



# Highlights

## Division for Global Engagement



### Message from the Senior Director

In April, we had the pleasure of attending the Universitas 21 (U21) AGM and Presidential Meeting at the University of Hong Kong. This time we had a strong UJ delegation led by our Vice-Chancellor and Principal, Prof. Letlhokwa Mpedi, also including Acting Deputy Vice Chancellor Internationalisation and Innovation, Prof. Sarah Gravett, Global Engagement Senior Director, Prof. Ylva Rodny-Gumede, and Global Engagement Director Academic Partnerships, Ms Anisa Khan.

In May Prof. Ylva Rodny-Gumede and Ms Ntombise Mangqase partook in the BMI Scholarship conference in London and met with potential scholarship funds from across the globe. We engaged Latin American partners as we are actively seeking to strengthen our ties on the Latin American continent.

In May a large UJ delegation travelled to Sweden for the South Africa Sweden University Forum (SASUF) Research and Innovation week which saw our researcher partake in workshops and partnership meetings all over Sweden. The week culminated with a larger gathering of scholars from Sweden and South Africa in the south of Sweden where we were hosted by the University of Lund, University of Malmö and the Agricultural University of southern Sweden. Prof. Letlhokwa Mpedi and Prof. Ylva Rodny-Gumede also partook in the Vice-Chancellors Forum hosted by SASUF in Stockholm, Sweden.

The University of Johannesburg (UJ) and the Southern African Regional Universities Association (SARUA) partnered to host the SARUA General meeting at UJ on Thursday, 23 May 2024. The meeting was attended by 20 Vice-Chancellors or their representatives who form part of the network. The meeting focused on finalizing the SARUA Strategic Plan 2024-2028, Approval of the revised constitution and electing a new board.

In June Prof. Ylva Rodny-Gumede was invited to the U.K. to take part in the Knowledge Diplomacy forum and roundtable discussion hosted by the Wilton Park Group in collaboration with the University of Nottingham. The forum is currently being established as a permanent working group with the aim to draw upon the collective global expertise of the higher education sector address and find solutions to common challenges through the adoption of knowledge diplomacy.

From April to the end of June, we hosted several high level delegations, including the American Council on Education; the University of the West Indies; University of Nottingham, United Kingdom; Botswana University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (BUAN); Mzuzu University, Malawi; Sohar University, Sultanate of Oman; Universidad Nacional de Rafaela (UNRAF), Argentina; University of South Carolina, USA and Nanjing Tech University, China.



## Study Abroad and International Student Services

- Received 8 exchange students for the second semester.
- Organised and delivered second semester exchange and study abroad students.
- Delivered three Africa by Bus Programmes for FADA (Zimbabwe), CBE (Namibia) and Humanities (Namibia).
- Chaperoned the FADA Africa by Bus programme to Zimbabwe.

The following Outbound Short Learning Programmes were delivered:

- NICE Virtual Programme
- Nice Summer School in Poland
- Global Leadership Student Exchange Programme with University of Cincinnati
- Two Graduate School of Architecture Module programmes in Angola

The following Inbound Short Learning Programmes were delivered:

- EduAfrica executive programme on Education, Diversity and Inclusion
- University of Cincinnati Education Programme

### International Student Services

- Shantelle Sass participated in the International Staff Training Week @Polito at Politecnico di Torino in the framework of the Erasmus+ Programme from 27/05/2024 to 31/05/2024. Communication sent to registered students reminding them to submit study visas/receipts for renewals / Asylum and Refugee documents
- Updating study visas, and visa application receipts for renewals and appeal.
- Advice students who have overstayed to apply for the Letter of Good Cause
- Participated in staff meetings with Admissions and Recruitment, every Tuesday in June
- Attended and presented at the Enko Africa Counsellors Engagement on 20 June 2024
- Coordinated the planning and delivery of Africa Day Celebrations

## Academic Services

### 1. NETWORKS and FUNDED PROJECTS

#### 1.1 UCDP APUA – GHANA VISIT

Academic Services as a lead partner on the funding proposal under the UCDP in support of Pan-African represented UJ in attending the Ghana I Week and African Partners Leiden University working session in Ghana, from 19 -22 May 2024. Ms Anisa had a positive conversation with Prof. Goski Alabi (ANIE Board member), and three things came out of this engagement:

1. It will be up to the ANIE Secretariat on how we engage on the ANIE conference platform.
2. Prof. Alabi mentioned the pre-conference workshops and suggested that the project submit a proposal detailing the project intentions.
3. She will then take the proposal to the secretariat for discussion on their next meeting, and then we can get a response with a decision or recommendation based on the quest.

#### 1.2 COIL Connect President Visit to UJ

Meeting with John Rubin- Director of COIL Connect Platform

#### 1.3 General Conference of the Association of African Universities -AAU-2025

#### 1.4 Vilnius Academy of Arts Graduation Show 3-14 June, 2024.

#### 1.5 Trilateral Chair Partners Meeting 3-4 June

One of the agenda items included the Joint Doctoral training centre and collaboration with other HEIs as part of the Chair, (SUSSEX, JOOST, etc).

