

NUUSBRIEF NEWSLETTER

DESEMBER
DECEMBER

2025

FACULTY OF LAW
IFACULTHI YOMTHETHO
FAKULTEIT REGSGELEERDHEID







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UNIVERSITY
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POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA

Postgraduate Diploma in Tax Law (The next intake is in 2027)

A two-year programme aimed at law, accounting, and commerce graduates focussing on the interpretation of tax law.

Modules: Foundations of Tax Law, Principles of Income Tax Law, Law of Selected Taxes, and International & Further Tax Law

Postgraduate Diploma in Intellectual Property Law

A one-year programme aimed at law, science, and engineering graduates focussing on Copyright Law, Trademark Law, and Patent Law.

Modules: Copyright Law, Economic Perspectives of Law, Intellectual Property Law in the Digital Environment, Patent Law and the Law of Registered Design, Trademark Law, Competition Law, Intellectual Property Law: Research Paper

Postgraduate Diploma in Public Procurement Policy and Regulation

A one-year, hybrid-learning programme aimed at graduates with an interest in public procurement focussing on public procurement policy, compliance, corruption, as well as infrastructure and defence procurement.

Modules: International Legal Regimes on Public Procurement, Public Procurement Regulation and Policy in South Africa, and 2 elective modules (Corruption and Public Procurement, Defence Procurement Regulation and Policy, Infrastructure Procurement Regulation and Policy in South Africa, Policy and Public Procurement Law, Procurement Law Compliance)

More information: www.su.ac.za/en/faculties/law or www.su.ac.za/en/apply

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MASTER THE LAW

with an LLM from

Stellenbosch University



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LLM PROGRAMMES

LLM by coursework

Students complete 4 taught modules and a research paper. Students can either enrol in the general programme (free choice of modules) or specialise in a specific area of law.

LLM [General]

Modules: Choice of 4 modules offered during the relevant year

LLM in Alternative Dispute Resolution

Modules: International Commercial Arbitration, Mediation, Specialised Dispute Resolution Techniques and 1 elective

LLM in Intellectual Property Law

Modules: Copyright Law, Trademark Law, Patent Law and the Law of Registered Design and either Intellectual Property Law in the Digital Environment or Competition Law

LLM in International Trade Law

Modules: Carriage of Goods by Sea, International Sales Law, International Commercial Arbitration, International Tax Law, Legal Aspects of World and Regional Trade, Payment and Guarantees in International Contracts, Climate Change and Sustainability Governance

Professional LLM

LLM in Public Procurement Policy and Regulation

Modules: International Legal Regimes on Public Procurement, Public Procurement Regulation and Policy in South Africa and 2 electives (Policy and Public Procurement Law, Corruption and Procurement, Infrastructure Procurement Regulation and Policy in South Africa, Defence Procurement, Procurement Law Compliance)

LLM by research

Students complete a thesis of +/- 60 000 words

LLM by coursework

- Full-time: 1 year (2 modules per semester and research project over 1 year)
- Part-time: 2 years (1 module per semester and research project over 2 years)
- January or July intake
- Compulsory class attendance - weekly lectures in Stellenbosch normally from 18:00 to 20:00 (some modules are offered in blocked sessions)
- Fully taught in English

Professional LLM

- * The programme consists of four modules and a research portfolio
- * Hybrid learning programme (contact sessions take place during specific block periods each semester at the Stellenbosch campus)

LLM by research

- 1 year programme (full-time students have a maximum of 2 years to complete and part-time students have a maximum of 3 years to complete)
- January intake

Applications:

Please read the Postgraduate Guide of the Faculty of Law (www.sun.ac.za/law) before submitting an application

Apply at www.maties.com

News from the Dean's office



Prof Juanita Pienaar

Boodskap van die “*Waarnemende Dekaan*”

Beste kollegas, studente, alumni en vriende

Die Fakulteit Regsgeleerdheid het 'n gebeurtenisvolle jaar beleef, waartydens beide die Dekaan, professor Nicola Smit, en die Vise-Dekaan: Leer en Onderrig, professor Richard Stevens, in waarnemende poste in die rektoraat aangestel is, nadat Professor Deresh Ramjugernath op 1 April 2025 die pos as 13de Rektor en Visekanselier van die Universiteit Stellenbosch aanvaar het. Hierdie oorgang het die geleentheid gebied vir ander Fakulteitslede om nuwe rolle te beklee en in hierdie hoedanighede by te dra. In my rol as Waarnemende Dekaan word ek bygestaan deur professor Theo Broodryk as Waarnemende Vise-Dekaan: Navorsing en Internasionalisering, en professor Bradley Slade as Waarnemende Vise-Dekaan: Leer en Onderrig. Op Fakulteitsbestuursvlak het dr. Franziska Myburgh en professor Geo Quinot verder by die Fakulteitskomitee aangesluit. Hierdie gesamentlike poging het die gladde voortsetting van alle akademiese en navorsingsprojekte verseker. Dit was ook 'n jaar gekenmerk deur uitstaande prestasies deur personeel en studente. Dr. Stephan van der Merwe het 'n Sosiale Impak-toekenning in die individuele kategorie ontvang; professor Anél du Plessis is vereër met 'n toekenning vir Navorsingsuitnemendheid in die kategorie “Vroue in Navorsing”; en dr. Bryony Fox is erken as een van die Universiteit se top sewe postdoktorale genote.

Die kaliber van ons personeel word weerspieël in die gehalte van ons studente op beide voorgraadse en nagraadse vlak. Die Fakulteit het uitblink in skynhofkompetisies: twee eerstejaarstudente het die 14de Jaarlikse Kinderreg-skynhofkompetisie gewen, en Span KNASA (US Fakulteit Regte) was die algehele wenner van die Vroue in Alternatiewe Geskilbeslegting-kompetisie. Dr. Hugo Uys, 'n nagraadse student onder studieleiding van professors Henk Botha en Louise du Toit, het die Christof Heyns Gedenkprys vir Doktorale Proefskrif gewen, met die twee naasweners ook van ons Fakulteit: dr. Tanveer Jeewa (onder studieleiding van professor Zsa-Zsa Boggenpoel) en dr. Christiaan van Schalkwyk (onder studieleiding van professor Sandra Liebenberg). Al drie doktorale proefskrifte sal omskep word in monografieë wat deur Pretoria University Law Press gepubliseer sal word. Hierdie is bewys dat die talent wat na die Fakulteit getrek word

oor die volle spektrum strek – van eerstejaarstudente tot doktorale kandidate.

By die Desember-gradeplegtigheid is 251 grade toegeken, insluitend 14 cum laude LLB-kwalifikasies. Ons is ook bevoorreg om die toekenning van 'n LLD honoris causa aan 'n alumnus van die Fakulteit, dr. Chris Otto, te vier ter erkenning van sy veelvuldige bydraes in die regs- en sakewêreld.

Die jaarlikse Tuiskoms het op 13 September plaasgevind, wat die Fakulteit die geleentheid gebied het om bande met ons alumni te versterk. By hierdie geleentheid het vyf jaargroepe reünies gehou: 1975, 1985, 1995, 2005 en 2015. Hierdie interaksies getuig van die blywende bande wat hier gevorm word, wat veel verder strek as graduering.

Gegewe die uitnemendheid van ons personeel en studente, ons programaanbod, tesame met ons internasionale samewerkings en aansien, is die Fakulteit verheug om weer onder die top 150 Regsfakulteite wêreldwyd in die 2025 Times Higher Education-ranglys gereken te word. Ten opsigte van die talent wat die Fakulteit lok – beide personeel en studente – en die betekenisvolle betrokkenheid met ons alumni, bly die vooruitsigte vir huidige en toekomstige studente, sowel as vir die werkgewers wat hulle aanstel, besonder sterk.

Op hierdie hoë noot wens ek almal 'n welverdiende ruskans en 'n wonderlike, vreedsame en herstellende feestyd saam met geliefdes toe. Dit was 'n gebeurtenisvolle jaar – my hartlike dank aan alle personeellede vir die vele ure se toewyding, dikwels agter die skerms. Aan die studente: dankie vir julle harde werk, en welgedaan met die suksesvolle voltooiing van die akademiese jaar. Mag ons almal verfris en versterk terugkeer om hierdie reis saam in 2026 voort te sit.

Professor Juanita Pienaar
Waarnemende Dekaan

”

Message from the *Acting Dean*

“

Dear colleagues, students, alumni and friends,

The Faculty of Law experienced an interesting year when both the Dean, Professor Nicola Smit, and the Vice-Dean: Learning and Teaching, Professor Richard Stevens, were appointed to acting positions in the rectorate, following Professor Deresh Ramjugernath taking up the position of the 13th Rector and Vice-Chancellor of Stellenbosch University on 1 April 2025. This transition provided the opportunity for other Faculty members to take up new roles and to contribute in that capacity. In my position as Acting Dean, I am joined by Professor Theo Broodryk as acting Vice-Dean: Research and Internationalisation and Professor Bradley Slade as acting Vice-Dean: Learning and Teaching. At Faculty management level, Dr Franziska Myburgh and Professor Geo Quinot further joined the Faculty Committee. This collective effort ensured the smooth continuation of all academic and research projects.

It was also a year to celebrate excellent achievements by staff and students. Dr Stephan van der Merwe received a Social Impact Award in the individual category, Professor Anél du Plessis was awarded a Research Excellence Award in the category for 'Women in Research', and Dr Bryony Fox was recognised as one of the top seven postdoctoral fellows at the University.

The calibre of the staff is reflected in the quality of students at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels. The Faculty was particularly successful within the moot court domain: two first-year students won the 14th Annual Child Law Moot Court Competition, and Team KNASA (SU Faculty of Law) was the overall winner in the Women in Alternative Dispute Resolution competition. Dr Hugo Uys, a postgraduate student supervised by Professor Henk Botha and Professor Louise du Toit, won the Christof Heyns Memorial Doctoral Thesis prize, with the two runners-up also from the Faculty of Law: Dr Tanveer Jeewa (supervised by Professor Zsa-Zsa Boggenpoel) and Dr Christiaan van Schalkwyk (supervised by Professor Sandra Liebenberg). All three doctoral studies will be converted into monographs to be published by Pretoria University Law Press. This highlights that the talent the Faculty attracts spans

the full spectrum, from first-year students to doctoral candidates.

At the December graduation, 251 degrees were awarded, including 14 cum laude LLB qualifications. We are also very fortunate to celebrate an LLD honoris causa awarded to an alumnus of the Faculty, Dr Chris Otto, in acknowledgement of his manifold contributions within the legal and business domains.

The annual Homecoming took place on 13 September, enabling the Faculty to engage with and further cement ties with our alumni. On this occasion, five year groups gathered for reunions: 1975, 1985, 1995, 2005 and 2015. These interactions are testament to the fact that the ties formed here endure far beyond graduation.

Given the excellence of staff and students, our programme offering, coupled with our international collaborations and standing, the Faculty is delighted to have yet again been placed amongst the top 150 Law Faculties globally, in the *2025 Times Higher Education Rankings*. Considering the calibre of talent the Faculty attracts, both staff and students, and the meaningful interaction with alumni, the prospects for current and future students, as well as for those who employ them, are exceptionally high.

On that high note I wish everyone a well-deserved break and a wonderful, peaceful, and restorative festive season with loved ones. It has been an eventful year – heartfelt thanks to all staff members for the many hours and dedication, often behind the scenes. To the students: thank you for your hard work and well done on completing the academic year successfully. May we all return, refreshed and invigorated, to continue this journey in 2026, as a team.

Professor Juanita Pienaar
Acting Dean

”



Umyalezo ovela *kwiNtsumpa*

Boogxa bam, bafundi, ialumnayi nezihlobo,

IFakhalti yezoMthetho iye yaba nonyaka onika umdla xeshikweni kutyunjwa uNjing Nicola Smit njengeNtloko yeFakhalti noNjing Richard Stevens njengoSekela Ntloko weFakhalti: wezoKufunda nokuFundisa betyunjelwa ukungena ezikhundleni zobubambela emva kokuba uNjing Deresh Ramjugernath engene esikhundleni sokuba yiNqununu neSekelaNgqonyela ye13 kwiYunivesithi yaseStellenbosch ngomhla woku1 kwekaTshazimpuzi ka2025. Eli nyathelo liye lanika amanye amalungu ale Fakhalti ithuba lokungena kwizikhundla ezitsha ukuze abe negalelo kwezo zikhundla. Kwesam isikhundla sobuBambela Dini, ndiza kusebenza noNjing Theo Broodryk njengoSekela Ntloko weFakhalti: wezoPhando noBandakanyo kwezaManye aMazwe aze yena uNjing Bradley Slade abe nguSekela Ntloko weFakhalti: Uku-funda nokuFundisa. Kwinqaba lolawulo lweFakhalti, uGqr Franziska Myburgh noNjing Geo Quinot nabo baye baba ngamalungu eKomiti yeFakhalti. Eli linge lidityanelweyo liqinisekisa ukuqhubeka ngaphandle kwamagingxigongi kwazo zonke iiprojekthi zemfundo nezophando.

Lo kananjalo ibe ngunyaka wokubhiyozela impumelelo egqwesileyo yabasebenzi nabafundi ngokunjalo. UGqr Stephen van der Merwe uwongwe ngeMbasa yeFuthe kwezeNtlalo kuluhlu lomntu ngamnye, uNjing Anél du Plessis yena uye wawongwa ngeMbasa yoGqweso kuPhando kuluhlu "lwabaSetyhini kuPhando". Waza yena uGqr Bryony Fox wabonwa njengomnye ophambili kwabasixhenxe abangamahlakani obufundiswa kwizifundo ezandulelwa zezobugqirhalwazi.

Into abayiyo abasebenzi ibonakala kumgangatho wabafundi kwinqanaba labo bafundela isidanga sokuqala nabo bafundela isidanga esandulelwa sesokuqala. Le Fakhalti iye yaba nempumelelo ikakhulu kwicandelo elimalunga noosingankundla: abafundi ababini abakwizifundo zabo zonyaka wokuqala baphumelele uKhuphiswano lwe14 lo-Nyaka oluMalunga nooSingankundla beMithetho engaBantwana, laza lona iQela iKNASA (leFakhalti yezoMthetho leSU) kwaba lilo elona liphumeleleyo kukhuphiswano kwicandelo elimalunga naBasetyhini kwezoSonjululo loNgquzulwanongaNdlelazimbi. UGqr Hugo Uys, umfundi wezifundo ezandulelwa sisidanga sokuqala ekhankathelwa nguNjing Henk Botha noNjing Louise du Toit, uphumelele ibhaso iChristo Heyns Memorial Doctoral Thesis, baza ababini abamlandelayo baphuma kwalapho kwiFakhalti yezoMthetho: UGqr Tanveer Jeewa (ekhankathelwa nguNjing Zsa-Zsa Boggenpoel) noChristiaan van Schalkwyk (ekhankathelwa nguNjing Sandra Liebenberg). Zontathu izifundo zobugqirhalwazi ziya kuguqulwa zibe ziimonografu eziza kupapashwa yiPretoria University

Law Press. Eyona nto iqaqambileyo yeyokuba iitalente le Fakhalti ezibizele kuyo zezo zibandakanya zonke iindidi zabafundi ukususela kwabo bafundela isidanga sokuqala ukuya kwabo benza izifundo zobugqirhalwazi.

Ngothwesozidanga obelubanjwe kweyoMnga kuthweswe izidanga ezili251, kuqukwa nee-cum laude zeLLB ezili14. Sikwanethamsanqa elikhulu lokubhiyozela iLLD honoris causa eyawongwa umfundi wangaphambili wale Fakhalti, uGqr Chris Otto, ngenjongo yokubulela igalelo lakhe eliziintlobo ngeentlobo kwicandelo lezomthetho nezoshishino.

Umsitho wokuBuyela eKhaya uqhutywe ngomhla we13 kweyoMsintsi, nto leyo yenze ukuba le Fakhalti ikwazi ukunxibelelana kananjalo iqinise ubudlelane bethu nabafundi bethu bangaphambili. Ngelo xesha, kwahlangana amaqela ahlelwe ngokweminyaka emihlanu iqela ngalinye ngenjongo yokuzimanyanisa kutsha: ngo1975, 1985, 1995, 2005 nango2015. Olu nxibelelwano lububungqina benyaniso yokuba amaqhina athe enziwa apha ahlala ekho nangaphaya komhla wothwesozidanga.

Njengoko abasebenzi nabafundi bethu bethe gqolo ukugqwesa oku, iinkqubo esibonelela ngazo, zikunye nentsebenziswano yethu namazwe ngamazwe ndawonye nobume bethu, le Fakhalti iyakuvuyela ukuphinda ibe yenye yeeFakhalti zoMthetho eziphambili kwezili150 ngokweTimes Higher Education Rankings. Xa kucingwa ngohlobo lweetalente le Fakhalti ezibizele kuyo, talente ezo zingabasebenzi nabafundi, kunye nonxibelelwano olunengqiqo oluqhutywa nabafundi bangaphambili, amathuba okuxhamla okunokwenzeka ngabafundi bangoku nabexesha elizayo, nangabo babaqeshileyo, aphezulu kakhulu.

Ngaloo mazwi abaluleke kangaka ninonke ndawonye nabo basenyongweni kuni ndininqwenelela ikhefu elinifaneleyo kakade nexesha lemibhiyozo elizel' uxolo nelivuselelayo ngokunjalo. Lo ibingunyaka onezigane-ko ezininzi – ndidlulisa umbulelo ongazenzisiyo kubo bonke abasebenzi ngeeyure ezininzi abazisebenzileyo kunye nokuzinikela kwabo emsebenzini, nangona oko maxa wambi bekungananzwa. Kubafundi, ndithi enkosini ngokusebenza kwenu nzima kangaka kwaye ndithi sibamba ngazo zozibini ngokuwugqiba kwenu ngempumelelo lo nyaka wemfundo. Ngamana sonke singabuyel' enkomeni, sihlaziyekile kwaye somelezekile, ukuze siqhubeke nolu hambo lowama2026, siyimbumba.

uNjing Juanita Pienaar
sobuBambela Dini



Message from the Acting Vice-Dean: Learning and Teaching

As the Acting Vice-Dean: Learning and Teaching, I would like to congratulate all our students who graduated during the 2025 December graduation ceremonies. In particular, I would like to congratulate the LLB students who graduated in terms of the amended LLB curriculum, which the Faculty implemented since 2021. The Faculty invested significant time, resources, and energy in preparing the amended LLB curriculum, and in ensuring that it is delivered at the high standard for which the Faculty is known. Although there may been challenges along the way, we are satisfied that we have presented an LLB programme that is relevant to the current contexts and needs of the South African society, and which will equip our students with the necessary

knowledge, skills, and dispositions to contribute meaningfully to the advancement of South Africa. Given the challenges faced by the people of South Africa, there is a need for ethical and dedicated legal professionals to work towards a society based on the foundational values of human dignity, equality, freedom, non-sexism, and non-racism.

