy, and Sport Science.

## 2.5 Postgraduate Office

### Improving doctoral qualifications

In February, the Council on Higher Education (CHE) notified us that the Higher Education Quality Council had approved our [improvement plan](#) in response to the findings of the national review of doctoral qualifications. The CHE's [Doctoral Degrees National Report](#) was also launched shortly thereafter.

Since then, the Postgraduate Office in the Division of Research Development has been leading SU's institutional self-improvement effort in relation to our doctoral qualifications. Priority areas are institutional regulations or guidelines for doctoral supervisors, formal training for novice supervisors, the expansion of science communication training, and regulatory revisions. Our first bi-annual [progress report](#) was submitted to the CHE on 7 October.

### Developing science communication skills

A primary focus of the Postgraduate Office's skills development programme for the second semester has been the further development of science communication resources and our postgraduates' public speaking skills. The FameLab competition – a contest to find and support the country's most talented new science communicators – is one way of achieving this.

The following three SU graduates were among the top ten national finalists in this year's competition:

- [Tarryn Surajpal](#) is an Applied Mathematics master's candidate in our Faculty of Science. She uses computational fluid dynamics (CFD) models to simulate discharges into the ocean in order to help explain what the effluent from desalination plants does to marine life.
- [Tanya van Aswegen](#), a Psychiatry PhD candidate in the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, is exploring children's early relationship experiences and how these influence brain, social and emotional development into adulthood.
- [Ewura-Esi Manful](#) is a Molecular Biology master's candidate, also from Medicine and Health Sciences. Through her research on drug resistance to infectious diseases, she wants to bring hope to drug-resistant tuberculosis patients.



Source: Jive Media Africa

## **2.6 Internet of Things (IoT) workshop**

An IoT workshop was hosted in SU Library's Makerspace in late September. Open to all researchers at SU, the workshop attracted participants from disciplines and units across the University. They were introduced to the concept of IoT as well as the basics of programming in the Arduino environment for research purposes.

The instructor was Dr Kim Martin, leader of the Research Software Engineering Group at SU (RSE@SUN). Event sponsors were SU's Chair of IoT, the Software Sustainability Institute (United Kingdom), the Society of Research Software Engineering (United Kingdom), and the South African National Institute for Theoretical and Computational Sciences.

## **2.7 Short courses**

The post-pandemic recovery in our short-course environment continues. By mid-October, 440 short courses had been registered and approved for presentation this year, including 83 Stellenbosch Business School-Executive Development registrations. This represents a 19% increase compared to 2021. Registered participants have also increased by 23%. In addition, there is a clear shift back to in-person short-course presentation.

## **2.8 Producing engaged citizens**

Having successfully completed the Advancing Engaged Citizenship short course, 42 social impact student leaders will receive co-curricular recognition on their academic transcripts for 2022. Training of a new cohort already commenced on 5 September on both Stellenbosch and Tygerberg campus.

In addition, at an awards evening on 28 September, the SU Rector and the mayor of Stellenbosch presented certificates to the 12 e'Bosch community leaders who had also completed the course.

Advancing Engaged Citizenship equips participants with practice-based volunteering experience and the ability to respond to real-life challenges in society.

## **2.9 Integrating Matie Community Service (MGD) with Division of Social Impact**

MGD's activities have always been a major component of social impact at SU. Integrating this function with the Division of Social Impact ensures MGD's financial and operational stability and strengthens its community work. MGD has embarked on a communication campaign to inform stakeholders of the integration process and its impact and benefits.

## **2.10 Longitudinal access to SUNLearn material**

The Centre for Learning Technologies, Innovus and IT have been made aware of a need for longitudinal access to SUNLearn modules for students, particularly in Medicine and Health Sciences' MBChB programme. This will enable students to access materials from previous years of study up to and including their final year in a programme.

In response to this request, we will start by assessing the scale of the need. Based on this, we will determine whether Innovus should initiate talks with DALRO to renegotiate the access clause of our blanket licence agreement. The cost implication to SU also needs to be considered. Should longitudinal access be implemented, this will also require changes to the University's data architecture, record management and academic policies.

## **2.11 Camp 2030**

In response to a call by MGD and the Division of Social Impact for residential students to apply for Camp 2030, two SU students eventually attended this six-day global event in the heart of New York

in mid-September. A few SU environments collaborated to cover the cost of their attendance, including their registration and visa fees.

