



Highlights

Division for Internationalisation



Message from the Senior Director

The primary focus for the first quarter of 2022 was International student registration. In anticipation of challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we reinforced mechanisms and processes introduced in 2021, to assist and support international students. Furthermore, due to the relaxing of COVID-19 regulations, the university introduced measures to reintegrate students onto campus life due to the return to in person classes. A hybrid model for events and recruitment became a reality in the second half of 2021 and this will remain, however there will be an increase in onsite events, recruitment and visits. We have already hosted a number of onsite delegations in the first quarter which include Appalachian State University, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, Universidade Joaquim Chissano - Mozambique and Botswana University of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

A key focus for 2022 is our engagement with diplomatic missions to identify opportunities for collaboration, student support and research activities. The University of Johannesburg is engaging with the Embassy of Qatar to establish The Qatar-South Africa Intercultural Center under the auspices of H.H. Sheikh Tamim Bin Hamad Al-Thani (QSAIC), Emir of the State of Qatar. The Centre will be a joint institution in partnership with Qatar University.

Study Abroad and International Student Welfare

The Study Abroad office facilitated an Africa by Bus programme to Mozambique with the Academic Development Centre consisting of College of Business and Economics students. We welcomed new semester study abroad and exchange students. For the first time since 2019, the Cornell Law and Social Change programme was hosted at UJ. The first quarter also included the unit hosting a virtual information session with the Taipei Liaison Office in the Republic of South Africa. The Scholarship Information session was for UJ students to study at universities in Taiwan. The University of Johannesburg in partnership with the University of Illinois Urbana Champaign presented our first virtual World Café on the 23rd March titled on Racism and Apartheid in South Africa and the United States.

The first quarter is always the busiest time for the International Student Services office. The office assisted new and returning international students with securing accommodation, was supported by the International Admissions office to provide international clearance for registration, gave immigration advice and support to students and staff, kept a record of pending study visas, and continued to update the immigration compliance status of students. This section is also responsible for communication with international students on matters affecting them and all students on international issues. The team sent out all communication on clearances, immigration, UJISS activities, how to use the Writing Centre and advertised all events of the Division and programmes offered.

The unit also hosted the first International Student Townhall on the 31st March with UJ students. The session provided an opportunity for students interact with divisional staff and ask pertinent questions.





Academic Services

The first quarter coincided with the closing date for several Erasmus funding calls. The Academic Services unit supported a number of consortium building activities and supported partners with their Erasmus+ KA171 Mobility call that closed on the 23rd of February. The KA171 call is coordinated by eligible EU country partners (SA partners cannot apply directly) and South African Higher Education institutions are invited to participate as regional partner. UJ received six new Erasmus partner expressions of interest and we are awaiting news on the outcome of these. The total number of active Erasmus agreements valid for 2022 number at nineteen. We also supported partner engagements to link academics with researchers abroad so that they can participate in Erasmus and other consortia funding applications. For example, Prof Kathija Yassim was linked with Prof Lucy Avraamidou of Groningen University in support of a Dutch research funding call and Prof Habib Noorbhai and other colleagues from FHS were linked with various Finnish Universities as part of the South Africa-Finland Universities network (SAFINET). Joined as part of Munster Technical University's CBHE Erasmus call (Ireland) with the Faculty of Education. Also began discussions with the I-DAIR capacity building leads regarding an Erasmus Capacity Building in Higher Education funding application. A consortium of partners was formed. This has been deferred to next year.

Academic Services also presented at the U21 Education Innovation symposium hosted by Lund University. Anisa Khan presented on theoretical and practical approaches to integrating the SDG's in teaching and learning activities.

A funding proposal was submitted by Academic Services in support of Africa Partnerships which is a KPI that the unit is responsible for reporting on. The proposal was led by the Durban University of Technology, under the University Capacity Development Programme. UJ contributed widely to the drafting of the proposal.

Partner meetings were also held with the following organisations:

- Delegation visit to Maputo, Mozambique - visited partners at Joaquim Chissano University and Eduardo Mondlane.
 - Nirma University, India - discussion with the Faculty of Law
 - VU Amsterdam meeting regarding Vrije University's Africa strategy
 - Appalachian State University meeting with Dr Jesse Lutabingwa
 - Qatar Embassy meeting with Ambassador of Qatar to South Africa
 - US Consular visit to discuss the Fulbright fellowship programme and the US Public Affairs grants
 - French Ambassador meeting – met with Science Attache
 - University of the Philippines Los Banos
 - Edge Hill, UK partnership with FHS
 - Woxen University partnership with JBS
 - Lahore University of Management Sciences
 - KU Leuven
 - Carnegie Mellon University, Africa
 - University of Seoul, Korea
 - Sofia University St Kliment Ohridsk
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International Student Registration

At the beginning of the year, the international admissions team and student assistants earnestly prepared for final admissions, automated uploading of compliance documents for registrations of New and returning students. The campus was busy with prospective and returning students excited about the possibility of on-campus learning and a return to everyday life with relaxed covid-19 regulations. As of the 20th of April 2022, our registration and headcount numbers for formal programmes were at 4114 (UG 2434, PG 1680) and 4062 (UG 2417, PG 1645), respectively. These numbers represent 97% of registrations and 98.4% of headcount targets for 2022. It is pleasing to note that the Division for Internationalisation has met and exceeded the Postgraduate registrations and headcount targets in the year's first quarter.

