



GRADUATION CEREMONY

Faculty of Commerce (Ceremony 1)
Faculty of Science

SARAH BAARTMAN HALL

10:00 – 15 December 2023

FACULTIES OF COMMERCE (CEREMONY 1) AND SCIENCE

ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS

Academic Procession.

(The congregation is requested to stand as the procession enters the hall)

The Presiding Officer will constitute the congregation.

The National Anthem.

Welcome by the Master of Ceremonies.

Musical Item.

The graduands and diplomates will be presented to the Presiding Officer by the Deans of the faculties.

The Presiding Officer will congratulate the new graduates and diplomates.

The Master of Ceremonies will make closing announcements and invite the congregation to stand.

The Presiding Officer will dissolve the congregation.

The procession, including the new graduates and diplomates, will leave the hall.

(The congregation is requested to remain standing until the procession has left the hall.)

NATIONAL ANTHEM

Nkosi sikelel' iAfrika
Maluphakanyisw' uphondolwayo,
Yizwa imithandazo yethu,
Nkosi sikelela, thina lusapho lwayo.

Morena boloka etjhaba sa heso,
O fedise dintwa la matshwenyeho,
O se boloke,
O se boloke setjhaba sa heso,
Setjhaba sa South Afrika – South Afrika.

Uit die blou van onse hemel,
Uit die diepte van ons see,
Oor ons ewige gebergtes,
Waar die kranse antwoord gee,

Sounds the call to come together,
And united we shall stand,
Let us live and strive for freedom,
In South Africa our land.

**NAMES OF
GRADUANDS/DIPLOMATES**

The symbol † indicates that the qualification is awarded posthumously

1. FACULTY OF COMMERCE

Dean: Professor S Goodman

ASSOCIATE IN MANAGEMENT

Olaonipekun Babajide Tokosi

**ADVANCED DIPLOMA
IN BUSINESS PROJECT
MANAGEMENT**

Mubalama Kasiho

**ADVANCED DIPLOMA
IN MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT**

Amanda Ambrosius (with distinction)
Badirwang Johannes Baard
Natasha Elizabeth Campbell
Mamodiehi Suzan Chabedi
Victoria Puledi Chopape
Neel Kamal Dhanesar (with distinction)
Obed Kabelo Diphoko
Makhosazana Dube
Patience Gawulekhaya
Joshua Antonio Goliath
Killandran Govender
Kubendran Govender
Timothy Neil Govender (with distinction)
Thabani Gumbi
Neliswa Fortunate Gumedede
Amith Jagganath
Lesiba Collen Kekana (with distinction)
Neo Olga Kekana
Joe Kgaladi (with distinction)
Andile Patricia Khanyile
Elander Muriel Khoza
Wayne Lawrence
Lynn Mavis Le Roux
Marcia Mampaka Letlhake
Marcus Alistor Louw (with distinction)
Pamella Madikane
Kholofelo Makgokolo Magomarele
Matome Richard Makoro
Sinah Masebko Malomane
Lucas Mangena

Selebogo Olivia Mantjana (with distinction)
Atlegang Phillip Manyama
Mkatane Harold Maseme
Tlangelani Charlotte Masingi
Tlangelani Maswanganyi (with distinction)
Zamanguni Mayekiso
Mlungisi Wesley Mbanjwa
Ernest Moosa Mc Kenzie
Devanand Meghraj
Lebogang Clive Meletse (with distinction)
Bret Menelaus Michaleto (with distinction)
Nomthandazo Mfumakazi Mkwane
Lungelo Lennox Mnyombolo
Raboleta Collins Modika (with distinction)
Mmamello Lee-Ann Modutwane (with distinction)
Marcus Obakeng Moeng (with distinction)
Neo Mokhasi (with distinction)
Tebogo Debra Molete
Ephraim Raymond Mosia
Jeremiah Mpho Motau
Noko Nicodimus Motsifane
Khodani Mpfuni
Kwapa Macdonald Mphela
Nomsa Kate Mpinda (with distinction)
Mandla Cyprian Msimango
Nompumelelo Msomi (with distinction)
Fhumulani Steven Muthivhi
Mogambal Naicker
Lucky Nhlanhla Ndhlovu
Leslie Bongani Ndlovu
Nomandla Lynette Ningiza (with distinction)
Maserame Palema Nkojoa
Khanyisile Goodness Nqubeko Nkosi
Yandiswa Nsele
Lucksmi Parsotam
Tshepo Moses Phadi
Daniel Matolo Phahla (with distinction)
Boitumelo Glenda Phala (with distinction)
Pontsho Judin Phalane
Amelia Mmanko Pule
Velaphi Simon Radebe
Nirupa Ramdeen (with distinction)
Masebutjwe Lettie Ranta (with distinction)
Mamodikwa Clover Raoleka
Matete Olga Rasalanabo (with distinction)
Kirsten Zita Samuels
Annah Peresi Sebatlelo

Brain Kamogelo Sebothoma
Nthabiseng Lynette Semela
Kurt Patrick Septoe
Philile Zimfundiso Cynthia Sikobi
Mncedisi Ronnie Sixhiba
Mohlophehi Abel Sonja
Tembisile Terra Sonkononkono
Magdalena Susanna Strydom (with distinction)
Suping Tau
Sipokazi Teta
Bongi Samantha Tshabalala (with distinction)
Nomhle Sithembile Tshabalala
Skhumbuzo Clarence Tshabalala
Quantella Yolana Van Heerden
Bruce Vena
Reynard Williams
Byron John Wymers (with distinction)
John Michael Zowitsky (with distinction)

**DEGREE OF BACHELOR
OF BUSINESS SCIENCE**

Tariq Dawray
† Gaby Lee Du Toit
Luke Riley Gunst
Lwazi Gwebu
Mametse Moropyane
Sisikelelwe Sikhokhele Nxitywa
Georgina Joyce Roy
Mashila Sekgala
Eugenia Sphumelele Twumasi
Christopher David Andrew
Tyndale-Biscoe
Jana Wasserman

**DEGREE OF BACHELOR
OF BUSINESS SCIENCE IN
ACTUARIAL SCIENCE**

Ismael Bakardien
Zoe Esihle Bantom
Georgia Catherine Rose McDonald
Ammaarah Tarmahomed
Samantha Jade Trinder-Smith

**DEGREE OF BACHELOR
OF COMMERCE**

Ammaar Abrahams
Ojowatule Grace Adache
Sluleko Ndabenhle Biyela
Dylan Christopher Borez
Chanelle Alexia Bruce
Mufaro Albert Chareka