Stanley Msiska, a PhD student in Engineering from Concordia senior residence, and Stefani Terblanche, a BA International Studies student from Metanoia residence, joined 250 of the world's top youth leaders at Adirondack National Park. Here they helped develop innovative solutions to the world's biggest challenges, all while building meaningful relationships with fellow changemakers from across the globe. The United Nations' sustainable development goals were a specific focus.

Stanley and his team developed the MAJI app, which helps locate and initiate maintenance on all water system faults. The app can be run on all smartphones and computers and will support reliable water provision in developing countries. MAJI not only ended among the top three innovations of the camp, but the app's inventors will also receive mentorship from financial backers to roll out the invention.

Camp 2030 is an initiative of UNITE 2030, a global movement of young leaders committed to ending poverty, inequality, injustice and climate change by 2030.

## 2.12 Maties Sport

Maties excelled at the recent **University Sports South Africa (USSA) championships**. Teams [took home the gold](#) in the men's rugby, men's hockey, women's hockey, netball, [women's sevens rugby](#) and e-sport divisions.



*Team Maties at the 2022 USSA championships*

Five current Maties student athletes and 12 of our alumni also took part in the **2022 Commonwealth Games** in Birmingham, United Kingdom. They represented South Africa, Zambia, the Seychelles and Scotland.

Another five Maties athletes competed at this year's **Confederation of University and College Sports Associations (CUCSA) Games** in Malawi and scooped five medals.

In August, Maties Sport's Recreation and Lifestyle Unit (RALU) held a **Matie Bike Day**. The event, the first of its kind, collected sanitary products to donate to female students in need. And in September, RALU collaborated with the Western Cape Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport to host a **day of indigenous games**, which aptly coincided with International Day of University Sport (20 September).

A new **Pro Events and Maties Football partnership** includes a donation for high-performance sport bursaries as well as a sponsorship to support SU's football programme. The focus will be on campus, league and USSA football championships.

In terms of social impact, both the Women's Football and Netball clubs were involved in [community projects](#).

## 2.13 Annual SU Hackathon

This year's SU Hackathon, hosted in September, was a highly successful collaboration between Innovus, Capitec Bank, Entersekt, Von Seidels and Z-Park.

Comprising financial technology ('fintech') and data science challenges, the event bridges the gap between academia and the data science and software engineering industries by providing students with the opportunity to help solve business challenges. In addition to fostering an entrepreneurial spirit on campus, the event also offers valuable learning opportunities for students, augments classroom teaching and enhances the overall student experience.

The fintech challenge attracted 29 participants, while 45 students entered the data science challenge.

## 2.14 Entrepreneurship bootcamp

Strengthening the entrepreneurial culture on campus is crucial to establish the greater Stellenbosch area as an innovative knowledge region. Among others, entrepreneurial awareness across SU is enhanced by Innovus's annual entrepreneurship bootcamp for students. This year's bootcamp on 5 and 6 September attracted 54 students from the faculties of Engineering, Science, AgriSciences, Arts and Social Sciences, Economic and Management Sciences, Law, and Medicine and Health Sciences.

## THEME 3: PURPOSEFUL PARTNERSHIPS AND INCLUSIVE NETWORKS

This theme is described as follows in [Vision 2040 and Strategic Framework 2019–2024](#): "As part of our mission, we at SU have declared our willingness to influence and change the world around us through collaboration, as well as to be responsive and embrace change ourselves. Central to the mission is the notion that what happens in the world shapes our research, teaching and learning as well as our engagement and that what happens at our university matters to the world. As a university, we are committed to South Africa and Africa. At the same time, we are intensely aware of our role in and relation to the international arena. In order to inspire and be inspired, SU **will engage and collaborate with stakeholders, the communities we serve, industry, government and our university partners at a local, regional, continental and global level. Our collaboration and engagement approach are congruent with our values, with specific reference to respect, compassion and equity.**"

### 3.1 AUDA-NEPAD SANWATCE

The AUDA-NEPAD Southern African Network of Water Centres of Excellence (SANWATCE) participated in the annual WaterNet/WARFSA/GWP-SA symposium at Sun City from 19 to 21 October. The network secretariat, which is housed in SU International's Centre for Collaboration in Africa, organised two special sessions as part of the symposium.

The first centred on the **Southern African Development Community (SADC) Water Research Agenda**, which was first introduced in 2015 to commit the region to building research capacity and applying research results in water resource planning and management. The SANWATCE session offered an opportunity to discuss the review and update of the agenda to remain responsive to the needs of the regional water sector.

The second session focused on advancing the **Water Security in Africa (WASA) programme**, which the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research launched in 2021. Various stakeholders from the Southern African region participated.