To all our graduates, I wish you well in your chosen careers. May you fondly remember the Law Faculty situated in the Ou Hoofgebou, and remain in contact with us!

Professor Bradley Slade

Acting Vice Dean Teaching and Learning



Research Chairs and Units Navorsingsleerstoele en Eenhede



Anton Mostert Chair of Intellectual Property Law

Intellectual Property Short Course 2025

The Anton Mostert Chair of Intellectual Property Law recently hosted its annual Intellectual Property Short Course from 16 to 18 July 2025 at the Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Study (STIAS).

This certificate programme is tailored for individuals without formal training in law or intellectual property, and this year's cohort reflected a rich diversity of backgrounds. Participants included practising attorneys, BSc students with an interest in IP law, university staff members, and representatives from various corporate sectors. Designed as an accessible introduction to IP law, the course equips attendees with a foundational understanding of the key forms of IP protection and their relevance across commercial, academic, and creative contexts. A highlight for many participants is the opportunity to engage directly with presenters about how IP law intersects with their specific fields of work.

In addition to Professors Sadulla Karjiker and Phil-

ip Sutherland, and Dr Gretchen Jansen, the programme featured guest contributions from leading IP practitioners from firms such as Adams & Adams, Spoor & Fischer, Von Seidels IP, and ENS. These industry experts offered valuable insights into how IP law is applied in practice.

A special mention must go to Ms Annette van Tonder, whose behind-the-scenes work is instrumental in ensuring the seamless running of the Short Course, from coordinating logistics to creating a warm and welcoming environment for both speakers and attendees.

The course received very positive feedback, particularly regarding the quality of the content and the smooth organisation of the event. The Chair now looks forward to presenting the next iteration of the Short Course in Namibia from 8 to 10 September 2025.



Annual Intellectual Property Law Public Lecture

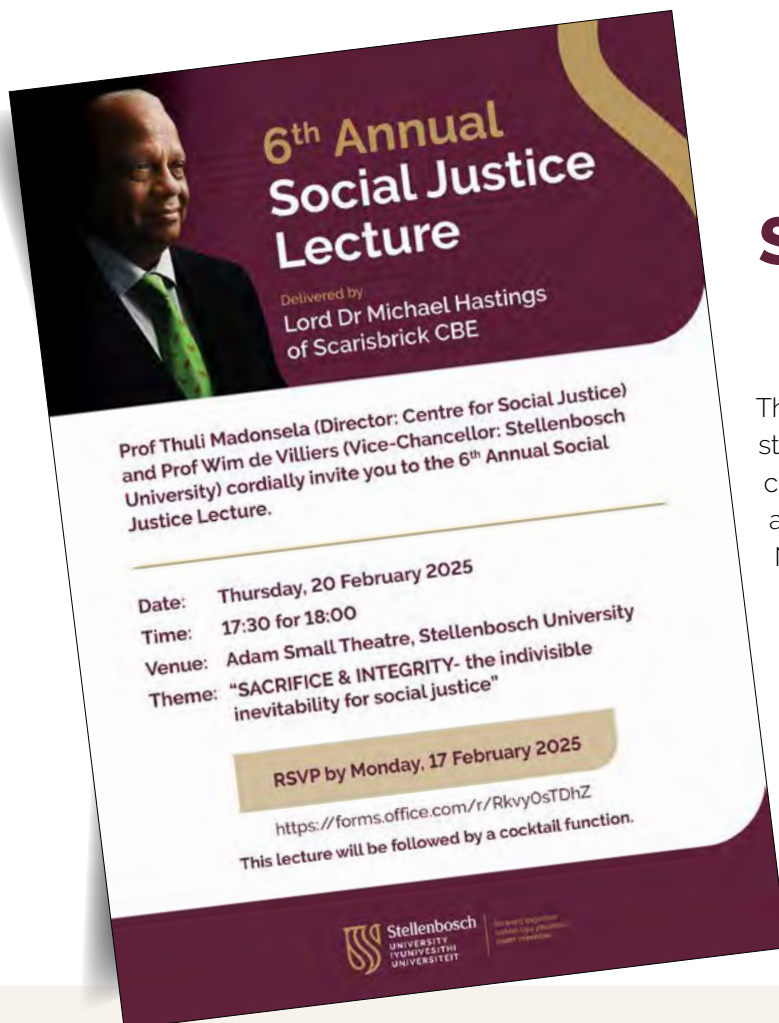
The Anton Mostert Chair of Intellectual Property Law hosted its annual public lecture on 23 October 2025. This year's public lecture took a new and engaging format, focusing on the topic "You make it... until we fake it! Counterfeiting". Instead of a single keynote, the Chair hosted two expert speakers, Mohamed Kader, partner at Spoor & Fisher, and Wensel Britz, partner at Von Seidels, who offered complementary perspectives on the legal, economic, and social dimensions of counterfeit goods in South Af-

rica and continentally. Their presentations were followed by a lively panel discussion featuring industry practitioners who deal with counterfeit goods on the ground. The panellists were Joanne Clarke, business director of an FMCC business, Brigadier Kobus Lategan, the national head of the SAP Service's National Counterfeit, Contraband and Illicit Goods Unit, Sergio Fragoso Rodriguez, head of asset and brand protection at Moët Hennessy, Braam Schoeman, brand protection manager at SC Johnson & Son, and Joe van der Walt, CEO of Focus Group. The conversation provided rare, real-world insight into enforcement challenges, consumer behaviour, and emerging trends.

The event drew an excellent turnout, and attendees repeatedly commented on how dynamic and informative the session was. The evening concluded with especially well-received refreshments, and several guests remarked that this was the best public lecture hosted by the Chair to date. This would, of course, not have been possible without Ms Annette van Tonder, whose exceptional organisation made the entire evening such a success.



Centre for Social Justice



6th Annual Social Justice Lecture

The Centre for Social Justice (CSJ) kick started the year with its 6th Annual Social Justice Lecture, held on 20 February, in commemoration of the United Nation's World Day of Social Justice. Delivered by Lord Michael Hastings of Scarisbrick CBE, the Lecture unpacked social justice through the theme, "Sacrifice and Integrity — the indivisible inevitability for Social Justice".

Social Justice, Fiscal Policy, and VAT

In collaboration with the Institute for Economic Justice (IEJ), the CSJ hosted a Think Tank Roundtable and Social Justice Café, focusing on Social Justice, Fiscal Policy, and VAT. This discussion aimed to discuss the VAT increase and its implications for the achievement of social justice in South Africa. Culminating in a Policy Statement, jointly issued by the parties, the resounding conclusion was that "[t]here is a need for courageous decision-making that ensures the 'hard trade-offs' are made without shifting the burden of disproportionate sacrifice to the disadvantaged majority, that is vulnerable to the exacerbation of hunger and poverty due to reduction of disposable income or diminished access to social services like health, education, and grants."



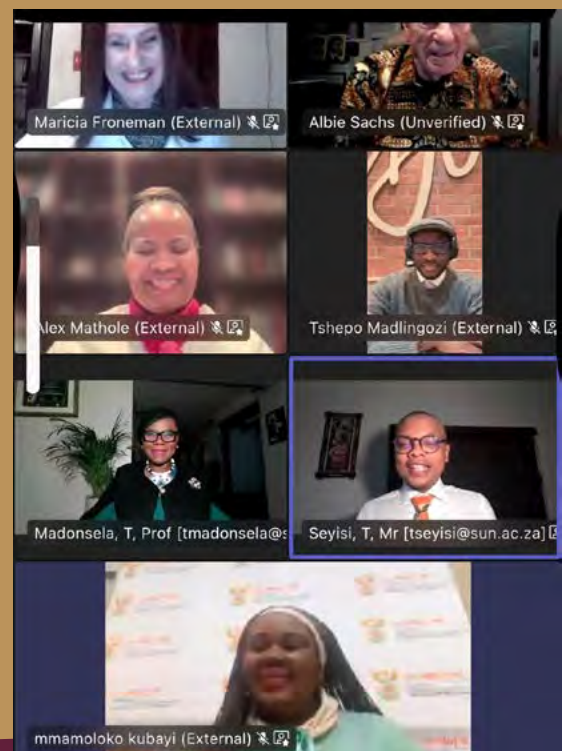
Social Justice Café on the Rape Epidemic

On 7 April, CSJ hosted a sensitive but necessary Social Justice Café to discuss South Africa's rape epidemic to reveal whether social justice can prevail in such a society. This discussion united a diverse group of voices – from Judges and NGOs that support rape victims, to student representatives

who added valuable student insights. The discussion not only discussed the causes of rape but also equipped the students with expert advice on the various mechanisms and assistance available to survivors of sexual assault.

The Constitutional Commitment to Social Justice

A Constitutional Review Roundtable was hosted on 22 May, which discussed the Constitutional Commitment to Social Justice. The Roundtable was attended by luminaries such as the Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development, Minister Mmamoloko Kubayi, Justice Albie Sachs and V20 Sustainability Stream Co-Lead, Ms Alex Mathole. The purpose of the Roundtable was to discuss the adequacy of social justice progress in South Africa and to inform a policy brief regarding what to do to catalyse progress in areas where progress lags. The CSJ submitted its formal written submission to Parliament on 30 May 2025.



Constitution Review Roundtable
The Constitutional Commitment to Social Justice: A Constitution Review Conversation for a Re-imagined South Africa

Minister Mmamoloko Kubayi
Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development

Prof Thuli Madonsela
Director, Centre for Social Justice, Stellenbosch University

Mr Thembaethu Seylisi
Researcher, Centre for Social Justice, Stellenbosch University

Justice Albie Sachs
Retired Justice of the Constitutional Court

Ms Alex Mathole
V20 Sustainability Stream Co-Lead

Ms Maricia Froneman
Head of Access to Justice, Thuli Madonsela Foundation

Date: Thursday 22 May 2025 | Time: 17:00 - 19:00 | Platform: MS Teams

Stellenbosch University
forward together
samen op pad
saam vooruit

Social Justice M-Plan
socialjustice@sun.ac.za
su_centreforsocialjustice

Centre for Social Justice @CSJ_MPlan
Stellenbosch University Centre for Social Justice

Hunger Policy brief

The CSJ, in collaboration with the Centre for the Advancement of Social Impact and Transformation (CASIT), convened a high-level Roundtable and launched a major new Policy Brief on Social Justice, Hunger and the Constitution, calling for urgent legal, policy, and governance reforms to address hunger as one of South Africa's most visible and persistent social justice failures. The event was expertly facilitated by Candice Egan (Fundraiser: Corporate and Individual Donor Bursaries, BEE & SETAs at SU) who

plays a key part in mobilising donor partnerships to secure bursaries, food assistance, and support services for students – helping to break down financial barriers and create pathways for student success. The policy brief reframes hunger in South Africa as far more than a development or welfare issue – instead it is positioned as a constitutional social justice imperative that strikes at the heart of human dignity, equality, freedom, and the state's binding legal obligations.



Student accommodation, hunger, and Funding

On 30 July, the CSJ hosted a Social Justice Café on Student Accommodation, Hunger, and Funding. In collaboration with NSFAS, this Café looked into whose legal duty it is to support hungry students

and those who do not have accommodation. The participants at the Café resolved to work with the CSJ in drawing up a Charter that clearly states the duty bearers.



Panelists at the Social Justice Café on Student accommodation, hunger and funding: (from the left) Ms Success Sibe-ko, Dr Rudi Buys, Ms Vuyokazi Maflika, Ms Joy Hlatshwayo and Prof Thuli Madonsela

6th International Social Justice Conference

From 15 to 16 October, the CSJ hosted its 6th International Social Justice Conference under the theme: Social Justice, Food Security, and Peace in a Turbulent World: Advancing Food Justice and Climate Resilience in Pursuit of Equality, Solidarity, and Sustainable Development. The Conference consisted of worldwide academics who gathered to share insights on topics suggested by the theme.



Delegates on Day 1 of the 6th International Social Justice Conference

7th Social Justice Summit

The International Social Justice Conference was followed by the 7th Social Justice Summit, on 17 October, under the theme Social Justice, Food Security and Peace: Pathways to Equality, Solidarity, Sustainability and Climate Resilience. The Summit, attended by over 500 participants, provided a vibrant close, with a Keynote Address by President Cyril Ramaphosa, who discussed the importance of public participation in matters of advancing Social Justice, specifically highlighting the MUSA Plan for Social Justice as an important initiative that is actively working towards social impact that advances the lives of South Africans. Flowing from the Summit, President Ramaphosa agreed to champion a Model Law on Food Security.



*Top right: President Cyril Ramaphosa, giving the keynote address at the 7th Social Justice Summit
Right: Stellenbosch University Rector and Vice-Chancellor, Prof Deresh Ramjugernath, at the 7th Social Justice Summit*



Social Justice Champion Awards

On the evening of 16 October, the CSJ, in partnership with Champion South Africa, the NYDA, and Black Management Forum, honoured South Africa's unsung champions at the annual Social Justice Champion Awards. Basetsana Kumalo, the co-chair of the Council of Social Justice Champions (COSOC), highlighted the importance of the awards in honouring those who "continue to do good and make this world a better place". Dr Sheena Swemmer was named Social Justice Champion of the year for her work in challenging violence against women and

reimagining legal frameworks for consent and accountability. The Bridge Builder Award was awarded to Sonja Cilliers for her work in empowering mothers from under-resourced communities to improve numeracy skills. Lesego Louw and Chevano Frans were both named Social Justice Rising Star. Lesego was recognised for her advocacy against student homelessness. Chevano is a community leader who was celebrated for his community soup kitchen, Chev's Kitchen.



Social Justice Champion Awards Winners with guests

Prof Thuli Madonsela awarded as a Legend



Prof Thuli Madonsela at the Legends Awards

Professor Thuli Madonsela was honoured with a Humanitarian & Social Impact Legend Award at the Legend Awards in October. Accepting this award, Professor Madonsela says she sees it as honouring all those who see themselves as midwives of a just world.

CSJ receives £32,000.00 for student hunger at One Young World

From 3 to 6 November, Professor Thuli Madonsela attended the One Young World Summit in Munich, Germany. As a counsellor, she expressed that the Summit left her with a renewed belief in goodness and the power of positive thinking. The CSJ further celebrates the announcement made by the founder of OYW, Kate Robertson, to donate £32,000.00 against student hunger under CSJ's MUSA Plan for Social Justice.

Chair in Urban Law and Sustainability Governance

EVENTS HOSTED / CO-HOSTED



New Short Course on Climate Change Law for **Local Government Action**

From 9 to 10 June, the Urban Law and Sustainability Governance (ULSG) Chair jointly presented a short course on "Climate Change Law for Local Government Action" with the SU School for Climate Studies, and Climate Legal. The short course covered topics on the most recent climate change science of relevance to mitigation and adaptation at the local level as well as an overview of the history and current movements in the international climate change law regime. The programme also focused on the state of local government in 2025, the existing suite

of local governance tools, and what it suggests for climate change action in municipalities across the country. Participants were issued with certificates of completion when the course ended.

The short course was presented by Professor Anél du Plessis from the ULSG Chair, Andrew Gilder and Olivia Rumble from Climate Legal, Professor Guy Midgley from the SU School for Climate Studies, and Dr Susan Knox-Mosdell, a local government and sustainability law expert.



Prof Guy Midgley presenting at the Short Course.

Colloquium on “Green(ing) Finance and Economic Development in Pursuance of Global Climate Change Law Imperatives”

The Faculty was abuzz on the morning of 28 June when the ULSG Chair, held by Professor Anél du Plessis, co-hosted a Colloquium on “Green(ing) Finance and Economic Development in Pursuance of Global Climate Change Law Imperatives” with the Gys Steyn Chair in Financial Regulation, held by Professor Johann Scholtz. Judge Dennis Davis opened the event with a gripping keynote speech on the meaning of climate change for the judiciary, the ex-

ecutive and the legislature in South Africa. The panellists did a stellar job in explaining how complex some of the legal questions are when considering how to “green” public and private financing, budgeting, procurement, investment and more. Everyone, however, agreed that business and all three branches of government must take co-responsibility for climate action and the necessary adjustments to be climate change ready.



Colloquium on “Green(ing) Finance and Economic Development in Pursuance of Global Climate Change Law Imperatives” group photo.



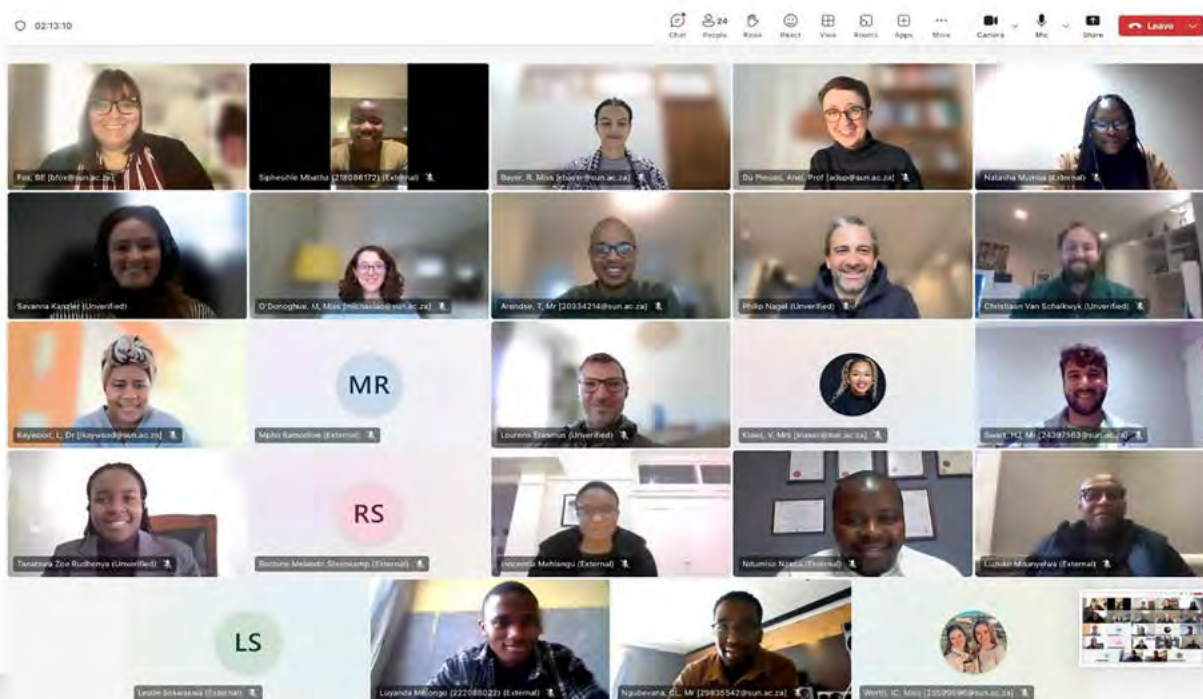
Judge Dennis Davis giving his keynote address.





