

## UCT COUNCIL ELECTIONS 2024 – CONVOCATION NOMINEE



### SIYABONGA MHLONGO

#### CONVOCATION NOMINATORS

- Dr Alapan Arnab
- Dr Phumlani Zipho Ngcobo
- Mr Linda Nene
- Mr Phathutshedzo Tshivhengwa
- Mr Jason Dembaremba
- Ms Samantha Fisher

#### STATEMENT OF INTENT

As an alumnus, the University of Cape Town (UCT) has been pivotal in shaping my professional journey, ingraining in me the values of leadership and service. Serving on the UCT Council offers a profound opportunity to contribute to the institution that laid the groundwork for my development.

The educational landscape is undergoing rapid transformation, influenced significantly by technological advancements, amongst other factors. This shift demands that institutions like UCT not only keep pace, but also anticipate and shape future educational paradigms. My broad experience spanning nearly two decades across academia, consulting, investment banking, and telecommunications, complemented by an entrepreneurial spirit, endows me with a comprehensive perspective on how technology can transform educational delivery and access. This positions me uniquely to contribute to this endeavour, and to help guide UCT through these pivotal changes.

As a member of the UCT Council, my goal would be to support the University in not only adapting, but excelling, affirming its status as a leader in innovation and inclusivity. Ensuring UCT continues to unlock opportunities for all students, and maintains its legacy of excellence, are central to my vision for the Council's role in navigating the evolving educational environment.

## BRIEF CURRICULUM VITAE

Experienced, tech-savvy, excellence-driven, and performance-driven Information Technology professional with over eighteen (18+) combined years of professional experience spanning the academia, consulting, investment banking, and telecommunications sectors. Adept in leading large scale technology projects from conception to completion. Well-accustomed to cross-functional collaboration, and supporting various stakeholder business units with technology tools, applications, and solutions. Holds a Master of Science degree in Computer Science from the University of Cape Town and is a doctoral candidate at the University of the Witwatersrand, specialising in Educational Information Technology.

### Education

University of the Witwatersrand, Parktown, Gauteng, South Africa	
2017–Current	• PhD candidate in educational information technology

University of Cape Town, Rondebosch, Western Cape, South Africa	
2004–2006	• MSc in computer science
2003	• BSc (Hons) in computer science
2000–2002	• BSc in information technology (majors in mathematics and computer science)

### Experience

University of Johannesburg   Academia, Auckland Park, Gauteng, South Africa	
Mar 2018–Current	• Lecturer, Department of Applied Information Systems
Jan–Dec 2023	• Head, Centre for Applied Data Science (acting)

University of South Africa   Academia, Florida, Gauteng, South Africa	
Sep 2015–May 2018	• Contract Lecturer, School of Computing

Excelian Limited   Consulting, Rosebank, Gauteng, South Africa	
May 2012–Mar 2014	• Senior Consultant

Nedbank Capital   Investment Banking, Sandown, Gauteng, South Africa	
Jan 2008–Apr 2012	• Transactional Systems Analyst

Telkom SA SOC Limited   Telecommunications, Pretoria, Gauteng, South Africa	
Mar 2006–Dec 2007	• Operations Specialist

ROOT 60FOUR Trading and Investments   Entrepreneurial, Johannesburg, Gauteng, South Africa	
Feb 2010–May 2023	• Co-Founder / Managing Partner

### Memberships

- Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers Education Society (IEEE)
- Institute of Information Technology Professionals South Africa (IITPSA)
- South African Institute for Computer Scientists and Information Technologists (SAICSIT)

### Recent Publications

- Mhlongo, S., Mbatha, K., Ramatsetse, B., & Dlamini, R. (2023). Challenges, opportunities, and prospects of adopting and using smart digital technologies in learning environments: An iterative review. *Heliyon*, 9(6), e16348. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.heliyon.2023.e16348>
- Mhlongo, S., & Dlamini, R. (2022, July). Digital inequities and societal context: Digital transformation as a conduit to achieve social and epistemic justice. In J. Abdelnour-Nocera, E. O. Makori, J. A. Robles-Flores, & C. Bitso (Eds.), *Innovation practices for digital transformation in the Global South* (pp. 1–15, Vol. 645). Springer International Publishing. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-12825-7\\_1](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-12825-7_1)