### 3.2 African Research Universities Alliance (ARUA)

SU remains an active stakeholder in ARUA. Among others, we took part in the **ARUA deputy vice-chancellors' meeting** on 20 and 21 September in Accra, Ghana. Dr Nico Elema from the Centre for Collaboration in Africa attended on behalf of Prof Sibusiso Moyo, our DVC: Research, Innovation and Postgraduate Studies. The agenda included topics such as data management benchmarking visits by individual universities, ARUA secretary-general Prof Ernest Aryeetey's visits to partner institutions, and feedback on subscription payments.

Participants also discussed:

- the decentralisation strategy to further operationalise ARUA at member institutions, including establishing working groups comprising the deans and registrars of the respective institutions;
- expanding the ARUA centres of excellence by another seven; and
- developing a PhD programme.

A meeting between the vice-chancellors (VCs) of the **Guild of European Research-Intensive Universities** and the ARUA VCs in Cape Town on 2 and 3 November 2022 focused on the thematic clusters of excellence at institutions from both networks.

Coinciding with the Guild/ARUA VCs' meeting, SU hosted a **second ARUA data management workshop**. Altogether 72 participants from across Africa came together to discuss progress, lessons learnt and future collaboration between ARUA partners in the field of research and institutional data management. Prof Ian Cloete from our Division of Information Governance also presented a session.

### 3.3 OBREAL Global Donor Harmonisation Group Forum 2022

At the time of reporting, the Centre for Collaboration in Africa's Dr Nico Elema was also scheduled to serve as a keynote speaker at the OBREAL Global Donor Harmonisation Group Forum in Barcelona, Spain from 23 to 25 November. OBREAL Global is an association that promotes South-South-North collaboration in higher education and research. The objective of the forum is to enhance cooperation among higher education donors, the implementing agencies of capacity development programmes, and resource organisations such as the International Association of Universities, the World Bank, UNESCO and the Association of African Universities.

### 3.4 Social impact opportunity for Campus Health Service

The Campus Health Service (CHS) provided sports medical support at the annual Klapmuts Primary School sevens rugby tournament in September (*pictured below*). This also offered Sports and Exercise Medicine postgraduate students some valuable hands-on field-side experience.



### 3.5 Collaborating in book launch

In a fitting commemoration of World Teachers' Day (5 October), the Division of Social Impact supported the launch of a book by eleven South African teachers-turned-writers, sharing their teaching experiences. Many of the authors hail from Stellenbosch. The launch of *Lifelong Learning*, compiled by Dr Eleanor Damon, was hosted at the Old Lückhoff school building. Our DVC: Social



Impact, Transformation and Personnel contributed to the printing costs, and the Division of Social Impact assisted with the logistics of the launch.

### 3.6 Damage to Danie Craven stadium

On 28 August, during the MTN semi-final soccer match between Stellenbosch Football Club and Kaizer Chiefs at the Danie Craven stadium, ticketless spectators overwhelmed 270 safety and security personnel, and R109 000's worth of damage was done to the stadium. The Premier Soccer League (PSL) imposed a hefty fine on Kaizer Chiefs and has already paid over the total cost of the damages. Our Events Risk Management Office held an internal review to note the lessons learned from this event. In future, Maties Sport will have additional precautionary measures in place to prevent a recurrence.

### 3.7 Letting Office

New tenants have been secured for most of the premises in the Neelsie student centre that became vacant as a result of the pandemic. Overall, tenant turnover figures indicate a return to at least pre-Covid-19 trading levels.

With SU's policy on longer-term rental finally approved and adopted, all leases previously administered by Facilities Management have now been transferred to the Letting Office. This allows all longer-term lease agreements to be managed by a single structure, in line with the provisions of the policy. At the same time, the implementation of the policy has seen the Central Events and Conferencing Office take over the operational management of visitor accommodation (Crozierhof and Waldenhof), holiday and group accommodation in our student residences, film shoots on SU property as well as the letting of venues (Rooplein and the Vrouevereniging hall in the Neelsie).

### 3.8 Trademark partnerships

SU has entered into a partnership with HyperionDev, one of South Africa's largest training institutions that specialises in online coding bootcamps. The aim is to present co-branded bootcamps for entry-level web development, data science and software engineering roles.

In addition, leather shoe manufacturer Veldskoen Shoes is producing a maroon-soled Maties x Veldskoen as well as Matie-branded flip-flops, and has agreed to donate 5% of all sales to the Bridge the Gap fund of our Development and Alumni Relations Division. Bridge the Gap aims to provide food security and financial aid to SU students in need.

