



Highlights

Division for Internationalisation



Message from the Senior Director

The first quarter of 2023 was primarily focused on registration for the 2023 academic year. The challenges experienced included the timeous issuing of visas for new and returning students and student funding. Challenges related to the aforementioned are dealt with on an annual basis, registration proceeded smoothly. The period in question also saw a substantial increase in the number of requests from universities, to visit the University of Johannesburg. Up to the end of March, UJ hosted delegations from 9 universities across the globe including from Canada, Lithuania, USA, Sweden and Italy.

The Division also concentrated its efforts on interactions with various Embassies and Missions. Notable amongst these were the Canadian High Commissioner, the Consul-General of India, the Minister in the Chinese Embassy and the Irish Minister of State.

The division focused on partnership engagement and expansion which included a visit to Appalachian State University to discuss the Global Student Affairs Leadership collaboration. Prof. Ylva Rodny-Gumede together with the three Directors in the division attended the SASUF Research and Innovation Week 2023 hosted in March in Cape Town. The network aims to promote and deepen collaboration between South African and Swedish universities.

The SASUF Research and Innovation Week 2023 was preceded by the visit of a delegation of Swedish Vice-Chancellors, Deputy Vice-Chancellors, senior university staff and SASUF representation.

Study Abroad and International Student Welfare

The outbound online study abroad application system's Phase 4 development is underway. This phase is aimed at enhancing the functionality of the system and creating a more user-friendly dashboard. Testing will be done in the 1st week of April and will continue until the development has been completed.


First-semester Exchange Students arrived on 6 February 2023. Traditionally first-semester intake would be around 20 students. In Jan 2023, the intake was only six. This could be because of the high International Levy of R17 000 as well as the increase in Load shedding. Two students from the ISEP network were cancelled due to safety concerns.

As part of the onboarding programme, the Exchange Students took part in a week-long orientation programme led by the Study Abroad Office. The programme ran from 6 February to 11 February 2023.

As part of the ongoing Africa by Bus project, the Study Abroad Office has embarked on an intensive Chaperone training programme starting on 21 February. The first session will focus on First Aid Training, Safety, and Security. The training will take place over 3 sessions and will be completed by the end of March 2023.

The Study Abroad office in collaboration with the Faculty of Law ran a successful Short Learning Programme with Cornell University from 3 January – 21st of January 2023.





Ms Samkelisiwe Temba, a student in the Faculty of Science, joined 17 other young South Africans from 17 Universities in the Abe Bailey Travel. In December 2022, five hospitality students travelled to the USA to take up one-year internships with the Waterford Hotel Group in fulfilment of the Work Integrated Learning requirements.

Five students, including the SRC president, participated in the Tübingen SA programme in Germany in January. As part of this agreement, students from all over South Africa participated in this 3-week

programme every year. The collaboration with the University of Tübingen has proven to be very successful and affects the participant in a meaningful manner.

From 25 – 28 March 2023, the Study Abroad Office run the IES Abroad Joburg section. The IES Abroad's visit to Johannesburg and the University of Johannesburg is intended to provide IES students with greater opportunities to learn about broader South African contexts outside of Cape Town. Students participating in this trip are registered in the IES Abroad curriculum Health, Culture & Development, which takes place over one semester. This programme focuses on the themes of health, culture and development within South and southern African contexts. The students are taking courses on endemic diseases, public health, globalisation and health and development, protest in South Africa, post-apartheid history and the anthropology of childhood.

We continue to support recruitment efforts for U21 programmes, Erasmus+ mobilities and nominations to other programmes.

The Welfare office assisted undergraduate, postgraduate and Postdoctoral research fellows with compliance clearance for registration. This office continues to assist students and staff with visa applications and follow-ups for compliance with immigration regulations. We assisted students with accommodation provisions at the start of 2023.

The Welfare office is in the process of preparing a report for the Department of Home Affairs for verification purposes. During the registration process, the number of fraudulent documents increased and a number of Disciplinary processes were followed in collaboration with Student Judicial Services.

Numbers 2023

Inbound Exchange – 6

Inbound Short Learning programme – 33

Outbound – 26

Internships – 5





IOWA™

The University of Johannesburg in partnership with the University of Iowa invites you to a conversation titled:

WORLD CAFÉ – Substance Use and Addiction among Youth: An evolving epidemic

DATE ▪ **Wednesday 22 March 2023**

TIME ▪ **16:00 – 18:00 (SAST), 9:00 – 11:00 (CST)**

ZOOM REGISTRATION LINK ▪ <https://bit.ly/3F9HCyZ>

Once you have registered, you will receive an email with details to join the virtual discussion.