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**Chair in Urban Law and
Sustainability Governance**
Faculty of Law



ULSG 2nd Postgraduate Student Conference Group Photo.

ULSG Chair's 2nd Annual National Multidisciplinary Postgraduate Student Conference

On 17 July, the ULSG Chair hosted its 2nd Annual National Multidisciplinary Postgraduate Student Conference with the theme of "Biodiversity, Climate Change, and Urban Development Research: Conservation in the Face of Urbanisation". It was a virtual event marketed to postgraduate students and organised by postgraduate students – Robyn Bayer and Michaela O'Donoghue. The event attracted student researchers from 7 institutions in Southern Africa in various stages of study and was a wonderful, inclusive opportunity for peer feedback, networking and sharing of the latest research in the intersecting areas of law, governance, conservation, climate change and urbanisation.

Michaela O'Donoghue, LLM Researcher in the Chair, was awarded the Best Presenter Prize for her outstanding presentation, titled

"Environmental injustice as a consequence of urbanisation: manifestations, causes, consequences, and potential remedies". Philipp Nagel, from the University of Cape Town, was the runner-up for his presentation on "Accommodating the Adaptation Needs of Biodiversity to Climate Change through Regulation: a South African Perspective".

It was an exciting day with brilliant postgraduates who shared their ongoing work and contributed to a vibrant, interdisciplinary dialogue.

CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP PARTICIPATION

The ULSG Chair's postdoctoral fellows, Dr Bryony Fox and Dr Lungelwa Kaywood, attended the Southern African Development Community's Regional Seminar on Children's Rights and Climate Change, which was hosted by the Dulla Omar Institute from 2 to 4 July at the University of the Western Cape. The seminar brought together stakeholders from across the region to explore how collection child-responsive action can be championed in the face of growing environmental challenges. Dr Fox offered insights from her ongoing research on climate displacement and children's rights in Africa, helping to inform discussions on rights-based, regionally grounded approaches to climate and child justice.

Right: Dr Kaywood at the International Conference on Public Procurement Regulation and Policy in Africa.



From 9 to 11 September, Dr Fox played a key role in the administration and organisation of the Faculty's 2nd Annual International Conference on Children's Rights. She also chaired one of the opening sessions on Artificial Intelligence, Data Protection & Children's Rights.

Left: Dr Fox at the International Conference on Children's Rights

On 11 September Dr Fox co-presented with Professor Geo Quinot at the Regional Teaching and Learning Conference hosted by the University of Cape Town. They showcased their work on the innovative new capstone module at SU Law, Integrated Legal Studies.

Right: Dr Kaywood and Dr Fox at the Southern African Development Community's Regional Seminar on Children's Rights and Climate Change.





Above: Dr Fox's presentation title at UCT.

Dr Fox presented at the University of Cape Town on 28 October, discussing "From Science to Obligation: Why the ICJ's Climate Change Opinion Matters for Researchers". She unpacked the ICJ's 2025 Climate Change Advisory Opinion, which grounds States' legal duties in climate science and human rights, marking a shift from climate impunity to accountability. She highlighted the Advisory Opinion's potential impact on domestic law, looking to the Climate Change Act 2024 and the Opinion's first use in the case of *Ho'lmggin v Canada* (2025)..

On 13 September, Dr Kaywood delivered a presentation titled "Transforming Public Procurement through 'Public Value in South Africa'" at the 5th International Conference on Public Procurement Regulation and Policy in Africa. Dr Kaywood advocated for a paradigm shift in South Africa's public procurement system to a strategic framework that delivers measurable public value through inclusive, sustainable, and transformative investment.

On 8 October, Dr Kaywood presented "A Roadmap to Fiscal Sustainability and Service Delivery Excellence" at the 96th Conference for the Chartered Institute of Government Finance, Audit and Risk Officers. Dr Kaywood's presentation highlighted the importance of achieving a municipal revenue collection of over 90% as a foundation for sustainable municipal service delivery and municipal fiscal health.

From 22 to 24 October, Dr Kaywood attended and presented at the 18th edition of the International Winelands Conference hosted by the School of Public Leadership at Stellenbosch University exploring how citizen engagement and leadership are being reshaped in the face of global and domestic challenges. Dr Kaywood's presentation, titled "Courts and Public Accountability: An Analysis of Judicial Interventions in South African Local Government", analysed how South African courts are increasingly intervening in local government failures through structural interdicts to enforce constitutional compliance, uphold socio-economic rights, and promote public accountability amid systemic dysfunction.



Dr Kaywood at the 18th International Winelands Conference.

Participation in the HF Oppenheimer Chair in Human Rights Law Postgraduate Human Rights Seminar

This year, two of the Chair's LLM researchers presented at the HF Oppenheimer Chair in Human Rights Law Postgraduate Human Rights Seminar on aspects of their work. Michaela O'Donoghue's presentation was entitled "Environmental Injustice as a Human Rights Concern in Urban South Africa", with Robyn Bayer presenting on "A Human Rights Perspective on Ecological Restoration management in South African Protected Areas". Both presenters enjoyed the productive day of engagement and received constructive feedback on their research. The ULSG Chair extends its thanks to the HF Oppenheimer Chair for hosting another enjoyable Postgraduate Seminar.



Michaela and Robyn at the Human Rights Postgraduate Seminar.

Environmental Law Association of South Africa (ELA) Student Conference

On 8 October, the Environmental Law Association (ELA) hosted their Annual Student Conference. Two of the Chair's Master's students participated, with Robyn Bayer travelling to the University of Venda in Limpopo and Michaela O'Donoghue presenting online. Robyn stayed for the week to also attend the ELA's three-day Annual Conference from 9 to 11 October, which included a visit to the Kruger National Park (which Robyn is using as a case study in her research). The theme was "The Environment and Jus-

tifiable Limits on Development". Michaela presented from a portion of her research on "Development and Urbanisation as Drivers of Environmental Justice". Robyn's presentation offered a South African legal perspective on "Balancing Biodiversity Conservation, Ecological Restoration and Development in Protected Areas". Both students did the Chair proud in their presentations, and we congratulate Robyn on representing the Chair so well in Limpopo.



Robyn at the ELA Conference

Joachim Herz Doctoral School of Law at Leuphana University in Lüneberg, Germany

From 8 to 10 July, Professor Du Plessis was a guest lecturer at the Joachim Herz Doctoral School of Law at Leuphana University in Lüneberg, Germany. There, she facilitated a workshop on legal research methods, as well as on conducting legal research on transformative law and governance with the "Global South". For the participating research cohort, this involved reflecting on their methodological approaches, as well as the perspectives adopted in their doctoral research projects. By transforming the class into a hybrid space, she fa-

cilitated the participation of SU Law postgraduate researchers as well as researchers from the South African Research Chair in Cities, Law and Environmental Sustainability at the North-West University. The programme also featured interactive discussion sessions with Professor Dr Jelena Bäumler (Leuphana University) and Professor Louis Kotzé (Wageningen University).

Below: Prof Anél du Plessis with students at the Joachim Herz Doctoral School of Law at Leuphana University in Lüneberg, Germany.



2025 ESIL Annual Conference

From 10 to 13 September, Professor Anél du Plessis attended the 20th Annual Conference of the European Society of International Law at Freie Universität, Berlin. The theme this year was "Reconstructing International Law".

Professor Du Plessis was invited as a panel member based on her work in recent years on the UN Sustainable Development Goals, particularly Goals 11 and 13. She presented her views on the substance and process of a post-2030 international development agenda. She enjoyed contributing to this year's programme in what she calls her favourite city and to be joined by 600 international law academics and practitioners from all over the world. The conference further created an opportunity for Professor Du Plessis to meet with the Chairpersons and Co-Rapporteur of the International Law Associ-

ation Committee on Urbanisation and International Law, on which she also serves as a co-rapporteur.



Prof Du Plessis with the Chairpersons and Co-Rapporteur of the ILA Committee on Urbanisation and International Law (Prof Helmut Aust, Prof Janne Nijman, and Prof Mirko Sossai).

2025 SU Research and Innovation Excellence Awards

On 30 October some of Stellenbosch's University brightest minds gathered for the 2025 Research and Innovation Excellence Awards.

Dr Bryony Fox was selected as one the DVC's Top 7 Postdoctoral Research Fellows. This award recognises postdoctoral research fellows who have contributed to research, scholarship and community through publications, grants awarded, participation in supervision and teaching, and engagement with

community, government and industry.

Professor Anél du Plessis received an award in the "Women in Research Category" where she was identified as a female researcher who has demonstrated significant growth in publications, postgraduate supervision, and mentoring of others.

Below: Dr Fox and Prof Du Plessis at the Research Awards.





Prof Du Plessis at KU Leuven Faculty of Law and Criminology Global Week 2025

From 17 to 21 November, Professor Anél du Plessis was invited to participate in the Annual Global Week of KU Leuven, Belgium. She was specifically hosted by Profs Dorothy Gruyart and Vincent Sagaert.

The Global Week commenced with a conference on the future of law and criminology. Professor Du Plessis presented a paper in the sustainability law stream, focussing on the legally relevant implications of urban informality for a future (post-2030) development agenda.

For the remainder of the week, Professor Du Plessis presented a course on "Climate Law and Urban Sustainability: Global South Perspectives". The course was well attended by students from various countries.

During her visit, Professors Dorothy Gruyaert and Vincent Saegart served as hosts



Top: Prof Du Plessis at KU Leuven with the Annual Global Week Cohort.

Right: Leuven

Hannes Swart on LLM exchange at Utrecht University

Hannes Swart is an LLM researcher in the ULSG Chair and is completing the second semester of his degree (August 2025 to January 2026) on exchange at Utrecht University in the Netherlands. His coursework at Utrecht focuses on International Environmental Law, aligning closely with his interest in sustainable urban development. He recently completed his LLM research paper on the topic of "Recharging South African Law Regulating Battery Waste for Sustainable Urban Development". This study was conducted under the supervision of Professor Anél du Plessis.

Right: Hannes at Utrecht University.



Prof Helen Keller pays SU Law a three-month research visit



From September to December, the ULSG Chair was delighted to welcome Professor Helen Keller as a visiting researcher. She is professor of law at the University of Zurich and was a judge at the European Court of Human Rights from 2011 until 2020. From 2008 to 2011, she was also a member of the United Nations Human Rights Committee. Since December 2020, she serves as a judge at the Constitutional Court of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

During her visit in Stellenbosch, Professor Keller gave an excellent and thought-provoking presentation on the *KlimaSeniorinnen v Switzerland* case, decided in 2024 by the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) to the students of the LLM elective module Climate Change Law and Sustainability Governance. She also gave a presentation on 14 October on her experiences as a judge of the ECtHR and her responsibilities there. Her presentations and guest lectures were well attended by students at all levels of study, as well as by interested colleagues.

Professor Keller further took centre stage again on 28 October when she presented at the Environmental Law Association's (ELA) Western Cape Regional Event. This event was hosted collaboratively by the ULSG Chair and the ELA. At this event, Professor Keller took the audience through some of the Court's recent judgments on climate change, including the latest judgment of *Greenpeace Nordic and Others v Morway* (ECtHR, 28 October 2025).



Top: Prof Keller

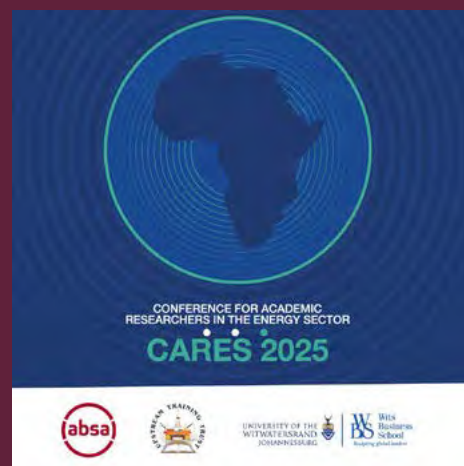
Bottom: Prof Keller and Prof Du Plessis with the LLM class in Climate Change Law and Sustainability Governance.

Conference for Academic Researchers in the Energy Sector

On Wednesday, 26 November, one of the Chair's LLD researchers, Camagu Ngubevana, participated virtually in the Conference for Academic Researchers in the Energy Sector (CARES) held at Wits Business School. Camagu's presentation, entitled "Securing South Africa's Just Energy Future: Governing the Water-Energy-Food (WEF) Nexus in Environ-

mental Law", is derived from his doctoral research and considers Mandatory WEF Nexus Scoping in Environmental Impact Assessments and a binding Strategic Environmental Assessment framework.

For his presentation, Camagu was awarded the Best Online Presentation Award.



Top: Camagu's cover slide. | Top right": CARES logo.

Gys Steyn Chair in Financial Regulation Law

On 25 September 2025, the Law Faculty was honoured to host Mr Lesetja Kganyago, Governor of the South African Reserve Bank and Chancellor of Stellenbosch University. He delivered the second Annual Lecture of the Gys Steyn Chair in Financial Regulation Law on the highly relevant topic of "More or less regulation: Responding to a changing global environment".

The University's Vice-Chancellor, Professor Deresh Ramjugernath, welcomed guests, "This lecture series has established itself as an important dialogue at the intersection of law, economics and society."

In his address, Mr Kganyago warned against weak-

ening financial safeguards in the face of rising risks – from AI and crypto assets to climate change and geopolitical tensions.

"We do not need deregulation. Instead, we can regulate more smartly, but the risk environment requires us to step up, not step back."

The Gys Steyn Chair in Financial Regulation Law – the first of its kind in South Africa – was established through a Steyn family endowment to advance teaching, research and debate on financial stability.



SAIPAR Workshop

Professor Johann Scholtz addressed the Southern African Institute for Policy and Research (SAIPAR) Workshop on International Trade and Commercial Transactions in Lusaka, Zambia, on 10 and 11 July 2025. He was joined by Professor Muna Ndulo of Cornell Law School and Professors Charl Hugo,

Hennie Strydom, and Cayle Lupton of the University of Johannesburg. The delegates were honoured that Dr Mumba Malila SC, the Chief Justice of Zambia, opened the conference and that he and five of his colleagues on the Bench participated.



ABLU 2025

It was an annual highlight for Professor Johann Scholtz to attend the Annual Banking Law Update

(ABLU) 2025, and to chair the session on "Financial and Credit Regulation".



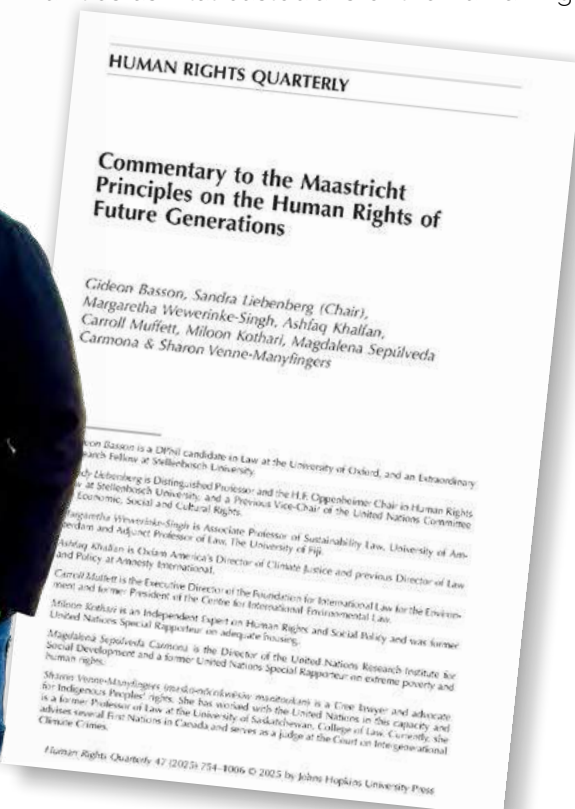
HF Oppenheimer Chair in Human Rights Law

Publication of Landmark Commentary on the Human Rights of Future Generations

Professor Sandra Liebenberg and Gideon Basson (Extraordinary Research Fellow in the Department of Public Law) played central roles in the recently published "[Commentary](#) to the Maastricht Principles on the Human Rights of Future Generations", featured in the prestigious journal *Human Rights Quarterly* (Vol. 47, No. 4, 2025). The publication is the result of several years of close collaboration and intensive research, consultation, and drafting by a global expert group of eight international human rights law specialists, chaired by Professor Liebenberg. Gideon Basson, as a member of the drafting group, made a significant contribution to the drafting of the Commentary, leading to him being reflected as first author of the Commentary.

The Commentary offers a detailed exposition of each of the 36 Principles and the sources supporting them. Drawing on and developing the emerging

body of law on the human rights of future generations across international, regional, and domestic systems, the Commentary gives these Principles legal substance. It elaborates on the obligations of States, intergovernmental organisations, and non-State actors to respect, protect, and fulfil the human rights of future generations. Among its key themes are the need to redress historical injustices, including colonialism, slavery, racism, and patriarchy, and to ensure that their legacies are not transmitted to future generations. The Commentary further explores the interconnections between intra- and intergenerational human rights obligations in fulfilling the rights of present and future generations simultaneously. It also underscores the importance of upholding the rights and knowledge systems of Indigenous Peoples and local and traditional communities as vital custodians of the human rights of



future generations. Other central themes include intergenerational trusteeship, international solidarity, and innovative approaches to ensuring the participation and representation of future generations, alongside strengthened accountability mechanisms and remedial approaches for violations of the human rights of future generations.

The Principles and Commentary represent the fourth major contribution of the Maastricht Initiative, following three earlier influential developments: the *Limburg Principles on the Implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights* (1986), the *Maastricht Guidelines on Violations of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights* (1997), and the *Maastricht Principles on Extraterritorial Obligations of States in the Area of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights* (2011).