## THEME 4: NETWORKED AND COLLABORATIVE TEACHING AND LEARNING

According to [Vision 2040 and Strategic Framework 2019–2024](#), this theme entails the following: "SU is embarking on a journey of **networked and collaborative teaching and learning** through the creation of learning communities where students, staff and alumni can experience meaningful learning. The University promotes a learning-centred approach to teaching that focuses on learning as a partnership, where students are seen as co-creators of knowledge and learning environments. Within a learning-centred approach, teaching activities facilitate knowledge-building and actively engage students in their own learning.

"In addition, the University has a holistic understanding of teaching and learning, which includes both individual and social benefits. SU's teaching practices are deeply embedded in, shaped by and responsive to the contexts in which they take place. These approaches shape the University as a learning organisation, enabling the emergence of learning communities among students, staff and alumni in various configurations. Networked and collaborative learning create an environment that encourages intellectual inquisitiveness, being an essential skill for sustained critical and creative thinking."

## 4.1 Training by Periperi U

The secretariat of the Periperi U disaster risk reduction network, located in SU International's Centre for Collaboration in Africa, recently launched a series of short courses on climate and disaster risk finance in partnership with the United Nations Development Programme.

The four-day training sessions equip senior government officials from across the continent with a working knowledge of the basic concepts, methodologies and instruments of climate and disaster risk finance. Content is presented by partners in the Periperi U network as well as guest speakers from the World Bank and the United Nations.

Three online sessions were presented between September and November, and an in-person workshop is scheduled to be hosted at SU in February 2023.

## 4.2 Stellenbosch International Academic Network (SIAN) reconnects

SU International's annual SIAN meetings offer our international partners an opportunity to engage with us and discuss topical issues in the field of internationalisation.

Since 2020, the meetings have been hosted online. The 2022 edition hosted on 12 and 13 October was a 'lighter' version, consisting of only a morning and afternoon session, and attracted 27 international participants. The programme focused mostly on initiatives started since the pandemic, such as the new SU-Japan Centre (*see below*) and the SDG/2063 Impact Hub. A strong focus was also placed on how to deal with the new normal of internationalisation post-Covid.

## 4.3 SU-Japan Centre

Since its launch in August, the SU-Japan Centre (SUJC) has held several engagement sessions.

For instance, the SUJC hosted Dr Chihiro Kumashiro from the Tokyo University of Foreign Studies (TUFS), who delivered a **presentation on Japan's Innovative Africa Programme (IAfP)**. The IAfP advances educational networking to support Africa's pursuit of the global sustainable development goals. Dr Kumashiro also engaged with SU students about potential exchange opportunities with TUFS and met with representatives of the faculties of Law as well as Arts and Social Sciences.



*From left: Mr Thami Mahlobo (SU International), Prof Vasti Roodt (Arts and Social Sciences), Dr Chihiro Kumashiro (Tokyo University of Foreign Studies), Prof Scarlett Cornelissen (SUJC director), Prof Lindy Heinecken (Arts and Social Sciences) and Ms Sarah van der Westhuizen (SU International).*

On 24 September, the SUJC also formed part of the **festivities of Japan Day**, which the Japanese consul in Cape Town hosted at Jan van Riebeeck High School. The Centre had an information booth to create awareness of its activities and provided transport for SU students to attend.

Finally, the SUJC hosted an **information session on the Japan Exchange and Teaching Programme (JET)** towards the end of September. This Japanese government-funded programme, which is specifically aimed at university graduates, gives South Africans the opportunity to spend at least a year as assistant language teachers in schools in Japan. Japanese consul Jiro Nishimura and JET alumni presented the briefing, and 50 SU students from different faculties attended.

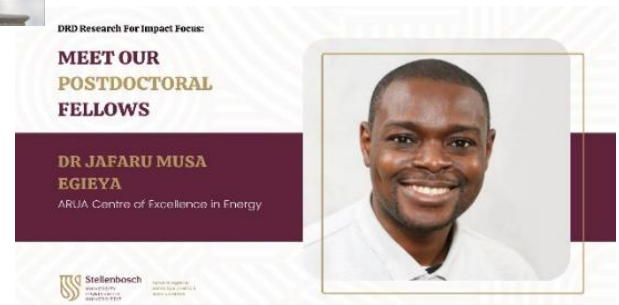
## THEME 5: RESEARCH FOR IMPACT

According to [Vision 2040 and Strategic Framework 2019–2024](#), “[r]esearch for impact at SU implies **optimising the scientific, economic, social, scholarly and cultural impact of our research**. Our focus is on interdisciplinary research that benefits society on a national, continental and global scale. At the same time, we are committed to basic and disciplinary research excellence, as it forms the basis for applied and translational research”.