Kopano Grazia Chipwayambokoma Sinikiwe Tamia Chirwa Sara Grace Christie Samiyah Khan Dahal Oyama Didiza Mika'il Dollie Kate Fitzgerald Matthew Robert Frey Corryn Bernelee Fysch Ndumiso Thandolwethu Gina Anthony Ndabezinhle Hadebe Michael Vernon Hooper Donovan Hurt Emma Paige Huxtable Damian Luke Jackelman Luyanda Khuzwayo Ashmi Manojkumar Lautan Ramokone Precious Lehutso Andrew James Neo Lockwood Pascal Lebohanga Mafubedu Mafanedza Maiwashe Lauren Maloy Lehumo Moroantho Botlhale Manaka Manyapye Refilwe Mdluli David Bruce Mills Rhulane Mkhawane Kutlwano Koketso Moagi Kgahliso Mohlakane Yusuf Moosa Kamohelo Motaung Leswene Abraham Mphahlele Amahle Mpungose Siphesihle Zine Msomi Keane Thomas Munsamy Loide Nandjala Musweu Omphahlele Muthivhi Nkululeko Sizwe Ndebele Sanelisiwe Ndlebe Cavin Sbusiso Nkosi Muziwandile Mbongeni Nkosi Fikile Tiragalo Nikiwe Ntshanga Charles Okello Ayai Keagan Anthony Perdikies Maree Petersen Masooda Rahim Bhavin Divyesh Rama Kgalalelo Ramokoka Jarryd Elan Roup James Benedict Rumsey Naa'ilah Safeda Samara Seetal Hluma Sikelwa Ulrika Singh Yashil Soni Sarah Grace Sutherland Phelo Tyhokolo Babalwa Nonela Vabaza Jennifer Michelle Van Niekerk	Tyla Dulcie Van Ryswyck Eleni Vassilia Voutsas Gabriel Edward Walsh Lloyd Lyle Witten Aviel Ephraim Zieff Charmaine Xiluva Zitha	POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN MANAGEMENT IN ENTREPRENEURSHIP Kitongo Tovya Bulundwe Jordan Storm Savic
	DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF COMMERCE IN ACTUARIAL SCIENCE	POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS
	Raeesah Hassan Richard Machivenyika Nureen Mahmood Kirthi Misra Nompumelelo Karabo Mlangeni Naledi Petse Romy Katherine Rushton Isabella Farinha Zagato	Kokeletso Masehela Nomanqabashe Amanda Mashwanyela Onke Msutu
	POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN ACCOUNTING	POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN MANAGEMENT IN MARKETING
	Mohammed Shaheem Abarder Mihle Badela Anovuyo Dlepu Thandolwethu Mahlambi Lubabalo Makhoba Ruvimbo Lisa Mapendere Khanya Mkhize Jediphanise Katlego Monnapula	Ulfah Davids Bohlale Katleho Kekane Hanaan Khan (with distinction)
	POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION	POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN MANAGEMENT IN SPORT MANAGEMENT
Jaco Nieman Dallas		Alexander Andrew Castle
	POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN DEVELOPMENT FINANCE	POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN MANAGEMENT PRACTICE
Henry Mlinde		Mohamed Amod Martha Johanna Magrietha Badenhorst (with distinction) Riaan Petrus Barkhuizen Philiswa Bhengu Michael Graeme Blake Tsholofelo Eugene Bodibe Yanga Booie Renuka Shireen Budhoo Kiviet Cewu Hezekiel Mmarege Chueu Amina Damon Cornelius Johannes Du Plooy Surendree Durgaparsad Luvuyo Easter Festile Mogamad Gierdien Andrea Kim Goodford (with distinction) Kuresha Govender (with distinction) Thandiwe Nothemba Gumede Tasneema Hansen-Barry Tahir Ahmad Hargey Shareef Hartley Attilio Victor Hector Shaheen Hendricks
	POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN MANAGEMENT COMMUNICATION	
Mamusa Nabila Stulweni		

Voroshski Gasto Jansen
 Igtishaam Jardine
 Saamiah Jardine
 Ferhat Jeena (with distinction)
 Anzonia Joseph
 Cheryl Suzanne Kannemeyer
 Joas Uaturisa Kazetjikuria
 Busisiwe Bessie Keke
 Matthew John King
 Kim Langley
 Shadrack Ledwaba
 Mmithane Sarah Lefakane
 Karl Liebenberg
 Alosia Lynch
 Brendin Madaramoothoo
 Ritesh Maharaj
 Phephisile Barbra Mahlalela
 Muhanganei Mahuwa
 Ngcebo Majola
 Khumela William Malapa
 Brendan Craig Marsh
 Thembinkosi Wiseman Masinga
 Kagisho David Masitha
 Aladin Chezlin Matthews
 Tshepo John Maubane
 Leslie Tawanda Mavonyani
 Mina Terry Mdluli
 Vukani Goodenough Memela
 Michael Natangwe Mikka
 Mzimasi Casper Mjulen
 Nasiphi Mkentane
 Simphiwe Stephen Mngadi
 Elizabeth Mampai Mngomezulu
 Tshepiso Mokgojoa
 Ntombikayise Junia Naomi Molemane
 Tumiso Peter Moloto
 Fulufhelo Portia Mosehla
 Mere Simon Antony Motlhaola
 Magdeline Charity Motloung (with distinction)
 William Basimane Mputle
 Vumani Innocent Msimang
 Jemmy Mpadinyana Mtolo
 Stefanus Hausiku Mukuya
 Bridget Mwila Mulopoto
 Tsumbedzo Faith Muyahavho
 Nompumelelo Rejoice Myeza
 Msawakhe William Mzulwini
 Joel Naicker
 Kysten Naidoo (with distinction)
 Theolan Naidoo
 Saifudin Nakhwa (with distinction)
 Merglen Nayagar
 Vutlhari Nicklaus Ndlovhu
 Inga Mihle Ndudula
 Lazarus Mashudu Nemukula
 Inga Ngalonkulu
 Nasthole Anna Ngobese
 William Nissel