The Principles and their Commentary arrive at a

critical juncture for strengthening and embedding intra- and intergenerational justice within human rights protection and advancement. They mark an important step towards long-term, intergenerational thinking in human rights law at a time when existential threats to humanity and the systems sustaining life are escalating. The Principles and Commentary are already influencing human rights developments, having been cited by the Inter-American Court of Human Rights in its *Advisory Opinion on the Climate Emergency and Human Rights*, by the Committee on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights' in its *General Comment No. 27 on the Environmental Dimensions of Sustainable Development*, and by several United Nations Special Rapporteurs of independent human rights experts in thematic reports on *climate change*, *extreme poverty*, and *development*.

Read more about the project [here](#).

Prof Danie Brand's Visit to H.F. Oppenheimer Chair in Human Rights Law

Professor Danie Brand, Director of the University of Free State Centre for Human Rights visited the H.F. Oppenheimer Chair in Human Rights Law from 29 September to 2 October 2025. In addition to discussions on collaborative projects, Professor Brand gave a very well-received guest lecture to the Constitutional Law 451 elective students entitled, "Democratising our Law". This lecture focused on recent research by Professor Brand on the democ-

ratization of land reform and housing law in South Africa. The Chair also hosted a staff/postgraduate seminar presented by him entitled, "Transformative Constitutionalism: Is there Still a Private Law" based on recent research. The seminar was attended by postgraduate students and staff from all the departments and gave rise to a spirited and lively engagement on the implications of the Constitution for the transformation of private law.



Human Rights and the Prevention of Genocide Seminar

"South Africa acted in terms of UN prescripts and also in full awareness that international solidarity is a powerful weapon in resisting and combating oppression."

These were the words of Dr Naledi Pandor – an icon of the liberation movement in South Africa, long-standing Cabinet member, former Minister of International Relations and Co-operation, and currently Chair of the Nelson Mandela Foundation – at a seminar hosted by the H.F Oppenheimer Chair in Human Rights Law on 10 October 2025 entitled, *Human Rights and the Prevention of Genocide: South Africa and Gaza*.

In her address Dr Pandor explored various themes related to the gross violations of international human rights law and humanitarian law and genocide perpetrated by Israel against the Palestinians in Gaza and the recent ceasefire agreement and "Peace Plan". She also explored the contributions, but also weaknesses of the United Nations, arguing that principled actions in defence of international law – such as South Africa's case before the International Court of Justice to enforce the provisions of

the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (1948) – could be a first step towards restoring the effectiveness and legitimacy of international law.

Finally, she addressed the contribution of academics and Universities at the current juncture, including solidarity actions, support for the reconstruction of Gaza, and building linkages with Palestinian academics. She also highlighted the role that academics could play in calling for "a genuine liberating plan and not a semi-colonial arrangement" and supporting the struggle of Palestinians for sovereignty through "a democratic state founded on human dignity and freedom."

The seminar was very well attended by staff, students, members of the public and civil society organisations. Assistance in the organisation of the seminar was provided by Dr Tanveer Jeewa, post-doctoral fellow in the Department of Public Law, the Gift of the Givers Foundation, and the University's Facilities Management team.





Participants and audience members from the 4th Annual Postgraduate Human Rights Seminar

H.F. Oppenheimer Chair in Human Rights Law hosts the 4th Annual Postgraduate Human Rights Seminar at Silo and Shed

On 9 September 2025, the H.F. Oppenheimer Chair in Human Rights Law, Professor Sandra Liebenberg ("Chair"), hosted the 4th Annual Postgraduate Human Rights Seminar ("Seminar"), supported by Acting Vice-Deans Professors Bradley Slade and Theo Broodryk. The Seminar was well-attended by postgraduate students and post-doctoral scholars. The Chair was grateful to have Professors Christoph Garbers, Philip Sutherland and Leo Boonzaier, as well as Dr Ntando Sindane, Dr Tanveer Jeewa, Dr John-dré Barnes and Ms Coline Bruintjies at the Seminar. The participants deeply benefitted from their comments and questions.

The purpose of the Seminar is to provide postgraduate LLM and LLD students and post-doctoral scholars with an opportunity to present a selected piece of recent research in the area of human rights (broadly defined) to their peers and staff in the law faculty, and to engage with questions and comments on their presentation. The research presented on the day included, for example, research proposals, chapters of a thesis/dissertation, and journal articles. Participants thoroughly enjoyed the day and

remarked that the Seminar gave them an excellent opportunity to foster a sense of community and collegiality amongst their community of scholars.

Further, the Seminar truly facilitated an exchange of ideas and information from differently fields and perspectives. The presentations on the day included some of the following topics: the gendered impacts of climate change on South African women; new perspectives on neighbour law in contemporary South Africa; adjudicating the right against unfair discrimination on the grounds of citizenship; empowering consumers affected by algorithmic credit scoring; the potential of a constitutional right to public transport under South African law; and the pursuit of workplace equality for women in South Africa.

This exchange allowed for the enrichment of the participant's research by generating new ideas and different angles not previously considered. Overall, the Seminar was a success and the Chair thanks everyone that was involved on the day, especially Dr Anisa Mahmoudi for her work in organising the Seminar.

Justice Madlanga visits the Faculty



The Stellenbosch Law Faculty was abuzz during the week of 11 to 15 August 2025 with the visit by recently retired Acting Deputy Chief Justice Mbuyiseli Madlanga to the Faculty hosted by Professor Sandra Liebenberg, H.F Oppenheimer Chair in Human Rights Law. Justice Madlanga is an honorary Professor in the Department of Public Law at the Faculty. It was a jam-packed visit with guest lectures to LLB students in Constitutional Law 451 and Integrated Legal Studies 444; a Staff/Postgraduate Seminar on the separation of powers doctrine; and a Student Engagement with law students organised by the Juridical Society (JV/S). The engagement with the students included themes such as the record of the Constitutional Court at 30 years; decolonisation and the South African Constitution; access to justice; and how to balance a personal life and the demands of a successful career in law. In between formal lectures and engagements Emeritus Justice Madlanga gave generously of his time over meals, coffee and informal chats with staff and students. The Faculty, and Chair, is honoured and immensely grateful for the enthusiasm and generosity with which Justice Madlanga engaged with staff and students during his visit.



Dr Anisa Mahmoudi Participates in African Human Rights Implementation Forum

Dr Anisa Mahmoudi, postdoctoral fellow in the H.F. Oppenheimer Chair in Human Rights, attended a significant event co-organised by the Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law and Equality Now in early October 2025. The event sought to examine the implementation of gender-related decisions from African regional human rights mechanisms.

The forum addressed a critical challenge facing human rights in Africa: the persistent gap between progressive judicial decisions and their practical implementation. Despite landmark rulings on gender equality from institutions such as the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights, the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, the Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child, and the ECOWAS Court of Justice, state-level implementation continues to lag significantly. This implementation deficit represents one of the most pressing obstacles to advancing women's rights across the continent, with groundbreaking legal victories remaining largely theoretical rather than translating into tangible improvements in women's daily lives.

The event brought together a diverse group of stakeholders, creating a unique platform for cross-sectoral dialogue. Representatives from these AU human rights institutions engaged directly with members of the Pan African Parliament and the AU Office of the Legal Counsel, National Human Rights Institutions, civil society leaders and academics. This multifaceted gathering reflected a collective commitment to transforming judicial victories into meaningful change at the grassroots level.

A particular highlight of the gathering was an evening discussion centred on Dr Mahmoudi's recent book chapter examining cultural relativism and women's rights to positive cultural contexts through resocialisation. While women's right to a positive cultural context is explicitly protected in the Maputo Protocol, this right remains misunderstood and underutilised. The dialogue that emerged was both nuanced and dynamic, exploring the complex dual nature of culture in women's rights discourse. Participants grappled with how cultural values are frequently weaponised by governments, institutions and individuals to justify the continued oppression of women and the delays in implementing women's rights, whilst acknowledging that these same cultural frameworks remain integral to women's identity, community belonging, and lived experience.

The discussions revealed how culture operates as both barrier and bridge in the advancement of gender equality. Delegates shared numerous examples of governments invoking "traditional values" or "cultural sensitivities" as justification for non-compliance with human rights obligations, even as women themselves navigate and negotiate their rights within these cultural contexts. Dr Mahmoudi's framework of resocialisation offers a pathway forward, suggesting how positive cultural contexts can be cultivated to support rather than undermine women's rights.

Participants departed with a renewed sense of purpose and a commitment to contributing meaningfully towards facilitating the implementation of gender-related decisions on the continent.



Addressing the Gender Dimensions of Reparations in Africa: Expert Symposium hosted by the H.F. Oppenheimer Chair in Human Rights Law and SU Transformation Committee



Participants and audience members from the Symposium on Gender Dimensions of Reparations in Africa

On 18 August 2025, the H.F. Oppenheimer Chair in Human Rights Law, Professor Sandra Liebenberg, hosted the Symposium on Gender Dimensions of Reparations in Africa in collaboration with the Faculty's Transformation Committee. The event was conceptualised and organised by Dr Anisa Mahmoudi, postdoctoral fellow to the Chair, and Ms Coline Bruntjies, Lecturer in the Department of Public Law.

The Symposium opened with an inspiring address by Dr Nomfundo Ramalekana, Senior Lecturer in the Public Law Department at the University of Cape Town. Dr Ramalekana reflected on the African Union's resolution on Africa's Reparations Agenda, exploring how gendered and Afro-Feminist approaches can enrich reparations frameworks. Her remarks were particularly timely, as the African Union has declared 2025 the Year of "Justice for Africans and People of African Descent through Reparations". Notably, the African Union's concept note omits reference to colonialism, apartheid, and slavery and the distinct manner in which these have impacted women and girls on the African continent. Dr Ramalekana challenged participants to engage critically with the legal and other tools available to address historical gender injustices and their contemporary manifestations on the African continent.

The address set the tone for a day of thought-provoking discussions among experts, activists, and

scholars on the intersection of historical colonial harms, contemporary gender-based violence, and the need for transformative reparations that centre on African women's experiences and perspectives.

The Symposium concluded with a collective commitment to action. Participants agreed to drafting a joint letter advocating for the inclusion of gender experts on the AU Committee of Experts, and to compile a comprehensive report capturing the day's deliberations. This report will be published in due course.



Dr Nomfundo Ramalekana, a Senior Lecturer in the Public Law Department at the University of Cape Town's Law Faculty, delivering the opening address



African Procurement Law Unit (APLU)

5th International Conference on Public Procurement Regulation & Policy in Africa

APLU hosted its 5th biennial international conference focusing on public procurement law and policy in Africa from 12 to 13 September in Stellenbosch. The Conference theme was "A New Dawn for Steering Public Procurement" and addressed a range of critically important legal and policy issues relating to reform of public procurement systems in Africa. More than 150 speakers and delegates from across the world gathered in Stellenbosch over the two days to discuss ongoing reforms, including the major current public procurement law reform in South Africa under the newly enacted Public Procurement Act

28 of 2024. The conference was opened by Western Cape Minister of Finance, Deidré Baartman, who is also an alumnus of the Law Faculty and its public procurement postgraduate programme. Other topics that came under the spotlight included public procurement under the AfCFTA, OECD MAPS assessments of African procurement systems, dispute resolution mechanisms, digitalisation of procurement, public-private partnerships, preferential procurement, data and transparency in procurement and procurement sustainability and public value.



At the opening of the conference: Prof Theo Broodryk (Vice Dean: Research), Prof Sope Williams, Minister Baartman and Prof Geo Quinot.



Public Procurement Law Training for the Office of the Public Protector of South Africa

Between May and November, APLU rolled out a second round of training sessions in public procurement law for all investigators of the Office of the Public Protector of South Africa (PPSA) across the country. This second round followed on the initial training programme delivered between 2016 and 2019. The second round was supported by the Deutsche Ge-

sellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) as part of the Transparency, Integrity, and Accountability Programme in South Africa (TIP). It involved a full-week intensive training programme delivered by Professors Geo Quinot and Sope Williams at the various provincial and national offices of the PPSA.



Development and Rule of Law Programme (DROP)

Pan-African Parliament Adopts Historic Model Law for Sustainable Soil Management

The Development and Rule of Law Programme (DROP) is proud to announce a historic milestone for environmental governance in Africa. Following a collaborative effort between DROP, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the German Environment Agency (UBA), and the UN Environment Programme (UNEP), a Model Law for Sustainable Soil Management was designed with the aim of achieving the highest possible policy impact at the African

Union level.

In a landmark decision, the Pan-African Parliament (PAP) officially adopted this model law, marking the continent's first legal framework of its kind. This crucial step is expected to significantly contribute to regional food security and climate resilience.

(Read more about this decision: [Pan-African Parliament adopts continent's first Model Law](#) | [PAP Press Release](#).)

United Nations Climate Change Conference: COP30

Leading up to the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP30) held in Belém, Brazil, DROP played a key role in an international dialogue focusing on the role of law in the climate crisis.

In an address to the Global Alliance of Universities on Climate, Professor Oliver Ruppel emphasised

the value of international cooperation in global climate governance. A further highlight at the COP30 included a high-level panel on soil security from the ground up (for more information, see related event: [COP30 Soil Security Panel](#)).



Professor Oliver Ruppel appointed to SU School for Climate Studies Team

Congratulations to Professor Oliver Ruppel, who has been appointed as a member of the Governing Board of the Stellenbosch University School for Climate Studies. This position further solidifies DROP's

commitment to integrated, cutting-edge climate research and action. (Meet the Governing Board: [SU School for Climate Studies Team](#).)

International Yearbook of Soil Law and Policy 2025

DROP is pleased to announce the publication of the International Yearbook of Soil Law and Policy 2025. This critical resource is now available open access, ensuring wide accessibility for policymakers, re-

searchers, and practitioners worldwide. Access the book here: [International Yearbook of Soil Law and Policy 2025 \(Open Access\)](#).



Faculty and students | Fakulteit en studente

Lectures • Conferences • Seminars • Workshops • Book Launches

International Child and Family Conference

From 17 to 19 June 2025, Dr Bridget Machaka attended the 1st International Child and Family Conference at the University of Bristol, United Kingdom, where she presented a paper on the violations of migrant children's right to basic education in South Africa, focusing on the challenges hindering inclusion and the prospects for reform. Her presentation highlighted how, despite the Constitution guaranteeing basic education to "everyone," migrant children, continue to face exclusion due to rigid documentation requirements, ID-dependent digital enrolment systems, and inconsistent provincial practices. Dr Machaka emphasised that institutional gaps further compound these challenges, as key departments such as Basic Education, Home Affairs, Social Development, and Justice often operate in silos, with limited co-ordination and support for schools. She also discussed how xenophobia and discriminatory attitudes within schools undermine the inclusion of migrant learners, while many parents avoid engaging with education officials for fear of deportation. Drawing on a doctrinal analysis of legislation, case law, and international instruments, her presentation illustrated both the legal and practical dimensions of this issue. Importantly, Dr Machaka noted that the recent enactment of the Basic Education Laws Amendment (BELA) Act marks a significant step forward by explicitly requiring public schools to admit migrant and undocumented children. In her conclusion, Dr Machaka argued that while the BELA Act creates a stronger legal foundation for inclusive education, its success will depend on effective implementation, policy coherence, interdepartmental collaboration, and capacity-building at all

levels of the education system. She further called for public awareness campaigns, anti-xenophobia initiatives, and rights-based teacher training to foster truly inclusive schools. The conference provided a valuable platform for sharing South Africa's experiences and engaging with global perspectives on protecting the educational rights of all children.



Administrative Law Discussion Forum

On 24 to 25 June, Professor Geo Quinot participated in the Administrative Law Discussion Forum, held at the University of Stockholm, Sweden. The Forum, convened for the 14th time in 2025, brings together a small group of prominent administrative law scholars, mostly from Europe and the USA, to discuss matters of common interest. Professor Quinot

presented research on the judiciary-executive relationship and the evolution of judicial deference in South African administrative law, bringing a comparative perspective to one of the Forum's main focus areas in 2025, namely increasingly strained relationships between supreme courts and executive government.



Prof Christoph Garbers and Dr Aisha Adam accompany labour law students to Europe

Between June and July 2025, a group of top-performing LLB labour law students from Stellenbosch University had the opportunity to first visit the International Labour Organization (ILO) headquarters in Geneva. The group consisted of Alexandra Maartens, Alexia Cawood, Catherine Bruce, Jodie Duraan, Luca Bester and Nathan Smith. The visit to the ILO was hosted by Professor Ockert Dupper, Extraordinary Professor of the Stellenbosch Law Faculty and Head of the Vision Zero Fund at the ILO. The visit offered students an invaluable first-hand understanding of the ILO's global role in shaping labour standards and promoting decent work worldwide.

Following this experience, and then joined by two LLM students (Raffaela Clegg and Kaylee Krige), the Stellenbosch



team travelled to Slovenia to attend and participate in the 12th Annual Conference of the Berkeley Center on Comparative Equality & Anti-Discrimination Law, held at the University of Ljubljana from 2-4 July 2025. Themed "The (R)evolution of Equality Law: Reflecting on 25 Years of Anti-Discrimination Law in Europe & Beyond," the conference brought together leading equality scholars and practitioners from around the world.

Professor Garbers and Dr Adam presented a joint paper titled *"Equality in Crisis: Success and Failure in the Most Unequal Society in the World."* Their presentation examined South Africa's constitutional and legislative trajectory on equality, highlighting the tension between a progressive legal framework and persistent structural inequality. Presented as part of the African panel at the conference – a panel chaired by Professor Joelle Nwabueze from Nigeria and including Professor Cathi Albertyn from Wits – the conceptual links between dignity, equality, and socio-economic justice, particularly within the South African context, were explored.

The Geneva and Ljubljana experiences offered students and staff a rare global perspective on the future of equality and labour law and reaffirmed

Stellenbosch Law's growing presence on the international stage. For the students, the conference was both intellectually and personally transformative. Alexandra Maartens, an LLB student, reflected on the conference:

"The breadth of topics covered was impressive. Some of the most memorable topics delved into the reformation of equality laws in Europe, regressive hate-speech legislation in Australia, and the significance of promoting gender equality in Cameroon's boardrooms. I also enjoyed learning about discrimination in immigration laws in Europe. And of course, a huge highlight of the conference for me was the panel discussion carried out by Dr Adam and Professor Garbers."