### 5.1 Postdoctoral research fellows



In September, we celebrated the achievements of our top 20 [postdoctoral research fellows](#).



From September to October, interviews with postdoctoral fellows were also published on a [dedicated website](#) and shared on the University’s Facebook page and the Research@SU Twitter account.

SU is host to over 350 postdoctoral research fellows, who are distributed across all faculties, but with the majority in Science, Medicine and Health Sciences, Arts and Social Sciences, AgriSciences, and Engineering. Moving beyond 2022, we plan to double our pool of postdoctoral fellows over the next five years.

### 5.2 Research Development capacity-building workshops and information sessions

The latest research **capacity-building sessions** hosted by the Division of Research Development (DRD) as part of its annual workshop series are:

- “Using social media to increase your research visibility” by Rene van der Berg on 20 October;

- a research indaba hosted in collaboration with the DVC: Research, Innovation and Postgraduate Studies on 26 October; and
- a postgraduate supervision series by Prof Chrissie Boughey from 1 to 29 November.

The DRD's annual **information sessions**, in turn, serve to inform both early-career and established researchers about the support that the Division provides. The [online sessions this year](#) have again been well received.

### 5.3 Stellenbosch Forum lecture series

Launched in 1990, the annual Stellenbosch Forum lecture series hosted by the DRD provides regular opportunities for SU staff and students as well as members of the public to learn about the world-class research conducted at the University. The lectures are presented in an accessible and understandable way to offer both academics and non-academics a platform for critical debate across disciplinary boundaries.

All lectures centre on how research can be harnessed to find possible solutions in the context of rapid change in terms of natural resources, health, education, history and economies. The following lectures took place in the reporting period:

Presenter	Date	Department	Topic	Recording
Prof Keymanthri Moodley	18 Aug	Medicine	Digitisation of health care: Adapting to change	<a href="#">Watch here</a>
Prof Bob Mash	15 Sep	Family and Emergency Medicine	Climate change: The greatest global health threat of the 21st century	<a href="#">Watch here</a>
Prof Sandra Swart	29 Sep	History	Zombie Zoology: The end of extinction?	<a href="#">Watch here</a>
Prof Mark Smith	7 Oct	Stellenbosch Business School	A four-day week: Time to work smarter?	<a href="#">Watch here</a>

### 5.4 Research ethics and integrity

The Social, Behavioural and Education Research Ethics Committee (REC: SBE) has noted with concern an increase in research ethics non-compliance among postgraduate students.

This year, the REC: SBE has dealt with six cases where researchers either proceeded with recruitment and data collection without confirmation of ethics approval, or deviated from specific conditions or regulatory requirements for their studies without notifying the REC. In two of these cases, the students' theses were placed under embargo.

The REC: SBE will bring this concern to the attention of the Senate REC. In the meantime, deans are urged to encourage all postgraduates to familiarise themselves with the ethics approval process and requirements by speaking to their supervisors and departmental coordinators.

### 5.5 International Open Access Week

International Open Access Week is celebrated in October each year to promote the practice of openly sharing published research. This year's event focused on climate change and climate justice. The SU Library hosted speakers from across the SU community in three hybrid sessions that addressed climate diversity (26 October), climate studies and global leadership (27 October) and climate sustainability and open access activism (28 October) respectively. The target audience was postgraduate students and researchers.

## THEME 6: EMPLOYER OF CHOICE

[Vision 2040 and Strategic Framework 2019–2024](#) describes our people as our first “enabler” and one of the elements “that make everything possible”, and then states: “In support of SU’s vision, mission, values and aspirations, it is imperative to support the health and well-being of our people. In SU’s pursuit to be the **employer of choice**, we envisage an enabling environment that includes the principles of co-creation, co-ownership and appropriate participation, and embodies the characteristics of inclusive campus culture.”