Nteang Milton Nkadimeng
 Mercy Veli Nxumalo
 Sarisha Padayachee (with distinction)
 Saloshani Pather (with distinction)
 Poventheran Pillay
 Nicolaas Marthinus Prinsloo (with distinction)
 Ngazibini Qongqo
 Sbhongile Synthia Qwabe
 Abraham Hendrik Rademeyer
 Mbavhalelo Mulalo Raedani (with distinction)
 Yuvthi Ramphal
 Shehnaaz Rawat
 Natasha Yeukai Saungweme
 Rayaana Savahl
 Abednego Kondjela Shinana
 Sherio Thilak Singh
 Ailwei Goodwill Siphali
 Joosub Suliman Soomar
 Judith Southgate (with distinction)
 Richard Alan Stanley
 Clementina Masabata Thai
 Adriaan Petrus Eksteen Van Der Colff (with distinction)
 Lukhanyo Vangqa
 Rene Van Staden (with distinction)
 Ilona Kathlene Van Wyk
 Ntlalontle Xhala
 Nolukanyiso Adelaide Zubula
 Nomangaliso Angel Zulu

2. FACULTY OF SCIENCE

Interim Dean: Professor P Woudt

DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Luke Powell Bowles
 Ande Nsika Dlamini (with distinction in Mathematics)
 Amirah Ebrahim
 Kirsten Laura Elliott (with distinction in Astrophysics and Applied Statistics and the degree with distinction)
 Gadi Davi Friedman
 Mogamad Daanyaal Gamielien
 Sophie Louise Gusten
 Anelisiwe Kembele
 Noluthando Nokwanda Kumalo
 Mmakabelo Junicia Lehata
 Palmirah Rebecca Mandlazi
 Reece Canning Mcminn

Israel Mashudu Mohlabe
 Tshilidzi Emmanuel Mphelo
 Linda Palesa Msomi
 Anda Ngqoyiyana
 Jordyn Thomas Nitch
 Tyron Tinashe Nyambe
 Tshiamo Phaahla
 Kauthar Orrie
 Taffi Schippers
 Matthew William Ian Scott
 Membathisi Sikani
 Sihle Sithole
 Skye Rachael Starling
 Luke Andrew Wilson
 Isheanesu Valentine Zvikaramba
 Daniel Stefan Zweigenthal

DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE HONOURS

Qiniso Scelo Cele
 Amanda Thandeka Masilela (in the first class)
 Moses Mlangeni
 Mandlenkosi Evans Mnisi
 Simphiwe Siph Nyawo
 Craig Andrew Stevenson
 Reece Van Der Bank

DEGREE OF MASTER OF PHILOSOPHY

Amos Amanubo (with distinction in the coursework component)
 Cynthia Biddle Baard (with distinction in the coursework component)
 Tiffany Sarah Chalmers (with distinction in the coursework component)
 Tommaso Cosentino (with distinction)
 Amy Lauren Cuff (with distinction in the coursework component)
 Emma Olivia Del Cuore (with distinction in the coursework component)
 Sibel Sabahat Guner (with distinction)
 Mc Guigan Lakay
 Ryan Ezra Le Roux
 Tinashe Kurai Makwande
 Matej Moles
 Rochelle Katlego Mphetlthe
 Brian Douglas Palmer (with distinction)
 Deirdre Marina Prins-Solani (with distinction)
 Bronwin Andrea Rhoda
 Eva Franziska Ross (with distinction)
 Kagiso Tshukudu (with distinction in the coursework component)

DEGREE OF MASTER OF SCIENCE

Shane Gregory Acton (with distinction)
 James Gavin Adam (with distinction)
 Tarryn Aucamp (with distinction)
 Nonhlanhla Baloyi (with distinction)
 Kalia Ruth Barkai (with distinction)
 Jason Michael Barrella
 Taylyn Chiara Bate (with distinction)
 Natasha Amy Besseling
 Giovanna Lara Birkett (with distinction)
 Jibranhussain Abdurrazaq Bohra
 Lucian Enrico Botha
 Michelle Bouwer (with distinction in the coursework component)
 Ruan Brand
 Harold Brindley (with distinction in the coursework component)
 Jaco Brink (with distinction in the coursework component)
 Ameerah Camroodien
 Liam Gareth Emmerich Carew (with distinction in the coursework component)
 Katherine Nicole Carlson (with distinction in the coursework component)
 Zama Siphosabo Cele
 Su Ho Cheong (with distinction)
 Bruce Eric Chrispo
 Zachary Christensen
 Leon Francois Coetzee (with distinction)
 Toshka Lauren Coleman (with distinction)
 Amy Frances Cooper (with distinction)
 Jonathan Da Luz (with distinction)
 Kim Shelley Daniels
 Mohamed Mikhail Davidson
 Cayla De Souza
 Matthew Stuart Dicks (with distinction)
 Realeboga Gratitude Dikole (with distinction)
 Kyllen Dilsook
 Jane Eithne Doherty (with distinction)
 Nothando Millicent Duma
 Daniel Craig Elliott
 Emma Maria Fagan (with distinction in the coursework component)
 Arinze Lawrence Folarin
 Jarryd Daniel Foster (with distinction)
 Bianke Fouche
 Micaela Freeks
 Jonathan Stuart Garrido-Mirapeix
 Arlton Wayne Gilbert (with distinction in the coursework component)
 Shaidan Marc Gonlag
 Brandon Gower-Winter (with distinction)
 Michiel Jacobus Grobler

Scott Michael Hallauer (with distinction in the coursework component)
 Luc Hayward
 Yi-Ting Ho
 Ndelimona Iiping (with distinction)
 Erin Alexandra Jarvie (with distinction)
 Daniel Peter Johnson (with distinction)
 Timothy Leonard Jones (with distinction)
 Mohamed Tanweer Khatieb (with distinction)
 Amana Othman Kilawi (with distinction in the dissertation)
 Timothy Andrew Kirsten (with distinction)
 Michael John Koning (with distinction)
 Shelby Layla Labuschagne
 Matthew Lobenhofer (with distinction in the coursework component)
 Nonhlanhla Linda Luphade
 Yasirah Madhi
 Chipo Magura
 Senate Sharon Marakabei
 Theophilous Mathema
 Joshua Mirkin (with distinction)
 Sindiso Mkhathswa (with distinction)
 Revesa Sadasivan Moodley (with distinction in the coursework component)
 Loyce Elesia Mpangala (with distinction)
 Senzo Msutwana
 Dieudonne Ishara Munganga
 Khadija Mohammed Muse Windo
 Prince Kurauone Mushunje
 Ella Hollins Mutch (with distinction in the coursework component)
 Margaret Eva Nantongo Ssozi
 Gemma Jo Nel
 Sinazo Nyudwana
 Gustav Oosthuizen (with distinction in the coursework component)
 Priscilla Abena Ankamaa Opore (with distinction)
 Nita Pallett (with distinction)
 Victoria Alexis Pedlar (with distinction in the coursework component)
 Cailin Perrie (with distinction in the coursework component)
 Yevashan Koomarasen Perumal (with distinction in the coursework component)
 Kirstin Robyn Petzer
 Humeshni Pillay
 Timothy Plasket
 Lauren Lindsay Powell
 Zuko Qashani
 Md Atiqur Rahman (with distinction)
 Dimakatso Reneilwe Rapotu (with distinction)