The Stellenbosch students also made an impression. After interacting with the students, Dr Azzi from the ILO noted:

"I must say, I have given many talks in my time, but never have I seen such an engaged and bright group of people... I hope they keep their drive and curiosity and critical thinking in life... It was a pleasure to have contributed and participated in this session."



2025 Global Scholars Academy

From 30 June to 4 July, the Faculty collaborated with Harvard Law School's IGLP to convene the Global Scholars Academy in Stellenbosch. The Faculty is grateful for the participation and support of scholars, post doctoral fellows and students from

all continents for making this third GSA hosted by the IGLP, Harvard Law School and SU Law a fantastic success. (Read more: <https://www.su.ac.za/en/node/20153> and <https://iglp.law.harvard.edu/events/2025gsa/>.)

ICON-S 2025 Annual Conference

From 28 to 30 July, Professor Geo Quinot participated in the **ICON-S 2025 Annual Conference** in Brasilia, Brazil, the annual conference of the largest international scholarly association in public law – the International Society of Public Law. The conference involved over 340 sessions over the 3 days with participants from all corners of the globe. Professor Quinot participated in a session focusing on public auditing in contemporary governance in which he reflected on the role of the South African Auditor-General as both an enforcer and subject of administrative justice.



Southern African Law Teachers Conference

The Faculty of Law at the University of Pretoria hosted the 2025 edition of the Southern African Law Teachers Conference (SALTC) from 13 to 18 July under the theme: "Reflections on constitutional supremacy in Southern Africa: Reviewing the impact on law teaching, learning, and practice." The Faculty was represented by Professor Juanita Pienaar, Professor Bradley Slade, Professor Bernard Wessels, Professor Delano van der Linde, Ms Ebrezia John-

son, Ms Coline Bruintjies, Dr Ntando Sindane, Ms Zinhle Novazi, and Mr Thala Msutu.

Ms Zinhle Novazi was the third runner-up for the "first-time presenter award" for her paper was based on Technologically Facilitated GBV. During the conference, Professor Slade was re-elected as the vice-president of the Southern African Law Teachers Society.



Virtual Public Lecture

Professor Delano van der Linde was invited to present a virtual public lecture at the Wits School of Law on 5 August. The lecture focused on Image-Based Sexual Abuse, which includes the non-consensual distribution of intimate images, sexual extortion (or "sextortion"). Professor van der Linde focused on the legislative landscape dealing with these crime forms and whether South Africa is equipped to deal with

these phenomena. He also focused on the modus operandi of those who commit these crimes as well as the psychological impact on victims. Professor van der Linde has published a number of articles on the topic in the past few years (see Van der Linde, DC "Some notes on non-consensual or 'revenge porn' under the Film and Publications Amendment Act (2021) *Tydskrif vir Hedendaagse Romeins-Hol-*

landse Reg; DC van der Linde "An analysis of the offences relating to malicious communications and associated court orders under the Cyber-crimes Act 19 of 2020" (2024) 37(3) *South African Journal of Criminal Justice* 363-394; DC van der Linde "Recent Cases: General principles and specific offences" (2025) 38(1) *South African Journal of Criminal Justice* 134-147)



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IMAGE BASED SEXUAL ABUSE

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PROF DELANO COLE VAN DER LINDE,
STELLENBOSCH UNIVERSITY

Professor Alain-Laurent Verbeke: Inaugural Lecture

The Faculty was honoured to host Professor Alain-Laurent Verbeke's (*TPR Tijdschrift voor Privaatrecht Leerstoel*) inaugural lecture on 14 August. Professor Verbeke delivered an inspiring address titled "Study for a dialogue on foundations of inheritance law and taxation". With nearly four decades of experience bridging legal scholarship and

practice, Professor Verbeke's insights into the intersection of law, psychology, and human relationships provided our academic community with invaluable perspectives on contemporary legal challenges. Thank you to all colleagues and guests who attended this exceptional evening of legal scholarship.





Shaping the Future of Democratic Systems – South Africa's Land Standing 'Land and Crime' Problem

At the end of August, colleagues from the Department of Public Law hosted a workshop entitled "Shaping the Future of Democratic Systems – South Africa's Land Standing 'Land and Crime' Problem". A rich discussion took place on the dual crises of the

land problem and the endemic gang violence, how it shapes the ordinary lives of people in South Africa, and how the law and the various state institutions and civil society can respond to these challenges.

2025 SAILAS Insolvency Law & Business Rescue conference

Professor Geo Quinot participated in the 2025 SAILAS Insolvency Law & Business Rescue conference, hosted by Nelson Mandela University between 28 and 29 August in Gqeberha. His paper explored the reviewability of decisions managing

financial distress noting the incoherence of South African law in relation to reviewability of decisions in different contexts of financial distress ranging from insolvency to business rescue to municipal distress.

IALS 2025 Annual Meeting

Professors Nicola Smit and Juanita Pienaar were part of the South African contingent attending the International Association of Law Schools (IALS) 2025 Annual Meeting, hosted by Chulalongkorn University, Faculty of Law on 8 and 9 September 2025 in Bangkok, Thailand.

This year's theme, "Perspectives on the 21st Century: One Quarter In", invites law school leaders, faculty,

students, judges, and lawyers from around the globe to reflect on how technology, globalisation, and shifting societal values are reshaping legal education and the profession.

Stellenbosch University's Faculty of Law will host the general meeting in Stellenbosch next year, from 3 to 4 September 2026.



International Conference on Children's Rights 2025

From 9 to 11 September 2025, the Faculty of Law proudly hosted the Second International Conference on Children's Rights, and welcoming participants from across the globe. This year's theme, "The Global Digital Future We Seek: Artificial Intelligence, Online Safety and Children's Rights in the Digital Environment," brought together diverse voices to reflect on the urgent questions shaping children's rights in a rapidly evolving digital world.

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We were honoured to have the leadership of the University and the Faculty of Law in attendance. Among them were the Rector and Vice-Chancellor, Professor Deresh Ramjugernath; Deputy Vice-Chancellor for Learning and Teaching, Professor Richard Stevens; and the Vice-Deans, Professor Theo Broodryk and Professor Bradley Slade. Their presence signal strong institutional recognition that children's rights, particularly in digital environments, demand attention and commitment at the highest levels of leadership.

The International Conference provided a dynamic platform for students, researchers, judges, lawyers, policymakers, and child rights practitioners to exchange ideas, share experiences, and reflect on

how best to promote and protect children's rights in the digital sphere.

Through critical dialogue and knowledge sharing, the conference is reaffirmed that the right of every child to be safe, respected, and empowered in digital environments is a shared responsibility and one that requires collective commitment to shape a digital future that truly serves children. Many thanks to Professor Sonia Human and Dr Admark Moyo for their leadership in making the Conference such a success. Thank you to members of the organising team, including the Faculty's Postdoctoral Research Fellows, Dr Bridget Joyce Machaka and Dr Bryony Fox, whose dedication and hard work ensured that everything ran seamlessly.





Heritage Day

In celebration of Heritage Day, the Faculty hosted a seminar, titled "Legal pluralism and the courts: A shift in the original direction?", on 23 September. Professor Christa Rautenbach from the North-West University gave an enlightening presentation, to which Dr Ntando Sindane and Ms Ebrezia Johnson (SU Faculty of Law) were invited to respond.

The well-attended event concluded with an informal performance by the SU Zulu Student Society in front of the Old Main Building.

Thank you to the Office of the Dean, the Faculty's Transformation Committee and the JVS for an event that set the scene for a thoughtful celebration of Heritage Day 2025.

USuku lwaMafa eMveli

Ekubhiyozeleni uSuku lwaMafa eMveli, le Fakhalathi iye yabamba isemina, esihloko sithi "Imijelo ngemijelo yezomthetho neenkundla: Kukecebuka kwinkalo ebekujoliswe kuyo kuqala?, semina leyo ibibanjwe ngomhla wama23 kweyoMsintsi. UNjing Christa Rautenbach weYunivesithi yaseMntla-Ntshona wenze intetha evul' amehlo, apho kwamenywa khona uGqr Ntando Sindane noNksz Ebrezia Johnson (beFakhalathi yoMthetho eSU) ukuba baze kuphendula.

Loo msitho owawuzinyaswe ngabantu abaninzi wasongwa ngomdlalo ongaqingqwanga ngumbutho iZulu Student Society phambi kwesakhiwo iOld Main Building.

Ndiyabulela kwiOfisi yeNtloko yeFakhalathi, iKomittee yeeNguqu yeFakhalathi kunye neJVS ngomsitho owandlatela umbhiyozo ochuliweyo woSuku lwaMafa eMveli lwangowama2025.



6th Interdisciplinary Symposium on Public Procurement

Professor Geo Quinot participated in the 6th Interdisciplinary Symposium on Public Procurement, held on 18 to 19 September in Lisbon, Portugal. The Symposium, organized by the University of Rome Tor Vergata since 2011 aims to bring together economists, engineers, lawyers, management scholars and professionals in the field of public procurement through dialogue and discussion. The objective is to reduce the terminology barrier between different

disciplines in studying public procurement, bridging the cross-cultural divide and reaching a wider understanding of practical issues in public procurement. Professor Quinot's paper focused on public procurement integrity at the digital frontier, analysing the impact of increased digitalisation on existing regulatory and policy measures in pursuit of integrity in public procurement.



20th Annual European Policy for Intellectual Property

In September 2025, Christine Strauss attended the 20th Annual European Policy for Intellectual Property (EPIP) Conference, hosted by the University of Antwerp, Belgium. This year's theme, "Turning IP Ambitions into Action: Creating Connections, Collaborations, and Communities," encouraged participants to move beyond theoretical debates about intellectual property (IP) and explore how IP can be practically leveraged to address global challenges. The conference brought together a diverse community of academics, policymakers, and practitioners from the fields of IP law, economics, and innovation studies. Discussions covered a wide range of topics, including new technologies and IP, IP in times of crisis, IP and governance, access, equity and inclusion, sustainable IP innovation, and institutional and community building. Christine presented her research on "Copyright Protection over AI Training Data in South

Africa: A Comparative Analysis with the EU and US" as part of the session on New Technologies and IP. The EPIP community aims to promote interdisciplinary dialogue on the future of IP policy in Europe and beyond.





Regional Teaching and Learning conference, hosted at UCT on Thursday, the 11th of September

On 11 September, UCT hosted the annual Regional Learning and Teaching conference, with the theme "Bridging Theory and Practice: Innovation in Law

Teaching and Clinical Legal Education". The conference featured engaging presentations that sparked lively discussions.

Annual Labour Law Colloquium 2025

Stellenbosch University's Faculty of Law recently hosted the Fourth Annual Labour Law Colloquium at the Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Study (STIAS) from 1 to 3 October 2025. Described by

many as having established itself as the premier labour law event in South Africa, this year's theme – "The LRA at 30 in a World of Climate and Technological Change" – provided an important moment

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Back from left to right: Edmund Beerwinkel (Juta – sponsor of the dinner); Judge Kate Savage (Labour Appeal Court), Judge President Edwin Molahlehi (Labour and Labour Appeal Court), Prof Richard Stevens (Acting Vice Principal: Teaching and Learning, Stellenbosch University), Prof Christoph Garbers (organiser and host), Prof Theo Broodryk (Acting Vice Dean; Research and Internationalisation, Stellenbosch Law Faculty);

Front from left to right: Judge Andre van Niekerk (Labour Appeal Court), Peter le Roux (guest of Honour), Prof Juanita Pienaar (Acting Dean, Stellenbosch Law Faculty) Prof Dennis Davis (guest of honour), Prof Halton Cheadle (Emeritus Professor, UCT).

to reflect on three decades of the Labour Relations Act, 1995 and its continued relevance in a rapidly transforming society.

Organised and hosted by Professor Christoph Gärbers, the colloquium offered a dynamic platform for dialogue among 140 academics, judges, practitioners, policymakers and students. The sessions featured a diverse range of international and local speakers from different disciplines (economics, education and law) and included established scholars, members of the judiciary, leading practitioners and emerging researchers. Discussions traversed the intersections of technology, climate change, and the need for reform of our labour and social security legislation, revealing both the resilience of and evolving challenges for South African labour law.

As has become custom, one highlight of the event was the tribute dinner, where the Faculty honoured Professor Dennis Davis and Peter le Roux for their immense contributions to labour law and social jus-

tice. Tributes were delivered by Judge Andre van Niekerk and Professor Halton Cheadle who reflected on the honourees' lasting impact on labour jurisprudence, scholarship, and the mentoring of generations of lawyers.

This year was also particularly significant as it saw the reintroduction of a postgraduate session, during which labour law doctoral students from across South Africa had the opportunity to present their research and receive constructive feedback from the audience. One of the highlights of the session was the closing advice from Peter le Roux, who encouraged students: *"Don't be afraid to get involved with the people on the ground, see how this happens in real life ... keep at it and keep going."* The session captured the spirit of mentorship and collaboration that continues to define the colloquium and reaffirmed the Faculty's commitment to not only foster critical interdisciplinary scholarship but to do so on the basis of intergenerational engagement.



Human Rights Commission Conference

On 29 October 2025, the South African Human Rights Commission hosted a conference to celebrate 30 years of courage: Defending Human Rights, Dignity, Justice, and Democracy for All. At this conference, Professor Slade presented a paper on the protection mandate of the Commission.

Local content in public procurement – policy, law and practice in focus



On 24 October, Professor Geo Quinot delivered the keynote opening speech (via virtual link) at an international conference on **Local content in public procurement – policy, law and practice in focus** hosted by the Polish Public Procurement Law Association (PPLA) and the Chair of European Law at the University of Warsaw's Faculty of Law and Administration, Warsaw, Poland. Professor Quinot reflected on what "local content" in the context of public procurement policy actually means and the definition of the term influence the way in which one thinks about its practical implementation and practical impact.

FEM AI In Country Lab South Africa

Ms Zinhle Novazi delivered a keynote reflection titled: "If you don't have a seat at the table, you are probably in the training data".

This keynote was part of the launch of the FemAI South African Lab, hosted on 1 October by the Policy Innovation Lab at Stellenbosch University, in partnership with Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH and Women Political Leaders (WPL). The Lab explores how AI can shape policy, combat gender-based violence, and elevate women leaders across Africa.

In her keynote address, she reflected on the importance of incorporating women's voices at every stage of the AI lifecycle. She also shared insights from the Heavy Chef (Pty) Ltd (Foundation) on the challenges women face in technology adoption,

and she amplified reflections from women in STEM who highlighted the systemic barriers that women continue to face in science, technology, and innovation.

The Lab is focused on capacitating women policy-makers and legislators from across Africa to engage with technology more broadly and AI in particular. One of its most powerful objectives is to ensure that African women political leaders are equipped to leverage AI to create gender-sensitive, data-driven policies that advance societal equity.



Annual Banking Law Update

On 21 October, Ms Zinhle Novazi had the privilege of moderating the Fintech & Technology in Banking session at Annual Banking Law Update (ABLU) 2025. she had an incredibly engaging discussion with Dr Johann van Der Lith from the Financial Sector Conduct Authority, who offered valuable insights on shaping fintech policy and regulatory frameworks, regulating crypto assets, and adopting a transborder licensing regime; Dr Sershiv Reddy, who explored the role of automated decision-making in credit (a topic closely tied to her doctoral research);

and Professor Vivienne Lawack, with whom she exchanged thoughts on the evolution and harmonisation of fintech regulation across national, regional, and continental levels.

She also thoroughly enjoyed attending the Financial and Credit Regulation session, chaired eloquently by Professor Johann Scholtz with Professor Angela Itzikowitz's analysis of Regulation 10(1)(c) of the Exchange Control Regulations and the definition of "capital" being a standout moment for me.

LESI Annual Conference

On Tuesday, 11 November 2025, Zinhle Novazi participated in a panel discussion on AI and Data Li-

censing at the Licensing Executives Society International (LESI) Annual Conference, held at the Asara

Continues on following page.



Derick Swart, Jacques du Toit, Zinhle Novazi, and Dr Andrew Rens.

Wine Estate in Stellenbosch. The event formed part of a specialised programme examining how artificial intelligence and data-driven technologies are reshaping commercial, legal, and regulatory landscapes across industries.

The session was expertly moderated by Dérick Swart and featured contributions from regional experts including Jacques du Toit and Dr. Andrew Rens. Together, the panellists explored the evolving legal, commercial, and ethical considerations surrounding the ownership, access, and use of data and algorithms in an AI-driven global economy.

The discussion addressed several key themes, including:

- 1) The technical and engineering realities of training data for machine learning models.
- 2) The copyright implications of training AI on protected works versus mathematical abstractions, with reference to the widely discussed Getty Images matter.
- 3) The legal complexity surrounding AI systems trained on web-scraped datasets, and whether

such practices constitute personal data processing under privacy laws such as the GDPR and POPIA.

Novazi emphasised that meaningful progress in AI governance will require sustained, interdisciplinary collaboration. Engineers, data protection specialists, and intellectual property lawyers, she noted, must work together to design mechanisms that uphold rights, preserve innovation incentives, and ensure trusted deployment of AI systems across markets.

The session provided practical insights for attendees on navigating emerging issues in AI and data licensing, particularly in relation to:

- 1) Intellectual property protection and licensing frameworks
- 2) Data sovereignty and cross-border data transfers
- 3) Shifting regulatory approaches to AI technologies

As the use of AI becomes integral to business strategy and market competitiveness, the panel underscored the growing importance of clarifying the legal status of data and the algorithmic systems built upon it.



Launch of 16 days of activism of no violence against women and children

At the 2025 Gender-Based Violence and Femicide (GBVF) Prevention Summit, held on 25 November at the Gallagher Convention Centre under the theme *"Rewriting the Script: Harnessing Film, Arts and Media to Prevent GBVF,"* the Centre for Social Justice, in partnership with the Film and Publication Board and upon invitation by the Department of Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities, co-hosted a panel examining the constitutional balance between freedom of expression and economic freedom on the one hand, and the right to freedom and security of the person on the other.

Moderated by Professor Thuli Madonsela, the panel – featuring Dr Marna Lourens, Professor Delano van der Linde, Advocate Makhosazana Lindhorst, Professor Relebohile Moletsane, and Ms Goitseman Mathebula – explored how film, media and digital

content shape social norms, influence vulnerability, and how these can either reinforce or disrupt GBVF-related harm.

The discussion also highlighted the CSJ's Social Justice Impact Assessment Matrix (SIAM) as a predictive tool for assessing how content and regulation promote equity, access, agency, redistribution, structural transformation, accountability, and well-being.