### 6.1 Trilateral PASS staff development programme

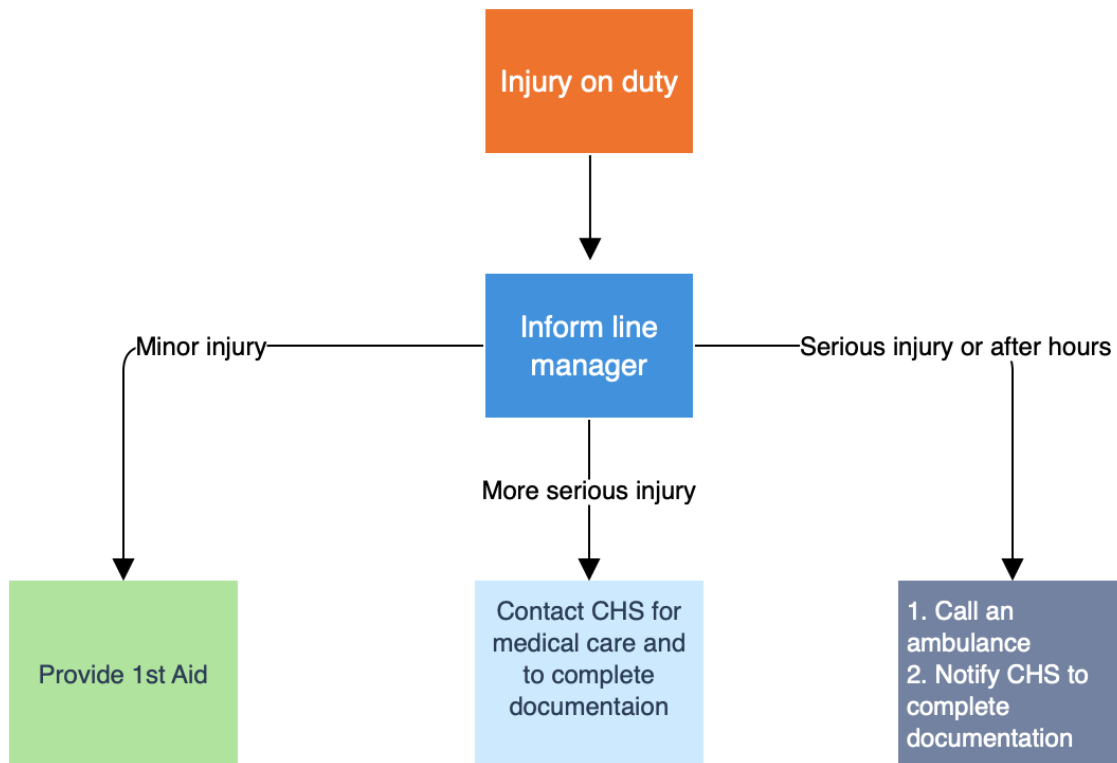
From 4 to 7 October, SU International and Human Resources hosted the very first edition of a unique trilateral staff development programme specifically aimed at the professional administrative support services (PASS) staff of SU, the University of Hamburg (Germany) and Northwestern University (United States).

Five staff members from Hamburg, four from Northwestern and nine from SU took part (*pictured below*). Themed “Inclusive international competences”, the programme emphasised PASS staff’s potential to be impactful internationalisation practitioners in their respective environments. The next iterations of the programme will be hosted at Northwestern (2023) and Hamburg (2024).



### 6.2 Injury on duty

The CHS Occupational Medicine team has noted some misunderstanding among staff as to the correct procedure for reporting an injury on duty (IOD), especially following a traumatic incident. Incorrect reporting jeopardises the effective management of affected employees. The figure below illustrates the process to be followed, of which the critical first step is to report an IOD directly to the line manager. CHS conveyed this information to line managers in October.



### 6.3 Organisational wellbeing activities

In collaboration with financial wellness company Money Messages, the Employee Wellness Office marked Women’s Month by presenting a webinar on smart financial management for our female staff. In addition, the University launched a financial wellness service aimed at farmworkers and technical personnel at the Mariendahl and Welgevallen experimental farms, this time partnering with Life Health. Staff will benefit from face-to-face and individual coaching by a professional financial advisor.

In terms of physical wellness activities, our SU staff soccer squad participated in the USSA Staff Sports Association tournament from 29 September to 2 October, with Rhodes University as the host.

### 6.4 Senior appointments

The process for the reappointment of the Chief Operating Officer is nearing completion, and the outcome will be communicated shortly.