Antonio Reneclc (with distinction)
 Mai Samir Adly Rizk (with distinction)
 Sanjo Rose
 Rivan Rughubar
 Sriram Sankar
 Elena Sentieri (with distinction in the coursework component)
 Thabelo Sivhe
 Nomasonto Petunia Skosana
 Bianca Kennedy Soares
 Ghannish Soogary (with distinction)
 Victor Spencer
 Matthew Francis Sutton
 Sihle Thabethe
 Tristan Karl Theunissen (with distinction)
 Karabo Thuntsi
 Christopher James Thurling
 Sitraka Nandrianina Tolojanahary
 Rachele Van Der Colff
 Johan Christiaan Van Der Westhuizen
 Marileen Van Der Westhuizen
 Ruan van Mazijk
 Ashlee Alexandra Van Wyk
 Shun Wang
 Keegan Thomas White
 Courtney Taylor Williams
 Aidan Alexandre Wilton
 Sara Trine Winroth Forsberg (with distinction in the coursework component)
 Donia Hela Wozniak (with distinction)
 Sive Xokashe
 Drake Alexander Yarian (with distinction)
 Sebastian Zimper (with distinction)
 Paige Shira Nili Zinman (with distinction)

DEGREE OF DOCTOR
 OF PHILOSOPHY

Yusuf Amuda Agabi
 Thesis Title: *Examining the population structure of the South African monkfish, *Lophius vomerinus*, using a multi-disciplinary approach*

Yusuf Agabi completed his BSc (Hons) and MSc Microbiology qualifications at the University of Jos, Nigeria, and began full-time study towards his PhD in Biological Sciences, at UCT in 2015. Before joining UCT, he has been a faculty member at the University Jos, where he distinguished himself as a University Scholar during his undergraduate studies.

Yusuf Agabi's thesis investigated the significance of a multi-method approach for assessing the population structure of monkfish around South Africa. The parasite assemblage included four new host records and four new geographic records for the Southern Benguela. *Lecithochirium* sp. was selected as the parasite biotag discriminator of monkfish populations and described at the morphological and molecular levels. The study identified four biological characteristics: the abundance of the *Lecithochirium* sp. biotag, the number of vertebrae, the number of pectoral fin rays, and otolith circularity that are relatively easy and cheap to enable estimation of mixing between the two monkfish populations. The study reported a relatively high stock differentiation index of 0.75 in eight monkfish characteristics, providing strong evidence that the putative west and south coast monkfish should be considered different stocks. This information is important for the management of monkfish resources in South Africa.

Supervisor: A/Professor CG Attwood (Biological Sciences and Marine Research Institute)

Co-supervisors: Dr CC Reed (Biological Sciences and Marine Research Institute) and Dr CD van der Lingen (Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries and Marine Research Institute)

Timothy Aikins Khan

Thesis Title: The costs and benefits of hosting colonial sociable weaver nests for arid zone savanna trees

Timothy Aikins Khan holds a BSc (Hons) in Agricultural Technology and an MPhil Development Studies from the University for Development Studies (UDS), Ghana. He also holds an MPhil in Zoology from University of Ghana. Before joining UCT in 2019 for his PhD studies, he worked as a Lecturer at UDS, Ghana.

Timothy Aikins Khan's thesis investigated how interactions between animals and plants in an arid savanna ecosystem may alter soil properties and influence the growth and survival of vegetation in the environment. Using the study system of sociable weavers

that build massive nests in camelthorn and shepherd trees, he found that faunal faecal nutrient input enhanced the islands of fertility created by trees and consequently tree growth. The birds serve to extend the nutrient-foraging area of the plants far outside the reach of the roots. Hosting nests, however, also incurred costs to trees in terms of reduced canopy area, branch breakage and increased mortality. Importantly, the trees with nests produced more viable seeds than those without nests. These findings highlight the role of interactions between flora and fauna in contributing to savanna ecosystem heterogeneity and species richness, and consequently to ecosystem resilience.

Supervisor: A/Professor RL Thomson (Biological Sciences)

Co-supervisor: Professor MD Cramer (Biological Sciences)

Radwan A Sulayman Alnajjar

Thesis Title: Structure-activity and structure-property relationships of antimalarial pyrimidino[1,2-a]benzimidazoles, imidazo[1,2-a]pyridines, and imidazo[1,2-a]pyrimidines

Radwan Alnajjar completed his BSc and MSc at the University of Benghazi, Libya and started his PhD studies at UCT in June 2018.

Radwan Alnajjar's thesis reports on efforts to improve the activity and physicochemical properties of antimalarial molecules incorporating the pyrido[1,2-a]benzimidazole scaffold. Three series of analogue compounds were designed, synthesized, and tested *in vitro* for activity against the human malaria parasite *Plasmodium falciparum*. Promising pyrimidino[1,2-a]benzimidazole compounds were identified, and frontrunner compounds were evaluated in a mouse malaria infection model. *In silico* (computational), combined with *in vitro*, approaches were implemented to study the mechanism of action of these compounds. The results presented provide a basis and starting point in the search for new antimalarial drug candidates.

Supervisor: Professor K Chibale (Chemistry)

Prince Ansah

Thesis Title: Is sustainable intensification possible in smallholder crop production systems in semi-arid West Africa? The case of the Red Volta and Black Volta basins in Northern Ghana

Prince Ansah holds a BA (Hons) in Geography and Resource Development and an MPhil in Climate Change and Sustainable Development from the University of Ghana. He joined UCT in 2019 for his PhD studies.

Prince Ansah's thesis explores how the Sustainable Intensification (SI) framework can be utilised to bridge the gap in crop productivity and enhance food production in semi-arid areas of Northern Ghana. His research adopted a case study approach, combining biophysical, socioeconomic, and institutional dimensions of smallholder farming systems. The findings showed that water and soil-related risks pose a significant threat to crop production for these farmers. To overcome these challenges, some farmers intensified their inputs and adopted effective farm management strategies. However, the most vulnerable groups, such as older women, faced difficulties due to limited resources and capacities. Local institutions play a crucial role in addressing these issues by collaborating to improve weak policies, mobilize resources, and transfer information. Prince Ansah concludes that access to timely agricultural inputs, combined with extension and advisory services provided through institutional collaboration, are essential to enable SI in the case study areas. His work contributes to the advancement of SI in West Africa and the improvement of agriculture policies and innovations in smallholder crop production systems in semi-arid Northern Ghana.