SPEAKERS

- **Prof. Mark Vander Weg**, Professor: Department of Community and Behavior, University of Iowa College of Public Health
- **Prof. Neo Morojele**, Professor: Department of Psychology, Faculty of Humanities, University of Johannesburg
- **Dr Varoshini Nadesan**, Senior Lecturer: Department of Social Work and Community Development, Faculty of Humanities, University of Johannesburg
- **Mr. Subendran Naidu**, Masters in Clinical Social Work Candidate, Faculty of Humanities, University of Johannesburg

FACILITATOR

Prof. Kammila Naidoo, Executive Dean: Faculty of Humanities, University of Johannesburg

Join us for an informative discussion

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**The Future
Reimagined**

Academic Services

The start of the academic calendar is always a very busy period as this also coincides with deadlines for Erasmus funding grant applications. During this period Academic Services submitted partnership information required for several funding applications and assisted faculty members with finding partners on research consortia submissions. Academic services led two new Erasmus plus Mobility applications with OMU University, Turkey and Tampere University, Finland and coordinated an Erasmus Policy Dialogue submission with University of Roma Tre. We also signed seven (7) new Erasmus Mobility agreements with Universities in Sweden, Italy, Turkey, Bulgaria, and Portugal. In total, we concluded 14 agreements globally.

During this period, Academic Services has supported delegation visits from across the USA, Canada, India, Belgium and Flanders, the Netherlands and Italy. In all these engagements the objective is to develop “partnerships that work” and which are mutually beneficial. This entails close relationship building and project management follow-up to ensure that proposed areas of collaboration are acted upon.





NORTH AND CENTRAL AMERICA

A visit from Appalachian State University in January led to a reciprocal visit to the US where the UJ team secured a staff teaching fellowship for Prof Adrian Van Breda to establish links and to co-teach in Social Work. This will serve to strengthen academic links between our institutions. We also co-developed a global leadership programme and jointly applied for funding under the US Embassy Public Affairs Small Grants call. The visit also includes a reciprocal visit to Cincinnati University after meetings with the Provost and Vice-Provost at UJ in January. This has led to three projects: one in psychology; two in Visual Arts and the third in Women and Gender Studies. Other areas are also currently being explored.

The US engagements culminated in the Association for International Education Administrators, which also provided an excellent opportunity to meet with our U21 partners and to begin work on a joint project with the University of Illinois Urbana Champaign that also supports UJ's Future Professor's Programme. While at AIEA we also met with Cety's University, Mexico to continue discussions on our proposed partnership. The President of Cety's University is also the President of the International Association of University Presidents. The IAUP has approached our Vice-Chancellor to act as the Vice-President of the IAUP for Africa. Prof Mpedi joins the first meeting of the IAUP in May.

ASIA-PACIFIC REGION:

Canada

UJ does not currently hold many partnerships in Canada (only one formal partnership). This region is therefore a strategic area of growth, and we are pleased to have welcomed the Consul-General of Canada and the Canadian Trade Commissioner to UJ. This led to an immediate follow-up with a delegation visit from the Assistant Deputy Minister of Science and Research Sector, Dr Nipun Vats who led a delegation from Canada on Innovation, Science and Economic Development between the Governments of Canada and South Africa. The objectives of the visit were to;


- Tour research centres proposed (Institute for Intelligent Systems with Prof Babu, ALD with Prof Tien-Chen and Urban Food Garden Prof Rudolph)
- Discuss linkages with Canada
- Propose additional partnerships UoJ/Canadian institutions
- Discuss Academic student exchanges through MITACS for R&D projects within the industry

Deputy Minister Vats and his colleagues visited the Atomic Layer Deposition (ALD) Research Centre, attended a demonstration project on Air and water quality monitoring which uses AI at the Institute for Intelligent Systems and visited the demonstration gardens at the Centre for Ecological Intelligence.

Several follow-ups have resulted from these Canadian engagements, including an invitation to join the National Research Foundation and Universities Canada Delegation as part of the SA-Canada Research Week and Launch of the South Africa-Canada Network (SACAN). Bilateral meetings with Canadian Universities have also been scheduled.

India

We have had two engagements with high-level Indian delegations. The first visit was led by the Indian Business Forum and the second was a visit from the incoming Consul-General of India. Both visits centred around the key themes of establishing a Joint Research Chair and ways to strengthen engagement between Indian and South African researchers. It was suggested that a high-level visit is needed to set the scene and that Prof Mpedi could represent on behalf of India-South Africa relations in Higher Education, Research and Innovation.