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

## OP-EDS AND COLUMNS (3 August to 19 October 2022)

### Opinion editorials

AUTHOR	FROM (environment or division)	HEADLINE	PUBLICATION (click for article)
Prof Sascha-Dominik Bachmann Dr Dries Putter	University of Canberra Security Institute for Governance and Leadership in Africa	South Africa needs stronger security in place to stop the sabotage of its power supply	<a href="#">The Conversation</a> (3 Aug)
Prof Amanda Gouws	Political Science	Rape is endemic in South Africa. Why the ANC government keeps missing the mark	<a href="#">The Conversation</a> (4 Aug)
Dr Leslie van Rooi	Social Impact and Transformation	Networks can be powerful agents of change, not 'Wolf of Wall Street' profit-making power bases	<a href="#">Daily Maverick</a> (4 Aug)
Dr Yogan Pillay	Public Health and Health Systems	Aids 2022 – Urgent need to engage communities and youngsters as part of HIV response	<a href="#">Daily Maverick</a> (5 Aug)
Dr Clara Wepener Prof Cas Wepener	University of Pretoria Practical Theology and Missiology	Daar is ook goeie nuus oor kerke	<a href="#">Die Burger</a> (6 Aug)
Prof Amanda Gouws	Political Science	Women's Day 2022: Just another day on the island of Lord of the Flies	<a href="#">Daily Maverick</a> (7 Aug)
Dr Justin Pearce	History	Angola's Eduardo dos Santos: an unlikely leader known for his 'judicious' use of violence	<a href="#">The Conversation</a> (8 Aug)
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Drs Karen Garner & Chantelle van Staden	Electrical and Electronic Engineering	Women bright sparks needed in electrical and electronic engineering	<a href="#">Mail &amp; Guardian</a> (8 Aug)
Prof Juliana Claassens	Old and New Testament	Women's day: Time for leisure is not a luxury. It's a basic human right	<a href="#">News24</a> (9 Aug)
Prof Louise du Toit	Philosophy	Aktiviste wat mobiliseer wys vroue is méér as net slagoffers	<a href="#">Netwerk24</a> (9 Aug)
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Frederik van Dyk	Master's student (Law)	Gedeelde toekoms vir Afrikaans moet weet van sy wortels	<a href="#">Netwerk24</a> (12 Aug)

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Dr Justin Pearce	History	Angola's 2022 election: an unfair contest the ruling MPLA is sure to win	<a href="#">The Conversation</a> (17 Aug)
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Prof Jason Bantjes  Dr Kerry-Ann Louw	South African Medical Research Council/Institute for Life Course Health Research  Psychiatry	New study helps us to understand perinatal suicide in South Africa	<a href="#">Daily Maverick</a> (22 Aug)
Prof Louise du Toit	Philosophy	Sexual violence in South Africa: where are the male victims?	<a href="#">The Conversation</a> (23 Aug)
Dr Michelle Botha	Centre for Disability and Rehabilitation Studies	Casual Day raises questions about the visibility and belonging of disabled South Africans	<a href="#">Mail &amp; Guardian</a> (1 Sep)
Bongani Mapumulo	Registrar's Division	Social and redistributive justice for persons with disabilities	<a href="#">Cape Times</a> (2 Sep)
Dr Callista Kahonde	Centre for Disability and Rehabilitation Studies	Invisible but crucial: Role of caregivers in lives of persons with intellectual disabilities	<a href="#">News24</a> (2 Sep)
Prof Thuli Madonsela	Social Justice	Pageants can be a gateway to opportunity	<a href="#">City Press</a> (4 Sep)
Dr Keanu Martin	Botany and Zoology	Blueberries and their pollinators aren't native to South Africa but local honey bees can help	<a href="#">The Conversation</a> (6 Sep)
Gideon Basson & Prof Sandra Liebenberg	Public Law	Respected constitutional lawyers speak out – 'human right to healthcare transcends national borders'	<a href="#">Daily Maverick</a> (8 Sep)
Prof Lizette Rabe	Journalism	Trump the malignant sadness	<a href="#">News24</a> (8 Sep)