Supervisor: Professor M New (Environmental and Geographical Science)

Co-supervisor: Dr M Norton (Environmental and Geographical Science)

Michael Joseph Boulle

Thesis Title: *Knowledge for change, or more of the same? The roles of policy knowledge systems in the nationally determined contributions of South Africa, Ghana and Kenya*

Michael Boulle holds BSc and BSc (Hons) degrees in Geography from Rhodes University, and an MPhil in Energy and Development Studies from UCT. He started his PhD at UCT in 2019, prior to which he was a researcher at UCT, a Humboldt Foundation International Climate Protection Fellow, and a consultant.

Michael Boulle's thesis focuses on the roles of policy knowledge systems in shaping South Africa, Ghana and Kenya's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) to the Paris Agreement. His work shows how actors participated in these processes based on their access to the process, their roles, capacities, knowledge, and interests. The research found that the NDC Updates showed improvements on their predecessor NDCs, by being more participative, having more robust knowledge and policy infrastructure, and by building credibility, legitimacy, and relevance. As a result, the Updates built consensus around more ambitious commitments. Policy actors with technical knowledge, that were well resourced and organised, were best represented by the processes. The research hopes to provide useful insights about progress and lack of progress between the iNDCs and Updates in these three countries, to inform future processes that are better equipped to deliver on the long term goals of the Paris Agreement.

Supervisor: Dr B Rennkamp (African Climate and Development Initiative, Environmental and Geographical Science)

Co-supervisors: Dr E Tyler (African Climate and Development Initiative, Environmental and Geographical Science) and Professor M New (African Climate and Development Initiative, Environmental and Geographical Science)

Morgan John Brand

Thesis Title: *Ulva as a functional feed: a practical investigation into the effects of Ulva lacunculata on the growth, consumption, health and gut microbiota of the farmed abalone Haliotis midae*

Morgan Brand is from the Eastern Cape and began his studies at the Department of Ichthyology and Fisheries Science at Rhodes University. He is passionate about *Ulva* and while at UCT he was actively involved with planning and logistics for two international conferences as the student representative.

Morgan Brand's PhD thesis takes a practical approach to identifying functional effects of the green seaweed *Ulva lacunculata*, when used as a feed supplement for the cultivation of the abalone *Haliotis midae*. The concurrent use of *Ulva* and formulated feeds increased consumption by 90 % and significantly improved growth rates, while reducing the total provision of formulated feed by 60 %. Morgan Brand demonstrated that abalone fed fresh *Ulva* had high tissue moisture, along with low concentrations of blood glucose and muscle glycogen content, while also improving their immune response. He used denaturing gradient gel electrophoresis to identify bacteria that were shared between the gut microbial patterns of abalone fed *Ulva* and those fed formulated feeds containing *Ulva* and its fractions. The inclusion of glucuronic acid significantly improved growth rates and produced significant associations in the gut microbial patterns, while improving the feed conversion ratio. The inclusion of ingredients that can be designed to provide specific functional benefits for aquaculture species should be considered an important variable throughout the commercial value chain.

Supervisor: Emeritus Professor J Bolton (Biological Sciences)

Co-supervisor: Dr B Macey (Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries)

Michelle Marie Carpenter

Thesis Title: *Aspects of population biology and behaviour of mobulid rays*

Michelle Carpenter completed her BSc (Hons) qualification at Eckerd College in Florida, USA, and began her MSc in July 2018, which was upgraded to a PhD in July 2020.

Michelle Carpenter's thesis investigates critical sites and their characteristics for three species of mobulid rays in southern Africa: the manta rays *Mobula alfredi* and *M. birostris* and the shortfin devil ray *M. kuhlii*. The study utilises a combination of methods, such as photographic mark-recapture, population abundance estimates, catch analysis, and behaviour analysis, to provide detailed information about habitat use for these threatened species. The results demonstrate that the waters off KwaZulu-Natal and Závora, Mozambique provide significant seasonal habitat for mobulid species along the southern African coastline, highlighting the importance of understanding site use within the larger home range of a given mobulid population. The study fills critical knowledge gaps and enhances the overall understanding of mobulids in southern Africa. The findings also provide valuable information for conservation management efforts aimed at protecting these threatened species and their habitats.

Supervisor: Emeritus Professor C Griffiths (Biological Sciences)

Co-supervisor: Dr A Marshall (Marine Megafauna Foundation)

Daniël Cloete

Thesis Title: *The impacts of habitat fragmentation of Tsitsikamma fynbos, South Africa, on avian nectarivore presence, abundance, and pollination*

Daniël Cloete completed his BSc (Agriculture) at the University of Stellenbosch in 1999. He joined the FitzPatrick Institute of African Ornithology at UCT in 2012 for his MSc and registered for his PhD in 2015. Before coming to UCT, he worked in conservation management on game reserves and stewardship areas.

Daniël Cloete's thesis investigates the impact of habitat fragmentation on sunbirds and sugarbirds and their pollination role in the eastern Cape Floristic Region fynbos surrounding Tsitsikamma. Across his study patches, he measured the abundance and species richness of nectar feeding birds, the nectar loads of ericas and proteas that the birds pollinate, and the plants' seed production. Habitat fragmentation has a net negative affect, but the impact is determined by the characteristics of the bird and plant species studied and is influenced by the habitat and bird species surrounding the study patches. He concludes that despite the overall negative fragmentation effect, even small fynbos habitat patches remain ecologically functional. Focus should be on conserving, expanding and merging these patches, and protecting them from external threats, such as alien invasive vegetation.

Supervisor: Emeritus Professor P Ryan (Biological Sciences)
Co-supervisor: Dr M Brown (University of KwaZulu-Natal)

Alain Dika
 Thesis Title: *Analytical perspectives on localized solutions of the phi-4 theory*

Alain Dika completed his BSc and MSc qualifications at the University of Dschang in Cameroon and a taught Master's degree at the African Institute for Mathematical Sciences, also in Cameroon. He began full-time study towards his PhD in late 2018.

Alain Dika's PhD project is concerned with the topological and non-topological particle-like solutions of the phi-4 model of the two-dimensional field theory. He used the multiscale asymptotic expansions to study the regular and chaotic dynamics of the resonantly driven kink, the topological soliton solution. Having observed the correlation between the chaotic motion of the kink and a spontaneous emission of a small-amplitude breather – an oscillatory nontopological soliton – he turned his attention to the kink-breather interaction. To tackle this, he had to develop the variational approach to periodic and

nearly-periodic localized solutions of the nonlinear Klein-Gordon equations – one of the notoriously difficult problems in the soliton theory. To describe the evolution of the moving breather, he proposed a set of trial functions consistent with the symmetries of the equation and then used it to study the kink-breather bound state.