Key outcomes emphasised the need for balanced rights-based regulation, improved public understanding of content classification and systemic interventions that address deeper narrative drivers of GBVF. As next steps, the Centre for Social Justice will prepare a policy brief, to be followed by a roundtable with industry leaders, and contribute to the development of a Film and Media Charter.

Ukundululwa kwephulo leentsuku ezili16 zokuchasana nokuxhatshazwa kwabasetyhini nabantwana

KwiNgqungquthela ka2025 yoBundlobongela obuSekwe kwiSini nokuBulawa kwabaseTyhini (iGBVF), ebibanjwe ngomhla wama25 kweyeNkanga kwiziko leengqungquthela iGallagher Convention Centre phantsi komxholo othi "UkuBhalwa kuTsha koMdlalo: Ukusebenzisa iFilimu, ubuGcisa kunye neMidiya ukuThintela iGBVF," iZiko loBulungisa kweNtlalo, libambisene neBhodi yoPapasho lweeFilimu nasemva kokumenywa liSebe labaseTyhini, uLutsha naBantu abaKhubazekileyo, lamisela iphaneli eyayigocagoca umahluko phakathi kwenkululeko yokuthetha nenkululeko yezoqoqosho kwelinye icala, kunye nelungelo lenkululeko nokhuseleko lomntu kwelinye icala.

Loo phaneli yayiphantsi kweliso likaNjing Thuli Madonsela, iphaneli leyo eyayiquka uGqr Marna Lourens, uNjing Delano van der Linde, iGqwetha leeJaji uMakhosazana Lindhorst, uNjing Relebohile Moletsane, kunye noNkskz Goitseman Mathebula – yaphononga indlela ifilimu, imidiya kunye nokuqulethwe ngokwedijithali enokumisela ngayo imigaqo yentlalo,

enokuba nefuthe ngayo kwimingcipheko, nokuba oku kungawomeleza okanye kungawuphazamisa njani umonakalo owenziwa yiGBVF.

Loo ngxoxo yaqaqambisa neSocial Justice Impact Assessment Matrix (SIAM) yeCSJ njengesixhobo esiqikelelayo sokuvavanya indlela oko kuqulethweyo nolawulo okunokukhuthaza ngayo ubulungisa, ufikeleleko, umelo, usasazo kutsha, iinguqu kulwakheko, ukuphendula nempilontle.

Iziphumo eziphambili zigxininise imfuneko yomiselomigaqo olusekelwe kumalungelo, ukuze kuqondwe ngcono uhlelo lokuqulethweyo kunye nongenelelo olwayamene neenkqubo oluya kujongana nzulu nezinto ezingoonobangela beGBVF. Njengamanyathelo alandelayo, iZiko loBulungisa kwiNtlalo liza kuqulunqa ingxelo emfutshane emalunga nomgaqonkqubo, ngxelo leyo iza kulandelwa yindibano yeengxoxo zokubonisana eza kubanjwa neenkokeli zeli candelo loshishino, ukuze libe negalelo ekuqulunqweni kweTshata yeFilimu neMidiya.

Publication of “Labour Law: Past, Present and Future”

This year saw the publication of “Labour Law: Past, Present and Future”, edited by the Faculty’s Professors Andre Louw and Christoph Garbers. This is the second book published as part of the Law Faculty book series called “Perspectives on law from South Africa and beyond: Future, Present, Past”, a series initiated as part of the Faculty’s centenary celebrations in 2021.

The book emanates from the first two labour law colloquia organised by Professor Garbers and hosted by the Faculty in 2022 and 2023. The 2022 colloquium, titled “Labour Law: Past, Present and Future”, aimed to reflect broadly on the development of labour law over the years and the challenges it faces in the future. This was followed by the 2023 colloquium focusing on the labour and social protection jurisprudence of the South African Constitutional Court, a colloquium inspired by the 20th anniversary of the decision – *NEHAWU v UCT* – where the Constitutional Court first and unequivocally established its jurisdiction as the highest decision-maker

in even ordinary labour matters. This book brings together a selection of 11 papers presented at these colloquia. Contributors include notable international scholars – Professor Simon Deakin (Cambridge University), Professor Manfred Weiss (Goethe University) and Dr Pablo Arellano (International Labour Organisation) – as well as renowned South African practitioners and academics, such as Anton Myburgh SC, Professor Cameron Morajane (Director of the CCMA), Professor Paul Benjamin (Extraordinary Professor, UWC), Professor Rochelle le Roux (UCT) and Shamima Gaibie (Cheadle Thompson). It is believed that the varied contributions in this book will serve to enrich labour law literature in South Africa (and beyond), bringing timely and critical perspectives on important developments of the law as well as the role of a constitutional court in giving substance to fundamental rights within the context of the employment relationship (on both the individual and collective levels).

Prof Sope Williams Shares Expertise at International and National Events

In late 2025, Professor Sope Williams actively participated in global and national forums, sharing her expertise on critical governance issues. Key highlights include serving as a speaker on Public Procurement Corruption in Rio de Janeiro (FGV Direito University) and as a panellist addressing Gender Responsive Procurement at the 3rd International Congress of Public Procurement in Buenos Aires in November.

She also moderated a session on AI Governance in the Public Sector at the Public Protector South Africa’s 30th Anniversary Conference in October. Additionally, Professor Williams presented findings on The OECD-MAPS Assessment on South Africa at the 5th International Conference on Public Procurement Regulation and Policy in Stellenbosch in September, following her July presentation on “Coercive consent, corruption and integrity.”

The 3rd International Congress of Public Procurement, University of Buenos Aires, Buenos Aires, Argentina



Ms Rukshana Parker presents course at the University of Münster

During October 2025, Ms Rukshana Parker taught a block course at the University of Münster in Germany as part of the academic exchange between the two institutions. The course, titled "Relationships and Their Impact on the Law of Inheritance," introduced Münster law students to the South African perspective on inheritance law while encouraging comparative reflection between legal systems.

Ms Parker describes the experience as both intellectually stimulating and personally enriching. The students' curiosity and openness to engage with unfamiliar legal concepts created a dynamic classroom atmosphere. Discussions on fairness, family, and inheritance revealed not only doctrinal differences but also the shared human questions that shape inheritance law across cultures.

The impact of her teaching was reflected in student feedback, which praised her "authentic and empathetic teaching style," "calm and positive atmosphere," and the "interactive nature" of her classes.

Several students noted that her course was "one of the most engaging and insightful" they had attended, commending her clarity, pacing, and willingness to take time with their questions.

The experience reaffirmed the importance of comparative legal education in broadening both students' and lecturers' perspectives. Beyond the classroom, the exchange strengthened ties between Stellenbosch University and the University of Münster and underscored the value of international collaboration in higher education. Parker returned with renewed insight into the comparative study of succession law and a deep appreciation for the shared universality of teaching and learning.



Recognition | Erkenning

The Faculty would like to extend warm congratulations to colleagues for several achievements, milestones, and awards:

With effect 1 January 2026, **Professor Bradley Slade** and **Professor Bernard Wessels** have been promoted to Full Professor in the Departments of Public Law and Private Law, respectively.

Dr Ntando Sindane has been promoted to Senior Lecturer, with effect 1 January 2026.

On Tuesday, 9 December, **Ms Coline Bruintjies** received her PhD from Wits.

Dr Mary Nel was awarded for 25 years' service.

At the SU Research and Innovation Excellence Awards 2025, **Professor Anél du Plessis** was honoured in the Women in Research category.

On 25 November 2025, **Dr Stephan van der Merwe** received the Stellenbosch University Social Impact Award (Individual Category), the University's highest honour for exceptional contributions to social impact.

With 25 years in law and education, **Dr Stephan van der Merwe's** work at the SU Law Clinic has supported thousands in the wider community. Through strategic litigation, advocacy, and key collaborations, he continues to drive meaningful change in areas such as consumer rights, debt management, and socio-economic justice.

Dr Stephan van der Merwe



New Appointments

Prof Leo Boonzaier

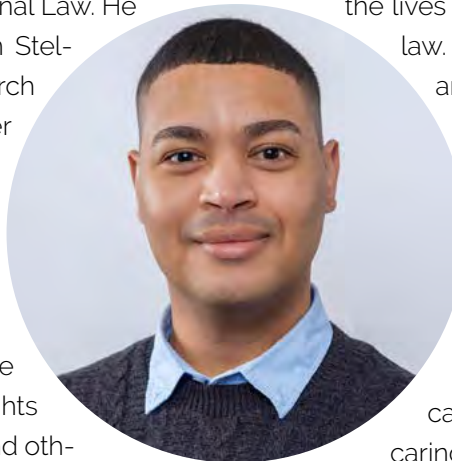
Leo Boonzaier joined Stellenbosch University in July 2025 as an Associate Professor in the Department of Private Law. He grew up in the Southern Suburbs of Cape Town and studied first social science and then law at UCT. After his LLB graduation in 2011, he left Cape Town for Hamburg, Germany, where he worked as a research assistant to Professor Reinhard Zimmermann at the Max Planck Institute for Comparative and International Private Law. From there, he went to the University of Oxford to study for a Bachelor of Civil Law, specialising in legal theory and the law of obligations. Then he clerked for Justice Edwin Cameron at the Constitutional Court of South



Africa, before going back to Oxford in 2015 for doctoral studies supervised by Professor John Gardner and Professor Sandy Steel. Leo returned to Cape Town in 2021 after ten years away, taking up a position teaching Delict and Jurisprudence in the UCT Department of Private Law. His main area of expertise is the South African law of delict, understood theoretically and comparatively, but he also has research and teaching interests in the wider law of obligations, jurisprudence, and the constitutionalisation of private law. In his spare time, he enjoys reading, hiking, traveling, and spending time with his wife.

Dr Johndré Barnes

Johndré Barnes joined the Department of Private Law in July 2025, where he lectures Law of Persons and Children's Rights and International Law. He holds an LLB, LLM, and LLD from Stellenbosch University. His LLM research examined the right to legal gender recognition for transgender children in South Africa, while his LLD focused on the legal recognition of non-binary and gender-diverse identities. Through this research, he developed arguments for inclusive legal frameworks that affirm the rights and dignity of LGBTQIA+ persons and other marginalised communities. His scholarly interests span the fields of legal subjectivity, gender recognition, children's rights, and constitutional values, contributing to a transformative reimagining of legal subjectivity in South African law. His ongoing



research explores how constitutional values may be used to foster recognition, belonging, and justice in the lives of those often overlooked by the law. He is passionate about building an inclusive legal curriculum that reflects the diversity of lived experience and strives to equip students with the tools to think critically and compassionately about law's transformative potential. Outside academia, Johndré finds calm in long walks, cooking, and caring for his growing collection of plants. He is often joined by his cat, Blaze, who keeps close watch while he works. He draws joy from music, a good book or podcast, and the pull of the sea on a breezy day.

We welcome Leo and Johndré to the Faculty and, in particular, the Department of Private Law

Afskeidsgroet

Ons groet die volgende personeellede: Privaatreg sekretaresse, **Me Tammy Davids**, en Publiekreg sekretaresse, **me Sibu Buthelezi-Vala**. Ons wens

hulle voorspoed met die nuwe geleenthede wat hul opneem.



Gradeplegtigheid

Die volgende grade en **diplomas** is tydens die **gradeplegtigheid** van 9 Desember 2025 toegeken:



Die Fakulteit is baie trots op al die studente wat gegraduateer het en wens hulle alle sukses toe.

Doctoral Qualifications

Conradie, Robyn (Private Law)

The public healthcare crisis: reconsidering the quantification and payment of damages where delictual liability has been imposed against the state for harm arising from medical malpractice. An increase in the number of delictual claims instituted against the state for harm arising from medical malpractice has led to the significant expansion of the state's delictual liability in this context. This places severe financial pressure on the state and raises serious con-

cerns about its future ability to continue providing access to public healthcare. This study investigates whether there are alternative methods to quantify and pay damages to victims of medical malpractice in the public healthcare sector. It ultimately justifies the potential introduction of alternative quantification and payment methods in this context and evaluates how they may be practically implemented.

Supervisor: Professor AB Wessels

GRADUATION DECEMBER 2025







Honorary Doctorate | Eredoktorsgraad

Chris Otto, an SU alumnus and entrepreneur, was awarded the degree Doctor of Laws (LLD), *honoris causa*, for his visionary leadership, entrepreneurial spirit, commitment to value creation, and his dedication to projects that promote social justice and positive change in South Africa. He is a co-founder of the PSG Group and Capitec Bank. He is also the founding chairman of the Stellenbosch Law Faculty Trust, which assisted with the establishment of the Chair in Social Justice (now the Centre for Social Justice), the Gys Steyn Chair in Financial Regulation Law and the Chair in Urban Law and Sustainability Governance.

Chris Otto, 'n entrepreneur en alumnus van die US, het die graad Doktor in die Regte (LLD), honoris causa, ontvang vir sy visionêre leierskap, entrepreneursgees, toewyding aan waardeskepping en sy verbintenis tot projekte wat maatskaplike geregtigheid en positiewe verandering in Suid-Afrika bevorder. Hy was 'n medestigter van die PSG Groep en Capitec Bank. Hy is ook die stigtersvoorsitter van die Stellenbosch Regsfakulteit Trust wat betrokke was by die vestiging van die Leerstoel in Sosiale Geregtigheid (hedendaagse Sentrum vir Sosiale Gregtigheid), die Gys Steyn-leer-



stoel in Finansiële Reguleringsreg, en die Leerstoel in Stedelike Reg en Volhoubaarheidsbestuur.

Reflecting on your entire career, from your LLB graduation and exposure in merchant banking to your entrepreneurial success and the establishment of the Stellenbosch Law Faculty Trust, which moments stand out as the most defining in terms of their impact on your life, business ventures, and lasting legacy?

My first important and pivotal decision was to enrol to study Law at Stellenbosch University in 1968 and to secure residency in Eendrag. I graduated with an LLB in 1972 as part of a most wonderful class. Thereafter, I started my career as a budding Merchant Banker in Johannesburg. Apart from learning old school banking, I was also exposed to most of the major legal firms in Johannesburg as well as the leading silks and budding young lawyers and advocates.

In my business career I was fortunate to firstly meet up with Jannie Mouton, which led to the establishment of the PSG Group. Secondly, we also joined up with Michiel le Roux to establish Capitec.

Also, at the prompting of Professor Gerhard Lubbe, we established the Stellenbosch Law Faculty Trust, which continues to make a major contribution (mostly financial) to the welfare and future of the Faculty.

Was daar mense, plekke of gebeure wat 'n beduidende rol gespeel het?

Ek het baie skole bygewoon, beide in die Kaapprovinsie en in die Transvaal. My ma was 'n bibliotekaresse, en gevolglik het ek letterlik biblioteke op 'n slag gelees! Gelukkig was my ouers redelik liberaal, so ek kon enigiets lees wat beskikbaar was. Dit het my ook geleer om buite die boks te dink.

Daarna was universiteit 'n ware keerpunt in my lewe. Ons is blootgestel aan van die grootste denkers van ons tyd; in ekonomie: Jan Sadie, Sampie Terreblanche en Wolfgang Thomas; en in regte: JC de Wet, AB de Villiers en Andreas van Wyk.

What challenges did you encounter in your field, and how did you overcome them?

Having moved around a lot, one was never really part of the 'in crowd', therefore somewhat of an outsider. Hard work and reading compensated for this. In our later business life, we were never really part of the establishment nor of the then regime. We always tried to do the right thing and, in the process, established credibility, the most important aspect in any career. And, of course, hard work and long hours.

Watter raad sal jy aan studente gee wat 'n impak in hul gemeenskappe of beroepe wil maak?

Werk hard om jou wêreld 'n beter plek te maak; probeer om 'n bydrae tot die samelewing in die algemeen te lewer en onthou om altyd 'n groot dosis empatie te hê.

How do you see your field evolving over the next decade?

Our fields of endeavour, especially banking and business, will be greatly changed by AI.

Hopefully businesses will also become more active in maintaining the Rule of Law. Furthermore, I suspect that the business community will become more and more active in charities improving the lives of all our peoples.

Watter rol kan universiteite speel om huidige globale kwessies aan te spreek?

Universiteite se rolle is hoofsaaklik om onderrig te gee en navorsing te doen. Laasgenoemde sluit natuurlik 'n menigte sondes in. Maar ek is nie oortuig dat universiteite by die politieke waens moet aansluit nie, veral deur kant te kies in baie komplekse situasies.

Is there a message you would like to share with the academic community honouring you?

It might be somewhat arrogant for me to advise the academic community, but it can't hurt to be progressive in both thought and actions. And keep an open mind. Also reach out to the non-academic communities, e.g., businesses, labour movements, government and, dare I say, politicians.

Watter uitdagings in die samelewing vereis dringende aandag, en waarom?

Daar moet gelyke geleenthede vir almal geskep word. En dit kan slegs deur skoolopleiding en onderwys bereik word. Alle kinders moet geleer word hoe om te lees. Ter bereiking hiervan het die Otto-stigting reeds biblioteke vir jong kinders gevestig en bedryf dit steeds.

What qualities do you believe young people should cultivate to succeed in a rapidly changing world?

Young people should empower themselves with knowledge, always have an open mind and have the will to succeed and change the world for the better.

Watter waardes het jou die konsekwentste deur die lewe gelei?

My familie sê dat ek 'n sterk sin vir geregtigheid het; billikheid in alle sake is deel van my DNA. My empatie en sin vir behoorlike moraliteit, sowel as die waardering vir die waarde van vriendskappe, lei my. Laastens, ek glo mens moenie dinge op sigwaarde aanvaar nie: mens moet 'n ondersoekende gees hê.



Moot Court

On 19 and 20 September 2025, the Centre for Child Law hosted its 14th Annual Child Law Moot Court Competition, with participants from 18 universities across the country.

Congratulations to Mr Dirk Hagen and Mr Taariq Abrahams for being named the overall winners and for achieving third place in the category of Best Heads of Argument. Their success, particularly as first-year students, is both commendable and inspiring.

[Read more here.](#)



Lady Justice Joyce Aluoch International Inter-Varsity Annual ADR Moot Competition

In August 2025, Stellenbosch University emerged as the overall winner at the Lady Justice Joyce Aluoch International Inter-Varsity Annual ADR Moot Competition, held in Nairobi, Kenya, from 17 to 22 August.