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Dr Charles MacRobert	Civil Engineering	Burst mining dam in South Africa: what must be done to prevent another disaster	<a href="#">The Conversation</a> (14 Sep)
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Prof Thuli Madonsela	Social Justice	How do we launch youth from springboard of hope?	<a href="#">City Press</a> (18 Sep)
Wandile Sihlobo	Agricultural Business Chamber/ Agricultural Economics	South Africa's farm exports are an economic lifeline – with weak spots	<a href="#">The Conversation</a> (19 Sep)
Obaa Akua Konadu-Osei	PhD student (Business Management & Administration)	African ubuntu can deepen how research is done	<a href="#">The Conversation</a> (20 Sep)
Prof Francois Vreÿ	Security Institute for Governance and Leadership in Africa	South Africa is surrounded by sea but doesn't have a plan to protect it: three steps to get one	<a href="#">The Conversation</a> (20 Sep)
Prof Nico Koopman	Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Social Impact, Transformation and Personnel	Heritage Day: A reminder of the communal promise to work towards an equality for all country	<a href="#">Mail &amp; Guardian</a> (20 Sep)
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Dr Jessica Ronaasen	Social Work	Business mentoring and support in South Africa: how principals can improve early childhood development centres	<a href="#">The Conversation</a> (25 Sep)
Prof Vasti Roodt	Philosophy	Onus rus op elkeen om mekaar te help	<a href="#">Rapport</a> (25 Sep)
Prof Bob Mash	Family and Emergency Medicine	Family physicians can do a lot to save SA's ailing public health system	<a href="#">Daily Maverick</a> (25 Sep)
Dr Lize Barclay	Stellenbosch Business School	Greener, smarter and safer tourism for a better future for all	<a href="#">Business Live</a> (26 Sep)
Jaco Louw	PhD student (Philosophy)	Wat is die nut van filosofiese berading?	<a href="#">Netwerk24</a> (27 Sep)

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Prof Michael le Cordeur	Curriculum Studies	Proposed new basic education act has potential to eradicate schooling inequalities	<a href="#">Daily Maverick</a> (4 Oct)
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Florence de Vries	Marketing and Communications (Medicine and Health Sciences)	Get wise to the words – it's time to mind our language around those living with mental illness	<a href="#">Daily Maverick</a> (5 Oct)
Cornelia Malherbe Corne Schutte Johan Nel	Research Development Industrial Engineering SASOL	How to tackle research agreements with industry partners	<a href="#">University World News</a> (6 Oct)
Prof Vasti Roodt	Philosophy	Vrede is net die moeite werd as jy ook vry is	<a href="#">Rapport</a> (9 Oct)
Dr Bronwyne Coetzee Dr Maria Loades	Psychology University of Bath	Where do we begin in making mental health and wellbeing a global priority for all?	<a href="#">News24</a> (10 Oct)
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Prof Soraya Seedat	Psychiatry	Mental disorders continue to be widespread, under-treated and under-resourced	<a href="#">Daily Maverick</a> (10 Oct)
Sumaya Hendricks Qhamani Neza Tshazi	Nelson Mandela Foundation PhD student (Urban and Regional Planning)	Early childhood development centres' battle for formalisation hurts the poor	<a href="#">Mail &amp; Guardian</a> (12 Oct)
Irene Labuschagne	Human Nutrition	Mothers and caregivers need nutrition education to protect children in food-insecure environment	<a href="#">Mail &amp; Guardian</a> (13 Oct)
Prof Aslam Fataar	Education Policy Studies/ Transformation Office	Can SA universities be incubators of 'societal good'?	<a href="#">University World News</a> (13 Oct)
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Henk Stander	Aquaculture Unit/Water Institute	'Waterboerdery' kan só help	<a href="#">Die Burger</a> (15 Oct)

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Prof Bob Mash	Family and Emergency Medicine	The climate crisis is also a healthcare crisis and we must start preparing ourselves now	<a href="#">Daily Maverick</a> (17 Oct)
Frederik van Dyk	Master's student (Law)	'Wanneer inklusiwiteit Engels laat oorheers'	<a href="#">Netwerk24</a> (19 Oct)
Prof Lizette Rabe	Journalism	Joernalis as beskuldigde wek erge kommer	<a href="#">Netwerk24</a> (19 Oct)
Prof Amanda Gouws	Political Science	Murder of Johannesburg sex workers shows why South Africa must urgently decriminalise the trade	<a href="#">The Conversation</a> (19 Oct)

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		Eenvoud is te vinde binne kompleksiteit	<a href="#">Die Burger</a> (31 Aug)
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Prof Michael le Cordeur	Curriculum Studies	Moenie skolesport se waarde vir kinders se ontwikkeling onderskat	<a href="#">Netwerk24</a> (4 Aug)
Prof Anton van Niekerk	Philosophy	12 vakansiedae is 'n slegte idee	<a href="#">Netwerk24</a> (16 Aug)
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Dr Leslie van Rooi	Senior Director: Social Impact and Transformation	Kan Afrika veranderings in wêreldorde benut?	<a href="#">Netwerk24</a> (10 Aug)
		Selfdood: As rouheid van dood deel word van koshuis-gemeenskap	<a href="#">Netwerk24</a> (5 Sep)
		Om Anton Lubowski te onthou	<a href="#">Netwerk24</a> (8 Oct)