Supervisor: Professor I Barashenkov (Mathematics & Applied Mathematics)
Co-supervisor: Dr N Alexeeva (Mathematics & Applied Mathematics)

Faith Joy February
 Thesis Title: *Influence of environmental parameters on atmospheric aerosol size distributions in a South African coastal zone*

Faith February completed her BSc, BSc (Hons) and MSc (Physics) qualifications at Stellenbosch University. She joined the UCT Oceanography Department as an Ocean Womxn Fellow for her PhD in 2018. Before joining UCT, she was a scientist working on aerosol physics for 16 years.

Faith February's thesis focuses on characterizing coastal aerosol processes. She explores the impact of meteorology on aerosol size and the potential for using these relationships to identify aerosol sources. She uses high-resolution time-series observations of meteorology and aerosol size distributions collected over one year in Simon's Town, on the coast of False Bay. She finds that this location provides an opportunity to focus on pristine marine conditions, as air masses travel unobstructed from the deep Southern Ocean to the sampling site. She then characterizes sea spray aerosol production absent continental or anthropogenic influence. She further identifies periods of mixed continental and marine influence, and uses these to identify the impact of transport, dispersion, and deposition on coastal aerosols. Her work highlights that this coastal location can be used to understand natural aerosol processes that occur in remote marine regions absent human influence, an important baseline for assessing global climatic change.

Supervisor: Dr K Altieri (Oceanography)
Co-supervisors: Professor J Piazzola

(University of Toulon, Mediterranean Institute of Oceanography) and Professor A Van Eijk (Netherlands Organization for Applied Scientific Research)

Paul Thomas Ferrandi
 Thesis Title: *Investigating the molecular mechanism whereby auxin modulates Arabidopsis thaliana growth under salinity stress conditions*

Paul Ferrandi completed his BSc and BSc (Hons) qualifications at UCT, and began study towards his MSc in 2018, which he upgraded to a PhD in 2020.

Paul Ferrandi's thesis focused on investigating a proposed model whereby the plant growth hormone, auxin, is synthesised to change plant growth in response to salt stress, an abiotic factor that severely reduces plant growth and yield. He characterised the improved salt-tolerance phenotype of a transgenic plant line overexpressing the auxin biosynthesis gene, *Nitrilase2*. He revealed that improved Na⁺/K⁺ homeostasis and altered expression of multiple Na⁺-/K⁺-transporters/channels, as well as differences in the plasma membrane proteome, contribute to the improved salt-tolerance of this line. Furthermore, he identified the cell wall-modifying Expansin 11 as a growth effector acting downstream of auxin biosynthesis under saline conditions. He generated novel *Expansin 11*-overexpressing plant lines and demonstrated that they have improved shoot growth under saline conditions, without a growth penalty under normal conditions. His research identified genes, involved in this molecular model involving auxin, whose expression can be manipulated to improve plant salt-tolerance.

Supervisor: Dr L Donaldson (Molecular and Cell Biology)
Co-supervisor: A/Professor R Ingle (Molecular and Cell Biology)

Raquel Francesca Flynn

Thesis Title: *Phytoplankton's role in the biological pump during the growth season across the Atlantic Southern Ocean*

Raquel Flynn completed her BSc, BSc (Hons), and MSc degrees at UCT, and began full-time study towards her PhD in the Department of Oceanography in 2019.

Raquel Flynn's PhD thesis investigates the role of Southern Ocean phytoplankton in nutrient cycling and CO₂ drawdown using measurements of nitrogen isotopes and phytoplankton taxonomy. Her research, which focuses on understudied seasons and regions of the Southern Ocean, reveals that early spring is an important period for carbon export in the open Southern Ocean and, in contrast to expectations, is driven mainly by small phytoplankton. Similarly-sized phytoplankton also play a role in carbon removal near the Larsen C Ice Shelf in summer, as do larger cells that can sink rapidly out of surface waters. This work further shows that ammonium, rather than iron and/or light, limits CO₂ removal in the coastal Weddell Sea in summer. The findings detailed in this thesis improve our understanding of the influence of nutrient cycling and phytoplankton community composition on the Southern Ocean's CO₂ sink, with implications for its role in regulating Earth's climate.

Supervisor: A/Professor S Fawcett (Oceanography)

Nina-Courtney Foreman

Thesis Title: *Nitrilase 2: insight into its regulation in Arabidopsis and its potential for improving maize salt tolerance*

Nina-Courtney Foreman completed her BSc and BSc (Hons) qualifications at UCT and began full-time study towards her PhD in 2017.

Nina-Courtney Foreman's thesis focused on improving our understanding of the regulation of *Nitrilase 2 (AtNit2)*, an auxin biosynthetic gene that is a candidate for enhancing plant growth under saline conditions to improve salt tolerance. Through yeast

one-hybrid analysis she identified six transcription factors that are able to bind to the *AtNit2* promoter region *in vivo*. She went on to characterise two of these transcription factors, along with another two candidates, for their role in *AtNit2* regulation and the salt stress response. Most notably, she showed using reporter assays in *Arabidopsis* mesophyll protoplasts that AtHMGB9 is a repressor of *AtNit2* promoter activity. She also showed that the maize *Nitrilase 2* homolog is able to improve *Arabidopsis* salt tolerance and indicates a potential role in improving maize salt tolerance.

Supervisor: Dr L Donaldson (Molecular and Cell Biology)

Co-supervisor: A/Professor R Ingle (Molecular and Cell Biology)

Robyn Granger

Thesis Title: *Nitrogen cycling in the subtropical southeast Atlantic and southwest Indian Oceans as recorded by the nitrogen isotopes of modern planktic foraminifera*

Robyn Granger completed a BSc in Oceanography and Environmental & Geographical Science, BSc (Hons) in Oceanography, and an MSc in Environmental & Geographical Science at UCT. She began her study towards a PhD in the Department of Oceanography in 2017.