Team KNASA, comprising Anja Venter, Amber Heesom, Nina Hanekom and Sarah Gordon, and coached by Katlego Mmakosha Mthelebofu, represented both Stellenbosch University and the SADC region. Before the start of the competition, participating teams attended a series of preparatory webinars arranged by the organisers. The team was

accommodated at QWETU Student Residence and commenced the programme with an introductory session on 18 August, which included formal addresses by dignitaries such as Lady Justice Aluoch.

From 19 to 22 August, teams competed in a structured series of rounds, including preliminary, quarter-final, semi-final and final stages. Throughout these rounds, participants engaged with complex factual scenarios, technical mediation considerations, and confidential information released shortly before sessions. The competition required sustained preparation, early starts and late evenings, particu-

Continues on following page.





larly as participants also managed academic and work commitments.

In the final round, Stellenbosch University competed against the host institution, United States International University–Africa (USIU–Africa). Both teams demonstrated strong analytical and mediation skills, with Stellenbosch University ultimately

securing the overall victory.

The 2025 competition centred on the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Agreement, with an emphasis on Alternative Dispute Resolution re-framed as “African Dispute Resolution” or “Ancestral Dispute Resolution.”



Student Awards

Rector's Achievements Award Ceremony

At the end of October, Stellenbosch University hosted the annual Rector's Awards for Excellent Achievement to honour exceptional students across faculties. Congratulations to Chris Malherbe and

Mia van Zyl for their outstanding academic achievements, and to Stefanie Kotze (LLM in Public Law) who was recognised as the Top Master's Student.



Above left: Professor Bradley Slade, Stefanie Kotze, and Professor Deresh Ramjugernath. **Above right:** Professor Bradley Slade, Chris Douglas Malherbe (in absentia), and Professor Deresh Ramjugernath.

Below: Professor Bradley Slade, Mia van Zyl, and Professor Deresh Ramjugernath



2025 Christof Heyns Memorial Thesis Award

Congratulations to Dr Hugo Uys on receiving the 2025 Christof Heyns Memorial Thesis Award from the Pretoria University Law Press (PULP). His thesis is titled "Framed and Caged: Theorising the Vulnerability of Animal Bodies Before the Law". The thesis was completed under the supervision of Professors

Henk Botha (supervisor) and Louise du Toit (co-supervisor) at Stellenbosch University. A special congratulations to the runners-up, Dr Christiaan van Schalkwyk and Dr Tanveer Rashid Jeewa. (Read more [here](#).)

Judges Matter Essay Writing Competition 2025

The image is a composite graphic. At the top is a black banner with a red magnifying glass icon and the text 'JUDGES MATTER'. Below this is a red banner with the text 'EXCELLENT WRITING ON THE JUDICIARY COMPETITION'. To the left is a black and white line drawing of Lady Justice, blindfolded, holding a sword and scales. To the right is a photo of Prince Muhomba, a young man in a suit and tie, smiling. Text overlays on the image include '2025 WINNERS:', 'POSTGRADUATE WINNERS: PRINCE MUHOMBA ANOPA MURAMBE', and 'UNDERGRADUATE WINNERS: LUKHONA MAMABU AYANDA KHOLOPE'. At the bottom left, a caption reads: 'Congratulations to Prince Muhomba on receiving 2025 Judges Matter Prize for Excellent Writing on the Judiciary. (Read more [here](#).)'

Juridical Society | Juridiese Vereeniging (JV/S)

The Faculty of Law congratulates the incoming JV/S and wishes them a meaningful and constructive term as student representatives:



Chairperson
Rowan Lindeque



Vice-Chairperson
Zola Mbewu



Treasurer
Daniel McKay



Secretary-General
Isabella du Plessis



Student Affairs Officer
Leigh-ann Dippenaar



Transformation Officer
Robyn Thomas



Public Relations Officer
Anika Richter



Media and marketing Officer
Jared A Chu



Student Enrichment Officer
Stuart Reid



Events Management Officer
Frans Kueyo

Student court

STUDENT COURT BENCH 2025/2026



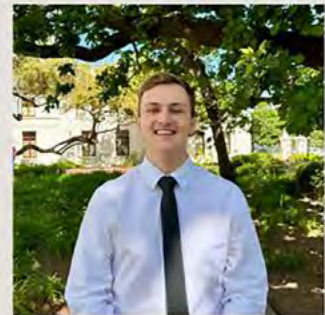
Alika Hillebrand

Deputy Chief Justice



Isabella Scribante

Chief Justice



Heinrich Loock

Registrar



Lisakanya Mlindi

Constitutional Compliance
Officer



Goodness Fatoba

Campus Liaison



AI and the Law Seminar Series 3

The third season of the AI & the Law Seminar Series, presented in collaboration with Swart Law (a local IPO and legal tech firm), ran across multiple in-person and online sessions during 2025. Pictured is this year's winner, pre-final year LLB student Mr Joshua Povall, receiving his prize money of R5,000 from the managing director, Mr Dérick Swart, along with Ms Erin Both and Ms Mari Louw of Swart Law.

Mr Povall's winning contribution was in the form of a final assignment that looked at establishing an ethical AI regulatory framework within the private healthcare space. His contribution explored the intersection between the law, generative AI toolsets and their ethical use in real-world scenarios.

Building on the previous year's success, the 2025 Seminar Series iteration saw the Swart Law experts being joined by leading presenters from industry and academia. Dr Andrew Rens (Senior Research Fellow at Research ICT Africa), Dr Charl Botha (CIO, Stone Three), Retief Gerber (Spatialedge), Lucia Quy (Webber Wentzel Fusion), Nerushka Bowen

(LITT Institute), and various SU academics including Professor Brink van der Merwe (Head of Computer Science, SU), Professor Willem Fourie (Chair of Policy Innovation, School for Data Science & Computational Thinking, SU), Dr Dirk Brand (School of Public Leadership, SU), and Ms Zinhle Novazi (Faculty of Law, SU) delivered sessions on various topical subjects.

The topics included the interplay between human rights, copyright and generative AI, how AI works, global developments in AI regulation, AI and data privacy, transforming legal work through AI in practice, the future-ready lawyer, and AI and humanity.

Initiatives such as the AI and the Law Seminar Series continue to offer SU law students exposure to cutting-edge developments within niche areas of law in a more informal setting. These concepts are then encountered before they appear in the mainstream academic curriculum, while also providing students the opportunity to engage with practitioners who interact with these fast-changing technologies daily.



Semester Exchange Programme 2025

"I feel incredibly lucky to have the opportunity to take part in this exchange experience. The University of Bologna has a rich history of legal scholarship and I have really enjoyed learning alongside other international students from across the globe."



Olivia in Bologna



Nicklas at the University of Antwerp

"Participating in the semester exchange at the University of Antwerp is one of the best experiences of my life. It has allowed me to strengthen my academics with a challenging and diverse programme, while constantly allowing me to immerse myself in new cultures. The opportunity to learn, meet new people, and travel makes the experience truly enriching and incomparable."

"My exchange to Utrecht University has been an absolute privilege, and I am thoroughly enjoying the experience. My highlights of this journey have been meeting other exchange students from all over the world and getting involved and participating in an entirely new culture."



Kieran at Utrecht University

"I am truly grateful to be participating in the semester exchange programme at Utrecht University, as it has been both academically and personally enriching. It has pushed me to adapt to a new environment and step beyond my comfort zone, allowing me to immerse myself in new experiences and connect with incredible people I might never have met otherwise."



Hannes at Utrecht University



Gisela at KU Leuven

"The opportunity to go to Leuven, Belgium, for a semester exchange has been one of the most exciting and enriching experiences that I will cherish forever. I have made lifelong friends and unforgettable memories."

"Exchange has helped me grow as a person in ways I could never have back home. I cannot fully express how grateful I am for this opportunity and how much it means to me."



Jodie at KU Leuven



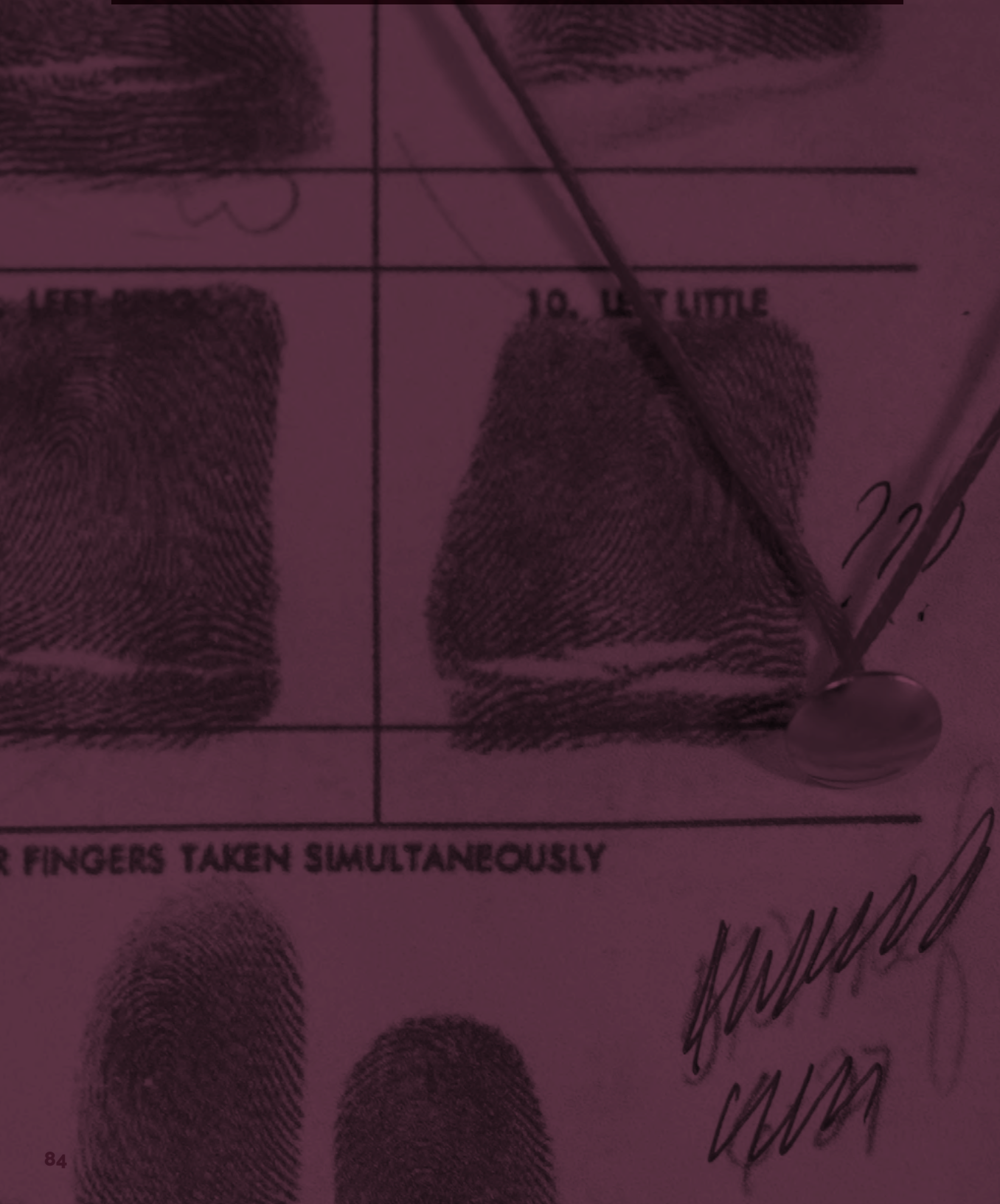
Gisela and Jodie at KU Leuven



Emily at Leiden University

"Studying abroad allowed me to use the skills I have learned at Stellenbosch in a real-life context, such as resilience, adaptability and problem solving. It means getting to make new friends from all over the world and studying law from a truly international perspective because we all come from completely different backgrounds."

Social Impact | Sosiale Impak



US Regskliniek | SU Law Clinic

Mandela Day 2025: Serving with Purpose

In honour of Nelson Mandela's legacy, the Law Clinic dedicated two days in July to community service, reaffirming its commitment to compassion, dignity, and active citizenship.

On 17 July, Clinic staff and candidate legal practitioners visited the Stellenbosch Night Shelter, where they prepared and donated more than 100 sandwiches to contribute towards breakfast for the residents. On 18 July, the team hosted a soup kitchen at the Clinic, serving over 300 bowls of soup to

community members.

These initiatives reflected the Clinic's belief that meaningful impact often begins with simple acts of service and care. The activities fostered a sense of connection and solidarity with the local community and served as a reminder that promoting access to justice extends beyond legal advice – it also includes supporting the dignity and well-being of those around us.



Training coordinator Emily Anderson and administrative assistant Magda Esau, assisted by the Clinic's interns from Hasselt University, preparing and serving meals during the Clinic's Mandela Day outreach activities.

Law Clinic Welcomes Hasselt Interns



At the end of July, The SU Law Clinic was welcomed the Hasselt interns from Belgium. These talented individuals spent a month with the Clinic, gaining valuable practical skills and experiences that helped to shape their future legal careers.

Throughout their time here, the interns immersed themselves in the Clinic's operations, participating in various legal activities and projects. From hands-on training sessions to assisting with real cases, they had numerous opportunities to apply their academic knowledge in a practical setting.



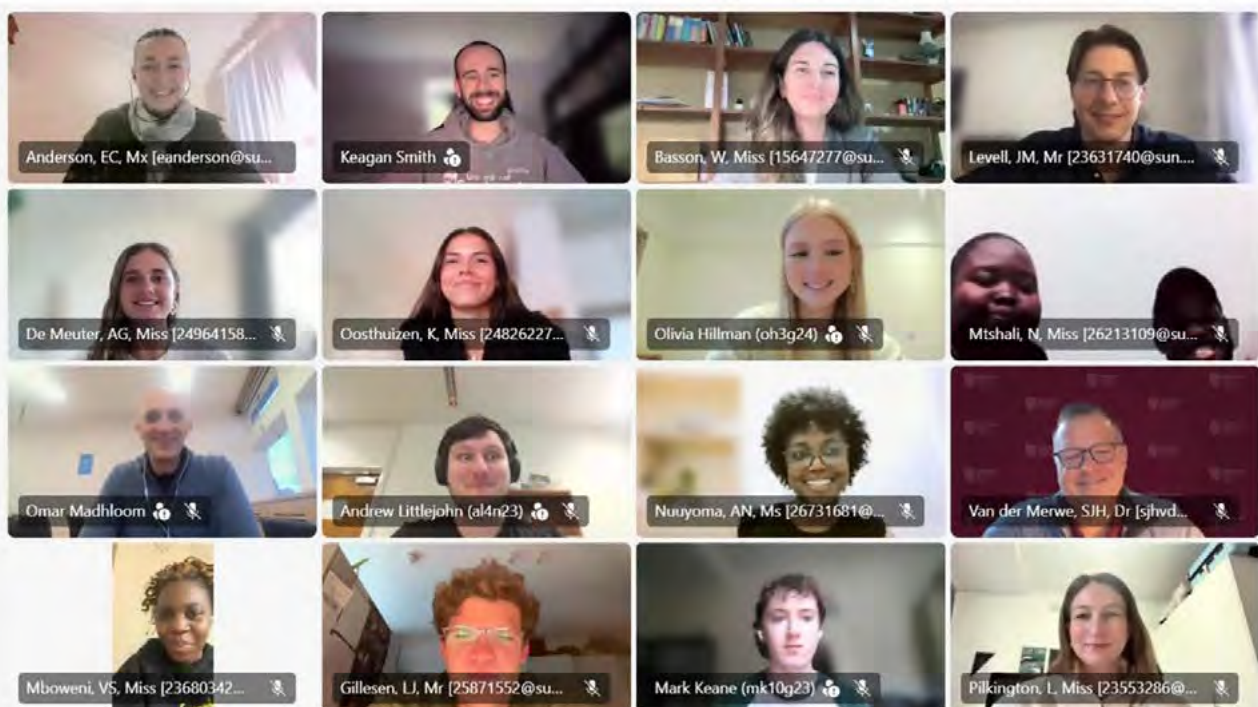
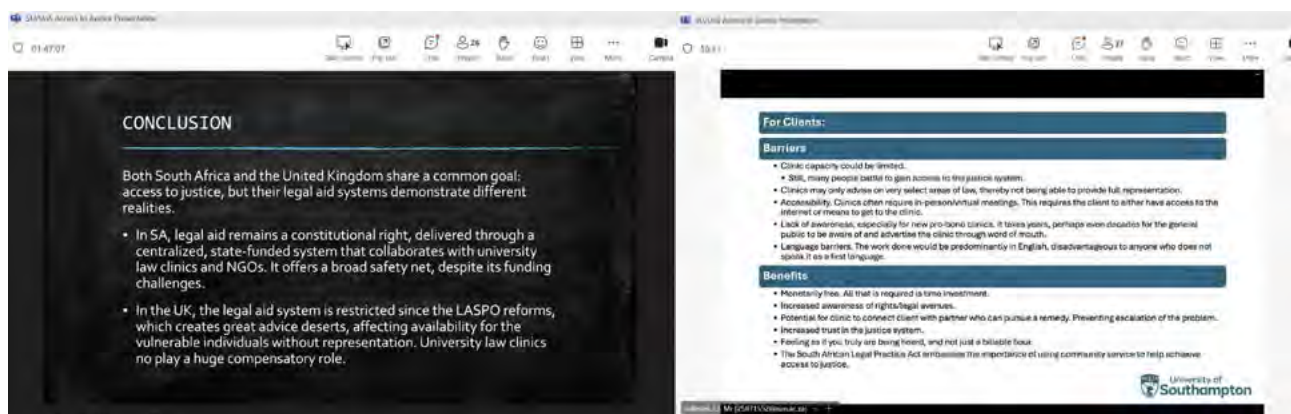
Mini Access to Justice Colloquium: International Collaboration in Clinical Legal Education

On 15 October, the Law Clinic had the privilege of collaborating with the University of Southampton in hosting a Mini Access to Justice Colloquium. The event brought together students from both universities for an evening of comparative discussion and collaborative learning.

Working in mixed teams, students delivered thoughtful presentations examining the law clinic landscape in South Africa and the United Kingdom. The discussions explored the operation of university law clinics in each jurisdiction, their respective roles in advancing access to justice, and the ways in which they interact with state-funded legal aid systems.

The exchange provided an invaluable opportunity for students to engage in comparative reflection and to consider the shared challenges and innovations within clinical legal education globally. Participants left the session with renewed perspectives on how university law clinics contribute to social justice, legal empowerment, and the development of future legal practitioners.