## 1.6 COIL proposal submission

## 1.7 Funding proposal for the Strategic Initiatives fund.

## 2. UJELP

The programme has six cycles with five intakes per year: January, March, May, July and, September. For the second quarter of the year, for the period April to June the registration results are as follows:

Placement Test 1	Total registrations	Placement Test 1	Total registrations
Elementary level (A1 and A2)	1	Elementary level (A1 and A2)	10
Intermediary level (B1 and B2)	4	Intermediary level (B1 and B2)	1
Advanced level (C1 and C2)	1	Advanced level (C1 and C2)	0

## 3. CONTRACTS AND AGREEMENTS

Academic Services processed fourteen agreements to completion as per below.

Region	Country	Name	Type
Europe/West Asia	Cyprus	University of Cyprus	Erasmus + ICM
Europe	Ireland	Munster Technological University	Erasmus + ICM
Austria	Klagenfurt	Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt	Erasmus + ICM
Europe	Italy	University of Perugia	Erasmus + ICM
Europe	Sweden	Linköping University	MOU
Asia	China	Fujian University of Traditional Chinese Medicine (FJTCM)	MOU- Addendum for renewal
United Kingdom	England	Teesside University	MOU (non-binding)
East Africa	Tanzania	Dar Es Salaam ACEPS	MOU
United States	Atlanta	Emory University	MOU (Research Collaboration)
United States	North Carolina	Charlotte University	MOU (COIL)
East Africa	Burundi	University of Burundi	Framework Agreement
Asia	China	Shandong University	Framework Agreement (Joint Virtual Laboratory)
United States	Virginia	The Global Accountability Network	Framework Agreement
Australia	Sydney	University of Sydney	Non- Binding Collaboration Agreement

# International Student Registration and UJELP

Month	Country	Activities
April	Hosted at UJ	Enjabulweni High School from Eswatini visited UJ
	Eswatini	Schools Fairs
	Botswana	Wren Southern Africa Tour/ School Visits
	Mozambique	
	Namibia	
	Zambia	
	Zimbabwe	
	Nigeria	South Africa Week Celebrations hosted by South African Missions in Nigeria
May	Botswana	Maru-a-Pula School Fair
	Lesotho	School Visits
June	Hosted at UJ	Enko counsellors Visit
	Rwanda	Inaugural Study in Africa Pavilion at the ICEF Africa event and Fair
July	Canada	2024 International ACAC Conference
	Eswatini	School Visits, School Fair and information Session
July Hosted at UJ	Soofia International School from Lesotho visited UJ	





## Fundraising and Administration

The Faculty of Humanities launched the TESIECS project, co-funded by the European Union in the amount of R37million towards the Intra-Africa Mobility Scheme. This is a collaboration between the University of Johannesburg, University of Western Cape, University of Zimbabwe, University of Botswana, Namibia University of Science and Technology and Vrije University. The project aims to promote and support full scholarship and mobility opportunities for Master's and PhD students in the consortia with a focus on climate change and adaptation. This will also include traineeship and staff mobilities.

## Communications and Marketing

- UJ recognised as one of South Africa's premier universities for Science, Engineering, and Hospitality  
<https://news.uj.ac.za/news/uj-recognised-as-one-of-south-africas-premier-universities-for-science-engineering-and-hospitality/>
- UJ forges strategic partnership with City University of Hong Kong  
<https://news.uj.ac.za/news/uj-forges-strategic-partnership-with-city-university-of-hong-kong/>
- UJ Metropolitan Academy learners secure a spot at an international science competition  
<https://news.uj.ac.za/news/uj-metropolitan-academy-learners-secure-a-spot-at-an-international-science-competition/>
- Africa Day 2024: UJ students share their dreams and reflections for the continent  
<https://news.uj.ac.za/news/africa-day-2024-uj-students-share-their-dreams-and-reflections-for-the-continent/>



- UJ's Prof Basie von Solms ranks 5th globally among cybersecurity researchers  
<https://news.uj.ac.za/news/uj-prof-basie-von-solms-ranks-5th-globally-among-cybersecurity-researchers/>
- UJ shows stellar performance in the QS World Rankings, bagging 'Most Improved' award  
<https://news.uj.ac.za/news/uj-shows-stellar-performance-in-the-qs-world-rankings-bagging-most-improved-award/>
- UJ achieves its highest ever position in global rankings  
<https://news.uj.ac.za/news/uj-tops-2024-global-rankings-for-un-sdg-on-no-poverty/>
- UJ Philosophy students expand environmental knowledge at Czech Summer School  
<https://news.uj.ac.za/news/uj-philosophy-students-expand-environmental-knowledge-at-czech-summer-school/>



*American Council on Education visit*



*University of the West Indies visit*



*University of Nottingham visit*



*Universidad Nacional de Rafaela (UNRAF)  
(Argentina) visit*



*Botswana University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (BUAN) visit*





*Mzuzu University, Malawi visit*



*Nanjing Tech University visit*