Robyn Granger's PhD thesis focuses on ground-truthing the foraminifera-bound nitrogen isotope palaeoceanographic proxy in the southeast Atlantic and southwest Indian Oceans. She investigated the relationships among the nitrogen isotopic composition of modern marine microorganisms, the nitrate supplied to their environment, and the microfossils preserved in seafloor sediment. Her work reveals clear differences in the isotopes of foraminifera that inhabit different water masses, signals that are well preserved in fossil foraminifera. From these observations, she proposes that differences in the nitrogen isotopes of fossil foraminifera from the Atlantic and Indian Oceans can be leveraged to infer past fluctuations in heat and salt transport between the two oceans, a process critical

to global ocean circulation. Her findings add to a growing body of work focused on developing a reliable palaeoproxy for upper-ocean biogeochemical cycling and provide a modern analogue against which palaeoceanographic reconstructions in her study region can be compared.

Supervisor: A/Professor S Fawcett (Oceanography)

Co-supervisor: Dr S Smart (University of Alabama)

Farrah Dilshaad Khan

Thesis Title: *Transcriptional regulation of seasonal desiccation tolerance in the fronds and rhizome of the fern Anemia caffrorum*

Farrah Khan completed her BSc, BSc (Hons) and MSc qualifications at Rhodes University before beginning full-time study towards her PhD in 2019.

Farrah Khan's thesis is a study of transcriptional regulation of seasonal desiccation tolerance in the resurrection fern *Anemia caffrorum*. This species produces fronds that are tolerant of desiccation in summer and sensitive to desiccation in winter; it is therefore a useful model to produce climate smart crops. Her work established protocols for the extraction of RNA from frond and rhizome tissue that is of sufficient quality for next generation sequencing (NGS) studies. Using this RNA, she conducted short read and long read sequencing for the establishment of a transcriptome and against which differential expression studies could be conducted. She demonstrated the major improvements that long read sequencing provides to transcriptome assembly and her construction was considered high-quality. Differential expression studies allowed her to characterise the transcriptional mechanisms of desiccation tolerance in tolerant fronds that are absent in sensitive fronds. Exploration of the rhizomes also resulted in the characterisation of mechanisms of tolerance in the underground organ. This work also highlighted considerable cross-organ dynamics and clearly positioned the rhizome as a regulator of frond phenotype. The research highlighted several genes that may play

significant roles in the establishment of the tolerant phenotype and warrant further investigation.

Supervisor: Professor J Farrant (Molecular and Cell Biology)
Co-supervisor: Dr S Rafudeen (Molecular and Cell Biology)

Joyce Jepngetich Kimutai
Thesis Title: *Contribution of anthropogenic climate change to the magnitude of extreme rainfall events and associated synoptic conditions during recent flooding in Kenya*

Joyce Kimutai is a climate scientist with a BSc in Meteorology from University of Nairobi, Kenya. She joined UCT in 2018 to pursue an MPhil in Attribution of Climate Extremes, which was upgraded to a PhD in 2020.

Joyce Kimutai's thesis assesses the possible influence of anthropogenic climate change on extreme rainfall of March-April-May 2012, 2016 and 2018 seasons that caused localised and widespread flooding, which in turn resulted in huge losses and damages in Kenya. To achieve this, the study evaluated the role of human-induced activities on both the thermodynamic (rainfall intensity) and dynamic (associated synoptic atmospheric conditions) contributions to the flood-inducing heavy rainfall. Her research utilised existing well-established modelling frameworks and peer-reviewed methods, based on a wide range of observational, reanalysis and model data. The findings showed a shift towards intensification of extreme rainfall in today's climate, relative to pre-industrial climate, although these increases were not in all cases statistically significant. These findings provide new insights on drivers of extreme MAM rainfall in Kenya and the potential influence of anthropogenic climate change. This work shows that even in the observed drying trend experienced over the East African region in past two decades, flood-inducing extreme rainfall can and does occur, and is associated with a higher frequency of certain synoptic conditions. As the study provide tentative evidence that a human influence might

be emerging, it highlights the need for ongoing monitoring of extremes and attribution studies to track how climate change signals emerge and modify extremes, so that society can prepare for changing climate risks.

Supervisor: Professor M New (Environmental and Geographical Science)
Co-supervisor: Dr P Wolski (Environmental and Geographical Science)

Shelona Jean Klatzow
Thesis Title: *Plaatberg on the Caledon Bastards: hunters, raiders and traders or pious converts of the Wesleyan Missionary Society?*

Shelona Klatzow completed her BA, BA (Hons) and MA degrees in Archaeology from the University of the Witwatersrand. She began full-time study towards her PhD at UCT in 2018.

Shelona Klatzow's thesis focuses on a group of people known as the Plaatberg Bastards under the leadership of Captain Carolus Baatje, whilst resident at the Plaatberg Mission Station from 1833 to 1865. The Bastards arrived in Transorangia well equipped with wagons, horses, guns, and ammunition. Using both written and archaeological evidence, the thesis examines the way in which the Wesleyans attempts to convert them from "heathen" inhabitants to "civilized" Christian converts. The Plaatberg Bastards showed great skill in adapting to the volatile frontier world to become successful farmers, hunters and traders. They negotiated missionary aspirations for converts, balanced with their prior way of life and belief systems. The Plaatberg Bastards selective resistance to missionary control was strategic, embracing new practical skills, whilst their use of the landscape and prior economy allowed them manoeuvrability to evade onerous Christian control.

Supervisor: Emeritus Professor S Hall (Archaeology)

Tanya Anne Marshall
Thesis Title: *Nitrogen cycling in the South Atlantic and South Indian Oceans investigated using nitrate isotopes: implications for nutrient supply, ocean fertility, carbon export, and climate*

Tanya Marshall completed her BSc and BSc (Hons) at UCT and began full-time study towards her PhD in the Department of Oceanography in 2018.

Tanya Marshall's PhD investigates nitrogen cycling in the historically understudied South Atlantic and South Indian Oceans, using measurements of the nitrogen and oxygen isotope ratios of nitrate. Her research reveals that key processes controlling the supply of nutrients to the surface ocean are regionally dependent, in direct contrast to predictions from models. This work identifies two new regions that host significant rates of N₂ fixation, the Angola Gyre and Agulhas Current system; this N₂ fixation leads to atmospheric CO₂ storage in the deep ocean. She further shows that the high turbulence characteristic of the Agulhas Current system drives upward nutrient injections that fuel phytoplankton growth in excess of that expected from the seasonal nutrient supply. The findings detailed in this thesis advance our understanding of the controls on nutrient supply in the South Atlantic and South Indian Oceans, with implications for ocean fertility, atmospheric CO₂ removal, and climate regulation.

Supervisor: Associate Professor S Fawcett (Oceanography)

Nandi Thandeka Masemula
Thesis Title: *A study of indigenous sorghum agriculture in Southern Africa: combining isotope and indigenous knowledge systems approaches*

Nandi Masemula obtained her BSc (Hons) degree from the University of the Witwatersrand and her MSc from UCT, both in Archaeology.