EUROPE / UK:

Italy

We attended two workshops coordinated through the Gauteng City Region Observatory. This is to establish a strategic alliance with the Reggio Emilia Municipality, the E3S Foundation and the University of Modena. Parties to the alliance include the Gauteng Province, the GCRO, Wits University, Tshwane University of Technology, the University of Pretoria and UJ. The multi-party agreement is currently with the legal office and bilateral meetings are being coordinated at a departmental level.

The engagement with the Italian Embassy has also improved as result of the initial meeting with the Italian Science and Innovation attaché as part of the Reggio Emilia and Modena meetings. This led to UJ co-hosting the Festival De Economia side event at UJ library.

This quarter we have also been busy with the nomination and selection of ten staff members who will undertake an ERASMUS Staff Exchange to the University of PISA on research and internationalisation exchanges. We also have an Erasmus partnership in the biological sciences with the Polito De Torino and have 5 staff members on exchanges with Torino this May. All the administrative coordination has been facilitated by Academic Services

Belgium/ Flanders

We received three Belgian delegations in March and as part of these engagements signed Student Exchange agreements with both Ghent University and KU Leuven. A number of future activities and co-funding possibilities are being explored, including an expansion of the Joint Degree programme with Ghent.

Netherlands

We have held meetings with two Dutch Universities: Vrije University and Groningen University. We welcomed visitors from both and are working on a Dutch-South Africa hub as well as Joint Programmes.

Multi-Country

UJ has been invited to join the Nurturing Intercultural Competence in Entrepreneurship programme. The NICE programme is in its second year running and is a collaboration that arose from our U21 partnership with Edinburgh University. Edinburgh University leads a consortium of six other EU universities to coordinate the programme. Five UJ students will participate in a summer school at the University of Padua, Italy on conclusion of the online modules.

UJ is also part of the Africa Working group of the UNA Europa Alliance. During this period the academic Services unit contributed to the Vision and Mission statement of the WG and are currently working together with the Alliance members to submit an EU funding proposal in support of Virtual Exchanges.

EASTERN EUROPE


Georgia

UJ welcomed a delegation from Caucasus University. An MoU was established in 2022 and a Student Exchange Agreement is currently in development.

SCANDINAVIAN/ NORDIC REGIONS

Finland

As part of our engagement in SAFINET, the University of Tampere submitted an Erasmus Plus Mobility proposal with UJ as a partner. We await the outcome later this year. Several researchers at UJ have also since been linked with SAFINET and we have shared all of the current open funding calls with researchers with Finnish partners.



Sweden

We supported the Dept of Strategic Communications to formalise an agreement with Mid-Sweden University. The collaboration between UJ and Mid-Sweden is on GBV and was presented to the delegation of Vice-Chancellors that attended the SASUF Vice-Chancellors meeting at UJ. Academic Services also coordinated the submissions for the SASUF Virtual grants and one UJ researcher, Prof Kat Yassim, was successfully granted an award.

Academic Services continues to support Academics from across all faculties, colleges and institutes and has provided advice, guidance and support throughout this quarter.

Partnerships concluded - 14



The poster features the Embassy of Italy Pretoria logo on the left, which includes the Italian flag and the text 'Embassy of Italy Pretoria'. The main title 'SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT' is in blue, followed by 'New Frontiers for Relations between Italy and South Africa' in white. The event details are listed: '29 March 2023 at 8:30', 'University of Johannesburg - UJ Library', 'Kingsway Campus Auckland Park', and 'Rossmore, Johannesburg'. A QR code is on the right. Below the event details is the text 'Book your seat: <https://embassyofitaly.co.za/29march2023>'. At the bottom are three logos: the University of Johannesburg logo, the 'Il Sole 24 ORE' logo, and the '24 ORE EVENTI' logo. The background of the poster shows a blue, glowing, geometric structure resembling a molecular or network diagram.



Conference - New Frontiers for Relations between Italy and South Africa



Vice-Chancellor's Distinguished Award for Global Excellence and Stature 4.0 – Dr Kakha Shengelia, President of Caucasus University, Georgia

International Student Registration and UJELP

Recruitment and Training trips

- 12-16 March ITS Training in Namibia (2 staff)
- 20-24 March 12th BHRDS Fair and Career Clinics
- 26/03-06/04 Wren Southern Africa – Spring 2023 Tour in South Africa, Botswana, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Namibia

Formal Programmes Headcount (Data as of the 12 April 2023)

UG 2476
PG 1739
Total 4215

Whole Non-Formal Programmes Headcount (Data as of 11 April 2023)

UG 119
PG 19
Total 138

The combined totals are as follows:

UG 2595 (2476 Formal + 119 Whole Non-Formal Programmes)
PG 1758 (1739 Formal + 19 Whole Non-Formal Programmes)
Total 4353

We have met and exceeded our HEDA PG Formal programmes Headcount Target of 1727 by 12.