The collaboration not only strengthened academic ties between Stellenbosch University and the University of Southampton but also reaffirmed the transformative role of law clinics in promoting access to justice across borders.



Law Clinic Hosts Wills Week on Wheels

From 20 to 24 October, the Law Clinic hosted its annual Wills Week on Wheels initiative, providing free will-drafting and legal advice services to residents in Kayamandi, Idas Valley, and Cloetesville.

The project was promoted through social media and local networks and generated significant interest, with numerous bookings received immediately after the announcement. Over the course of the week, the Clinic team assisted 43 community members, drafted 26 wills, and offered advice on estate

planning and related legal matters.

Wills Week on Wheels exemplifies the Clinic's dedication to promoting access to justice by bringing essential legal services directly to communities. The project not only met a vital practical need but also reinforced the Clinic's broader mission of empowering individuals through knowledge and meaningful engagement.



Law Clinic practitioners assisting community members during the 2025 Wills Week on Wheels outreach.

Ubuntu Learning Community

On 23 October 2025, the latest cohort of the Ubuntu Learning Community Interdisciplinary Short Course celebrated their graduation at the Brandvlei Correctional Centre. This inspiring initiative, established in 2018, is a powerful partnership between Stellenbosch University and the Department of Correctional Services, dedicated to demonstrating the transformative power of education.

Guided by Dr Mary Nel (Academic Director and senior lecturer in SU's Department of Public Law), 19 Brandvlei students and 18 SU students shared approximately 50 hours of classroom time under the 2025 theme, "Changing together in a changing world". (Read more: <https://www.su.ac.za/en/news/tears-joy-ubuntu-graduates>.)

Alumni

Homecoming

On 13 September, as part of the SU Homecoming weekend, the Faculty welcomed back the LLB classes of 1975, 1985, 1995, 2005, and 2015



Global growth:

52 Alumni Chapters and counting

Stellenbosch University's Alumni Chapters continue to expand, now comprising 52 chapters worldwide. Earlier in 2025, the Rector and Vice-Chancellor, Professor Deresh Ramjugernath, undertook an international engagement tour, meeting alumni in Africa, including Zambia, Uganda, Rwanda, and Kenya, where several new chapters were launched. These engagements provided valuable opportunities for graduates to reconnect, share memories, and celebrate the global Matie network.

He then travelled to Australia, meeting alumni in Melbourne, Brisbane, Perth, and Sydney, strengthening ties across continents. Meanwhile, the network welcomed its newest chapter - the 52nd glob-

ally - in Abu Dhabi, extending the Matie community even further. Back in South Africa, the Rector met with alumni in Stellenbosch, the Southern Suburbs, and the Garden Route, keeping the bonds strong at home.

Stellenbosch University now has regional chapters across South Africa and international chapters throughout Africa, Europe, North America, the Middle East, Asia, and Australia.

Alumni interested in contributing to chapter activities or volunteering are invited to contact alumni@sun.ac.za for further information.

Once a Matie, Always a Matie.

Infographic map on next page





A world map with a dark blue background. Yellow location pins are placed in various countries, each with a corresponding label in a yellow rounded rectangle. The labels include: Canada, United States of America, United Kingdom, Ireland, The Netherlands, Belgium, France, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Germany, Luxembourg, Uganda, Rwanda, Zambia, Namibia, and SOUTH AFRICA. The text '50+' is prominently displayed in the bottom left corner.

50+

ALUMNI CHAPTERS
in 25 countries



Stellenbosch ALUMNI
UNIVERSITY
IYUNIVESITHI
UNIVERSITEIT



Dr Kingsley Tochi Udeh

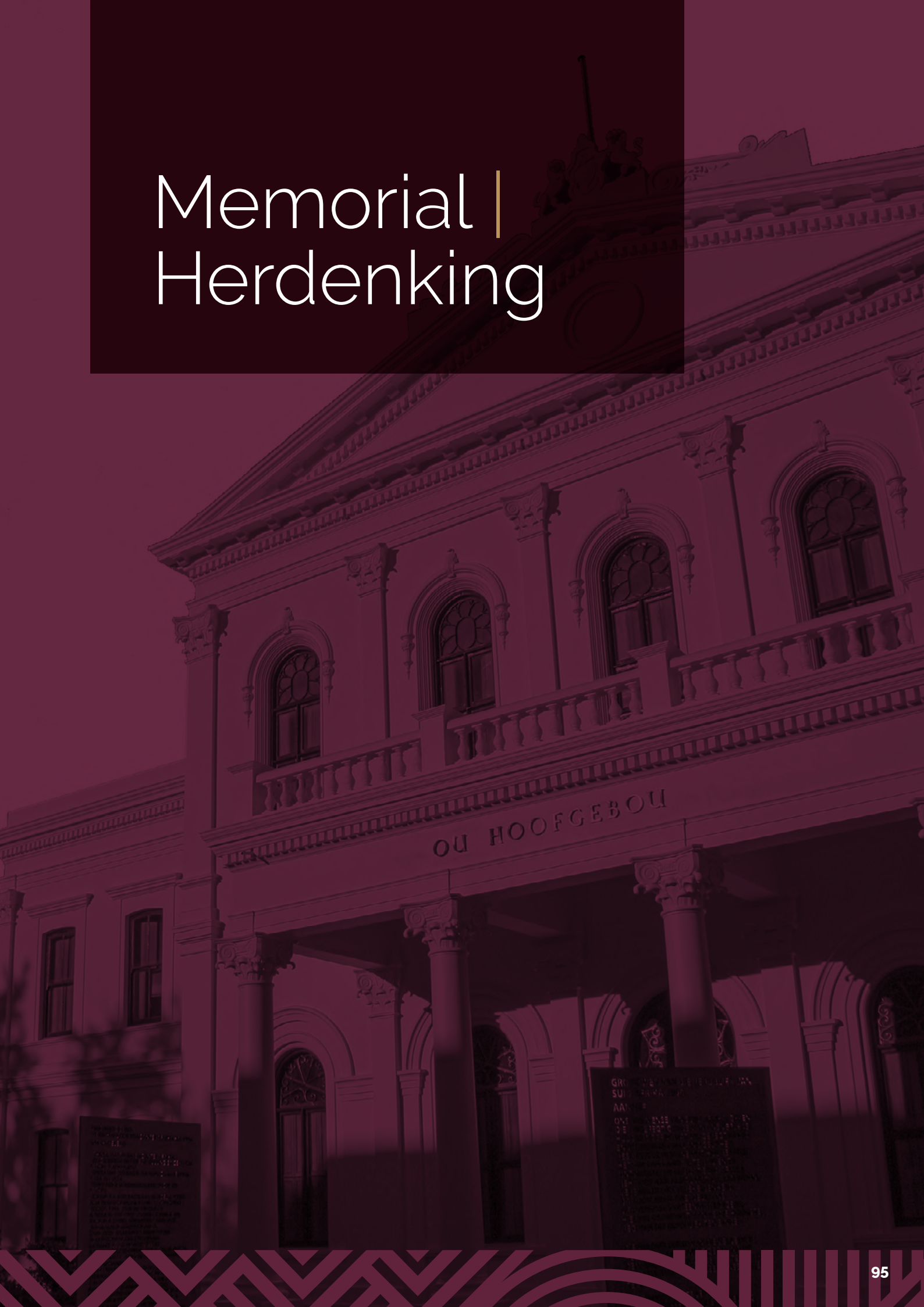


Maya

On 6 November, Stellenbosch University Faculty of Law alumnus, Dr Kingsley Tochi Udeh, was sworn in as a member of the Nigerian cabinet with the portfolio of Minister of Science and Technology by Nigerian President Bola Tinubu. Dr Udeh was the Attorney General and Commissioner for Justice of Enugu State in Nigeria prior to his appointment to the federal executive. He obtained

his LLD at Stellenbosch University in 2018 with a dissertation entitled, "A comparative study of the effectiveness of bidder remedies in South Africa and Nigeria", under the supervision of Professor Geo Quinot and co-supervision of Professor Sope Williams. Dr Udeh is also a former research fellow of the African Procurement Law Unit at Stellenbosch University.

Memorial | Herdenking



Max Loubser

Emeritus Professor Max Loubser is op 13 Oktober 2025 onverwags op 76-jarige ouderdom oorlede. Hy het die namiddag op sy gewone fietsrit in die Jonkershoekvallei gegaan, waarvan hy ná 'n toeval nie teruggekeer het nie. Die Regsfakulteit en sy kollegas en vriende betreur sy heengaan.

Max Michiel Loubser is op 8 Desember 1948 in Somerset-Wes gebore, maar het in Wellington groot geword waar sy pa aan die Onderwyskollege verbonde was. Hy was 'n knap skolier aan die Hugenote Hoërskool waar hy in Desember 1966 gematrikuleer het in die eerste plek op die Kaapse ranglys. Ná 'n jaar se militêre diensplig kom hy Stellenbosch toe om Regte te studeer en gaan woon hy in Dagbreek-manskoshuis. Hy word ook tot lid van die Studenteraad verkies. In 1970 behaal hy sy BA-graad met regsvalke en in 1972 die LLB, albei met lof. Daardie jaar se LLB-klas staan in die Fakulteit se geskiedenis aangeteken as besonder vanweë die vyf cum laude-kandidate uit sestig wat dit opgelewer het. Drie van hulle het later professore in die Fakulteit geword.

Ook in 'n ander opsig het 1972 'n baken in die Fakulteit se geskiedenis meegebring. Sedert die 1940's is dit beman deur 'n vyfmanskap, aanvanklik onder die leiding van prof WMR Malherbe en toe van prof JC de Wet. Deur die jare het die studentegetalte taamlik stabiel gebly, tot 'n drastiese toename in die vroeë sewentigerjare. Juis op dié punt bereik prof De Wet die vervroegde aftree-ouderdom van sestig en besluit hy om daarvan gebruik te maak.

Onder leiding van prof AB de Villiers, bygestaan deur Andreas van Wyk, besluit die Fakulteit om 'n nuwe koers in te slaan. In prof De Wet se plek word drie nuwe senior lektore uit die klas van 1972 aangestel: Fritz Brand, Max Loubser en Gerhard Lubbe. En einde kom 1974 die eerste "buitebloed" sedert die stigtingsjare met Vrstater CG van der Merwe.

Kort na sy aanstelling in die Fakulteit ontvang Loubser 'n nasionale Rhodes-beurs en vertrek hy na Oxford in Engeland. Anders as die meeste regs-

mense met 'n Rhodes-beurs skryf hy hom daar nie vir 'n verdere B-graad in nie, maar pak hy in Magdalen College doktrale studie onder die leiding van Prof AM (Tony) Honoré aan. In 1977 verwerf hy 'n DPhil-graad oor "The theft of money in South African Law".

Ook in 1977 word dr Loubser, saam met sy kollega Gerhard Lubbe, tot professor in Privaatreg in die Stellenbosse Regsfakulteit bevorder. Na sy aftrede met pensioen in 2013 het hy by die Fakulteit betrokke gebly as navorsingsgenoot.

Max Loubser se hoofnavorsingsfokus was die Deliktereg, maar ook verjaring.

Sy belangrikste publikasies waardeur hy groot erkenning as navorser verwerf het, is "The Law of Delict in South Africa" (2009, saam met Rob Midgley), ook in Afrikaans in 2010; "Extinctive Prescription" (1996; 2de uitgawe 2019); en "Sport and the Law in South Africa" (2000). Hy was verder ook die skrywer van vele artikels in plaaslike en buitelandse regspublicasies, veral oor skuldlose aanspreeklikheid. Hy is deur die Nasionale Navorsingstigting geëvalueer as 'n navorser wat aansienlike internasionale erkenning geniet.

As akademikus het hy ook talle toekennings ontvang en intensiewe kontak met buitelandse kollegas en instellings gehad.

Alhoewel Max met groot toegewydheid periodiek as departementele voorsitter van die departement Privaatreg gedien het, het hy nie juis in die universiteitsadministrasie belang gestel nie. Hy het nietemin verskeie kere betekenisvolle bydraes tot die beredering van fakulteitskrisisse gelever.

Met die nodige toestemming van die Universiteit is Max in die 1980's as prokureur, notaris en aktebesorger toegelaat en het hy deeltjyds in die gerekende Stellenbosse firma Cluver & Markotter begin praktiseer. Daar het hy ook as praktisyn aansien verwerf.

Hy was verder baie betrokke by die Stellenbosse gemeenskap, veral by die skole Stellenbosch Laer



en Paul Roos Gimnasium,

Max is in 1977 met sy studenteliefde, Christine Jansen uit 'n gesiene Pretoriase regs familie, getroud. Hy word ook oorleef deur drie kinders, dogter Rona en seuns Max en Ernst, wat almal in die buiteland woon..

Professor Andreas van Wyk

Max Loubser

Onregmatigheid?

Louis van Zyl

Louis Steyn van Zyl was lank 'n leier in die prokureursberoep en een van die fakulteit se mees lojale oudstudente. Hy is op 3 Augustus 2025 in Kaapstad oorlede.

Hy is in 1928 in Griekwastad in die Noord-Kaap gebore. Hy was 'n neef van prof WM Van der Westhuizen, professor in die Stellenbosse Regsfakulteit van 1955 tot 1986. Ná Matriek aan die Hoër Jongenskool in die Paarl studeer Louis in die Fakulteit waar hy sy BA (met Regsvakke) in 1947 en sy LLB in 1949 behaal. Daarna is hy 'n leerklerk in Kaapstad by die gesiene Kaapse prokureursfirma Harold Gie. In 1952 word hy as prokureur toegelaat.

Hy keer terug na sy geboortedorp om tot 1960 daar in vennootskap met sy pa te praktiseer. Vervolgens vestig hy hom in die hoofsetel van die Noord-Kaap, Kimberley, as vennoot in die firma Duncan & Rothman waar hy vir die volgende 23 jaar praktiseer. In 1983 trek hy terug Kaapstad toe en sluit hom by Findlay & Tait aan waar hy in 1998 uittree.

Louis van Zyl het nooit as prokureur afgetree nie. Selfs in sy laaste lewensjaar het hy nog vir kliënte trusts geregistreer en met die bereddering van

boedels gehelp, bygestaan deur 'n lojale sekretaresse wat na hom toe gery het.

Louis is in 1953 getroud met Nicolette Louw van Steenberg in Constantia. Sy is in 2024 ná 'n lang siekbed oorlede. Uit die huwelik is drie seuns en 'n dogter gebore. Twee van die seuns, Johann en Neil, het aan ons Fakulteit gestudeer en as regsgeleerdes gekwalifiseer.

In die georganiseerde regsberoep het Louis van Zyl 'n leiersrol op sowel nasionale as internasionale vlak gespeel. Nadat hy lank president van die Kimberleyse prokureursvereniging was, is hy in 1974 as raadslid van die Wetsgenootskap van die Kaap die Goeie Hoop verkies, 'n posisie wat hy tot 1989 beklee het, van 1980 tot 1982 as president. Op nasionale vlak was hy 'n lid van die uitvoerende komitee van die Vereniging van Wetsgenootskappe tussen 1981 en 1985, in 1984 as president. In hierdie hoedanigheid was hy baie betrokke by die beroep se reaksie op die destydse Hoexter-kommissie en ook die totstandkoming van howe vir klein eise. Verder was hy 'n aktiewe lid en voorsitter van die raad van die Getrouheidswaarborgfonds vir Prokureurs. Die be-

marking van die beroep het ook sy aandag geniet. Louis het ook 'n rol in die totstandkoming van ons demokratiese grondwetlike bedeling gespeel. Hy was 'n lid van die eerste Geregte Dienskommissie wat ook die nuwe Grondwet van 1993 moes afteken. Die vestiging van 'n ombudsman in ons land was verder 'n saak wat hom na aan die hart gelê het. In die politiek moeilike tye in die 1980's het hy Suid-Afrika in die International Bar Association verteenwoordig, waar hy 'n aktiewe rol gespeel het.

Hy was altyd geïnteresseerd in regsopleiding en baie trots op sy Stellenbosse verbintenis. Vir verskeie jare het hy as lid van die Fakulteitsraad gedien. Hy was ook betrokke by die besluit van die Getrouheidswaarborgfonds vir Prokureurs om die salarisse van die professore in ons Regsfakulteite aan te vul om die aanstelling en behoud van knap akademiëci te help verseker.

Die Fakulteit het 'n besondere oudstudent verloor.

Professor Andreas van Wyk

Selwin Hurwitz

Selwin Hurwitz, a member of the LLB class of 1964, passed away in London on 15 August 2025, having spent the last two years of his life undergoing kidney dialysis. This prevented him from attending the reunion of his class in Stellenbosch earlier this year. Selwin came to Stellenbosch in 1960 from Port Elizabeth (now Gqeberha) where he had matriculated at Grey High School. He completed his BA Law in 1962 and his LLB at the end of 1964. He was one of the top students in his class.

Although he came from an English medium school he quickly was fluent in Afrikaans and became an active member of the Stellenbosch student community. He lived in Dagbreek, played rugby in the under-19 B team and was elected president of the Student Jewish Society.

Hurwitz then went on to do his articles at the prestigious attorneys' firm Sonnenberg, Hoffman & Galombik in Cape Town. However, the legal profession did not turn out to be his calling. In 1967 he enrolled for a Master's degree in Business Administration at the recently established Business School of the University of Cape Town, graduating in 1968.

His first work was with Premier Milling in Johannesburg, but his entrepreneurial spirit soon drew him into the hotel industry. His first venture was the

Northam Hotel in a small mining town near Thabazimbi in the Western Transvaal (now Limpopo province). This was the start of the Karos Hotel Group of four- and five-star establishments. At various stages it included the Sossusvlei Lodge in Namibia, the Karos Lodge at the Kruger Gate, the Arthur's Seat Hotel in Cape Town and the Edward in Durban. A particular challenge was the famous Polana Hotel in Lourenço Marques, now Maputo, the capital of Mozambique. At independence from the Portuguese in 1975 the hotel had been nationalised and then left to go to ruin. Selwin succeeded in getting it back on a 100 years' lease and then personally helped to rebuild it by importing building materials from South Africa through Swaziland.

In 1967, he married Marcia, his school love from Collegiate in Port Elizabeth. In 2013 they moved to London to be closer to their two children, son Jonty and daughter Tammy Broido, and their four grandchildren.

In London he remained involved in property investments, including the casino in Maputo. And he kept contact with his Matie friends like Charles Abelsohn and Andreas van Wyk.

Professor Andreas van Wyk

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