Nandi Masemula's thesis investigates the degree of variation in the stable carbon and nitrogen isotope composition of three different varieties of sorghum grown under natural or near-

natural conditions. This information is important for reconstructing the diets and lifeways of ancient farming communities in Africa and elsewhere, including the Indian sub-continent, to which African sorghum was exported at least 4000 years ago. This thesis is unusual in that it combines laboratory analytical work with aspects of indigenous knowledge: specifically, agricultural practices and methods of grain storage and food preparation that may influence the isotopic composition of the food consumed. Nitrogen isotope ratios were found to be highly variable, which means the importance of grain crops such as sorghum in past peoples' diets may previously have been underestimated.

Supervisor: Professor J Sealy
(Archaeology)

Co-supervisor: Dr T Russell (University of the Witwatersrand, Archaeology)

Tanya Scott

Thesis Title: *A contribution to understanding the primary moult of birds*

Tanya Scott completed her BSc (Hons) and MSc degrees at UCT, then started studying towards her PhD in 2020.

Birds are the only animals which replace their main means of locomotion, the flight feathers of their wings, on an annual basis. This thesis provides a review of quantitative studies of the process of replacement of the most important flight feathers, the primaries. The review demonstrates that the available studies of primary moult are distributed unevenly, both geographically and taxonomically. Geographically there is a scarcity of studies in the tropics, and at both far northern and southern latitudes. The continent with the most studies is Africa. Taxonomically, a disproportionate number of studies deal with shorebirds and with weavers. In order to help fill the gaps, this thesis contributes 18 additional studies, increasing the total number to 260.

Supervisor: Emeritus Professor
L Underhill (Biological Sciences)

Co-supervisor: Dr B Erni (Statistical Sciences)

Alexander Karl Sivitilli

Thesis Title: *Characterizing the digital planetarium as a teaching and learning space*

Alexander Sivitilli holds a BS in Physics and Computational Mathematics from the University of Washington, USA and an MSc in Physics from Heidelberg University, Germany. He joined the Department of Astronomy at UCT in 2018 for his PhD studies.

Alexander Sivitilli's thesis takes a look at the modern digital planetarium and its role as a teaching and learning tool. He did this by carrying out detailed environmental observations alongside eliciting university student responses during instruction in the planetarium. The data were analyzed using the Grounded Theory Method, leading to two models of student engagement, one from the student perspective and the other from a curriculum design perspective. His findings indicate that the planetarium is a complex educational environment that can be understood through the lens of a cognitive framework, including Working Memory and Cognitive Load Theory. The two models were combined into a Model for Curriculum Design in the Planetarium that is aimed at guiding the development of astronomy instruction in the digital planetarium.

Supervisor: Professor S Allie (Physics)

Co-supervisors: Professor T Jarrett
(Astronomy) and Dr L Marchetti
(Astronomy)

Miqkayla Stofberg

Thesis Title: *The influence of anthropogenic food on bird behaviour and community structure in urban environments*

Miqkayla Stofberg completed her BSc in 2016 and her BSc (Hons) Biological Sciences in 2018, both at UCT. She began full-time study towards her MSc in 2018 and upgraded to PhD in 2020.

Miqkayla Stofberg's thesis reports on the effects of birds consuming human food in urban environments. She found that waterbirds, omnivores and seed-eating birds consume larger

quantities of human food than species with a more specialist diet. She showed that certain species are more abundant in wealthier neighbourhoods than in low-income neighbourhoods in South Africa, and their response to wealth also varied according to their diet. She also explored the potential costs and benefits of consuming human food and found some evidence to suggest the quality of human food could have negative effects on the health of nestlings. Her findings highlight the importance of maintaining sources of natural food sources in urban environments for birds which are less dependent on human food. She also highlights the importance of effective disposal of human food waste to avoid potential nutritional imbalances and increases of nuisance birds, which can give rise to human-wildlife conflicts.

Supervisor: A/Professor A Amar
(Biological Sciences)

Co-supervisor: Dr S Cunningham
(Biological Sciences)

Llewelyn Van Der Pas

Thesis Title: *From proteomics to biotechnology. Using the resurrection plant *Eragrostis nindensis* to genetically engineer drought tolerant crops*

Llewelyn van der Pas completed his undergraduate degree at UNISA, specialising in Biochemistry and Botany. He then completed his BSc (Hons) in Biological Sciences at UCT before moving to the Department Molecular and Cell Biology, where he completed his Master's and now PhD.

Llewelyn van der Pas's thesis reports on the changes in proteins expressed during desiccation and recovery from a desiccation tolerant grass, in an effort to explore the key protein signatures that underpin this grass' ability to survive under water limiting conditions. It furthermore points to reasons for age associated leaf senescence and the biological value of this process. From this comprehensive study, his thesis also explored a heat shock protein, shown to be a key player in desiccation tolerance, by characterising various functions of the protein. Lastly, an overall goal of our research group

is to make orphan crops such as teff more drought tolerant through genetic manipulation using genetic material from desiccation tolerant plants. To this end, his thesis also explored the establishment of a method to deliver this genetic material into teff.

Supervisor: Professor J Farrant
(Molecular and Cell Biology)

Co-supervisor: A/Professor H Hilhorst
(Molecular and Cell Biology)

VISION AND MISSION

UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN

Vision

An inclusive and engaged research-intensive African university that inspires creativity through outstanding achievements in learning, discovery and citizenship; enhancing the lives of its students and staff, advancing a more equitable and sustainable social order and influencing the global higher education landscape.

Mission

UCT is committed to engaging with the key issues of our natural and social worlds through outstanding teaching, research and scholarship. We seek to advance the status and distinctiveness of scholarship in Africa through building strategic partnerships across the continent, the global south and the rest of the world.

UCT provides a vibrant and supportive intellectual environment that attracts and connects people from all over the world.

We aim to produce graduates and future leaders who are influential locally and globally. Our qualifications are locally applicable and internationally acclaimed, underpinned by values of engaged citizenship and social justice. Our scholarship and research have a positive impact on our society and our environment.

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UCT benefits from a global network of alumni ambassadors, chapters and affinity groups, with an increasing number of volunteer networks across Africa. Our international UCT offices are focal points for leveraging institutional and research relationships, as well as donor opportunities. You can connect with one of our regional offices:

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The Development and Alumni Department looks forward to meeting you. Join us at one of the many alumni events hosted around the world, on campus at a UCT public lecture, at UCT Summer School or at your class reunion. Let's stay connected.