Fundraising and Administration

During this period, a total of 10 applications (3 UJ lead applicant) were submitted under the Erasmus Plus Programme, most applications are under the Capacity Building for Higher Education Strand followed by Jean Monnet and (1) under the Horizon Europe Africa Initiative. Total funding submissions: EURO 2 925 783. The International Office also submitted a joint application with the Appalachian State University under the US Public Affairs Notice of Funding.

The Zimbabwe Presidential Scholarship officials visited the IO in March, the aim of the visit was to strengthen the collaboration and they have further committed to continue supporting the Zimbabwe students under the scholarship. (I'll send the pic separately)



Zimbabwe Presidential Scholarship officials visit

Communications and Marketing

- Swedish higher education delegation visits UJ to explore collaboration opportunities
<https://www.uj.ac.za/news/swedish-higher-education-delegation-visits-uj-to-explore-collaboration-opportunities/>
- Irish delegation visits the UJ Centre for Neurodiversity
<https://www.uj.ac.za/news/irish-delegation-visits-the-uj-centre-for-neurodiversity/>
- SA's visa crisis jeopardises internationalisation efforts of universities, businesses
<https://www.uj.ac.za/news/sas-visa-crisis-jeopardises-internationalisation-efforts-of-universities-businesses/>
- UJ strengthens ties with the Caucasus University through Global Excellence and Stature award
<https://www.uj.ac.za/news/uj-strengthens-ties-with-the-caucasus-university-through-global-excellence-and-stature-award/>
- ICSD Africa colloquium explores social development approaches to Climate Change, Crises, and Gender Equality
<https://www.uj.ac.za/news/icsd-africa-colloquium-explores-social-development-approaches-to-climate-change-crises-and-gender-equality/>
- Two UJ experts among the world's top researchers in the fields of electronics and electrical engineering
<https://www.uj.ac.za/news/two-uj-experts-among-the-worlds-top-researchers-in-the-fields-of-electronics-and-electrical-engineering/>



High Commissioner of Canada to South Africa visit



Minister in the Embassy of the People's Republic of China visit



University of Cincinnati visit



SASUF Swedish VC's delegation visit



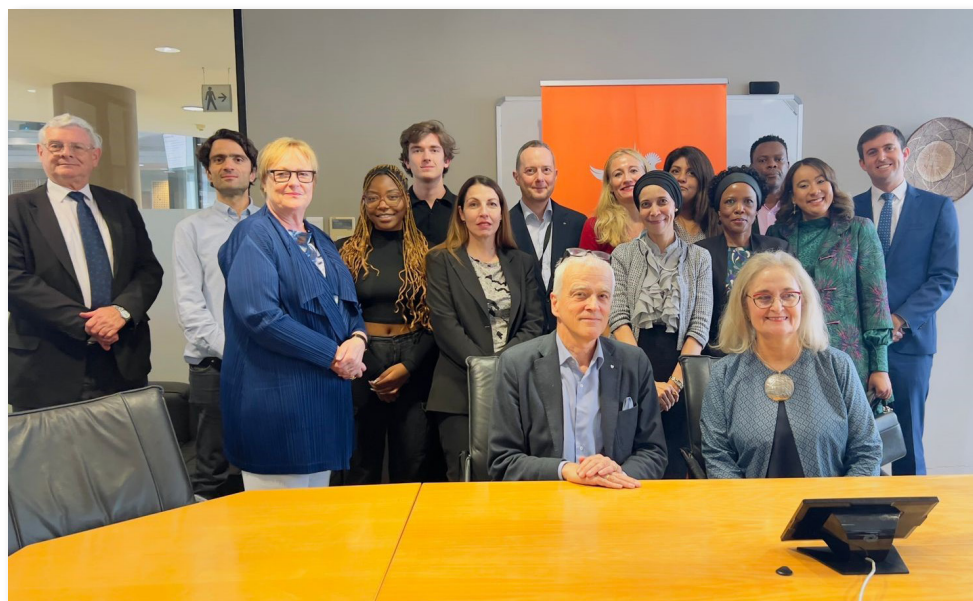
University of California, Davis visit



Consul General of India, Johannesburg visit



Ghent University visit



University of Antwerp visit



KU Leuven visit



Irish Minister of State for Disability The Honourable, Anne Rabbitte T.D. visit to the Soweto Campus