Our in-country and online International recruitment efforts for the 2023 registrations are well underway. We started with school visits in Lesotho and made presentations to over 800 learners and teachers. We collected over 80 successful pre-selected applications for the 2023 cycle. The online platform continues to generate prospective students' leads, and for the period under review, we have generated 3444 student leads (147 for online programmes), **2463825 impressions**, and **115488 clicks**. Our students' leads gender breakdown is as follows; 51% male and 49% female with the desired enrolment date of 0-6 months (43%), 6-12 months (39%), and 12-24 months (18%).

Our staff development efforts for formal training are improving significantly. In the first half of the year 2022, three (3) staff members will graduate as follows; one (1) staff member for a National Diploma and two (2) staff members (1 permanent and one temp) for Master's Degrees.

As of the 31st March 2022, UJELP has **31** registered students across all level (i.e. elementary to advanced level).

Fundraising and Administration

During this period the unit coordinated the following calls:

- *Horizon Europe Agro Ecological Approaches*: The Centre for Ecological Intelligence (FEBE) will lead a research consortium with partners from Malawi, Namibia, Nigeria, Netherlands and Germany.
- *Erasmus Plus Capacity Building in Higher Education*: The Centre for Cyber Physical Food, Energy & Water Systems (FEBE) leads a consortium with partner from Greece and France to develop new specialized curricula / innovative MSc programme on Energy Poverty Alleviation Technologies
- *Erasmus Plus Capacity Building in Higher Education*: Faculty of Education (Department of Science and Technology Education) are co-applicants with Munster University (Ireland) as lead and propose to develop a compulsory psychometric and skills-based assessments from high school to university. The assessment will be automatically conducted and graded across the participating regions through the latest advancements in Machine Learning (ML) and Natural Language Processing (NLP) techniques
- *Erasmus Plus International Credit Mobility*: The following mobility agreements were concluded with: Vytautas Magnus University, UMinho University and Sofia University for 2023 funding.
- *Co-Impact*: This is a joint application between Faculty of Law and Humanities the project aims to develop a New Generation of Women in Law in Africa.

Communications and Marketing

- University of Johannesburg and I-DAIR collaboration set to advance the health sector in the 4IR sphere
<https://www.uj.ac.za/news/university-of-johannesburg-and-i-dair-collaboration-set-to-advance-the-health-sector-in-the-4ir-sphere-2/>
- UJ and leading Mozambican universities to strengthen collaboration with joint teaching and learning initiatives
<https://www.uj.ac.za/news/uj-and-leading-mozambican-universities-to-strengthen-collaboration-with-joint-teaching-and-learning-initiatives/>
- UJ's IPATC webinar campaigns for recognition in African Science
<https://www.uj.ac.za/news/ujs-ipatc-webinar-campaigns-for-recognition-in-african-science/>
- Common response needed for African students in Ukraine
<https://www.uj.ac.za/news/common-response-needed-for-african-students-in-ukraine/>

INVITATION

The UJ Strategic Communications, within University Relations, in partnership with the Division for Internationalisation, Research & Innovation and the UJ Library, invite you to a workshop on:

Influencing through Thought Leadership

The workshop will provide guidance and insights on turning research into an **opinion article** that is accessible and compelling for broader audiences

DATE ■ **Wednesday, 9 March 2022**

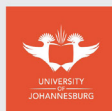
TIME ■ **14:00 – 16:00**

VENUE ■ **Library Auditorium**

Click here <https://zoom.us/s/96884289140> and join in the conversation.

#ujlibrary

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Invitation

The University of Johannesburg in partnership with the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign invites you to a conversation titled

WORLD CAFÉ – Racism and Apartheid in South Africa and the United States

Date: Wednesday 23 March 2022

Time: 16:30 – 18:00 (SAST), 9:30-11:00am Central Daylight Time (CDT)

Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/96225672101>

SPEAKERS

Prof Natasha Erlank, Professor, Department of History:
University of Johannesburg

Prof Erik S. McDuffie, Associate Professor, Department of African
American Studies/Department of History: University of Illinois
Urbana-Champaign

FACILITATOR

Dr. Faeza Ballim, HOD, Department of History:
University of Johannesburg

Join us for an informative discussion

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Appalachian State University, USA



Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, Netherlands





BUAN (Botswana University of Agriculture and Natural Resources)