



Highlights

Division for Internationalisation



Message from the Senior Director

The primary focus for the second quarter has been to make sure we meet our targets for our UG and PG targets for our 2021 International student registrations and we are very happy with our registration numbers and we are very pleased to see that the mechanisms and processes put in place to assist and support international students due to the COVID-pandemic has assisted greatly.

During the second quarter much work has gone in to assessing and implementing our partnerships and how we assist faculties and their collaborative agreements. We also started the work on a searchable database for our partnerships (university as well as faculty-led). This work has also entailed relooking some of our processes around the signing of MoUs and partnership agreement in cooperation with Corporate Governance and the Office of the General Council.

We also continued the work on the virtual campus tours which include the DFC, Bunting Road and Soweto Campuses.

The welfare of our students are paramount and we have made submissions and presentations outlining the welfare services and support available to our international students to the newly established university transformation committee.

We are continuously assessing and working to improve the tools and approaches we apply to the virtual space and have continued engaging our students around the services we offer and their impact.

Study Abroad programmes

The study abroad and welfare section continue to work in service of students and staff in the big portfolio areas of immigration support, study abroad promotion, recruitment and delivery, staff and faculty support and reporting.

In the past quarter, the section has issued visa support letters to 136 Postdoctoral Research Fellows, 3 Distinguished Visiting Professors and 3 staff members.

We have provided visa support to students, providing services to students to meet compliance obligations, reminders on validity and expiry of their visas and assistance on renewals, follow ups with both VFS and the Department of Home Affairs on outstanding visa adjudications and updating of Perceptive Content to meet compliance requirements.

We have publicised the following opportunities to students through ULink;

- U21 Global Citizen
- Webinar - BLOCKCHAIN: Its future and promises for Accelerating Africa's Journey towards AGENDA 2063
- Virtual Work Readiness Workshops | First Semester 2021
- Webinar - Through great leadership MIT remain No.1 in the World University Rankings for the past nine years with Prof. Phillip L. Clay



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- NANJING TECHNOLOGY UNIVERSITY ONLINE EDUCATION FAIR 2021 ADMISSION
 - Summer School 2021 by IPSA and EPITA – Applications are open
 - Mandela Rhodes Scholarship
 - U21/PwC Innovation Challenge 2021
 - QS World University Rankings Virtual Masters event
 - Change the world, UC (University of Cincinnati) Challenge
 - WORLD CAFÉ – the value of intercultural exchange and international travel
 - UJ Africa Day Virtual Celebration - 25 May 2021
 - Invitation: The German Academic Exchange Service online information session on Study and Career opportunities in Germany and South Africa - 1 and 3 June 2021.
 - Falling Walls LAB is Coming to South Africa
 - FEBE ASIM Scholarship for African Countries

Our general communication to students has sought to provide support in the following areas:

- 2022 Online applications for studies (refer to International Admissions)
- Accommodation enquiries and applications. (Send communication to Student Accommodation)
- Follow up on accommodation applications for 2022.
- Offer study visa application guidance to registered students and newly admitted applicants.
- Medical aid

Academic Services

The Academic Services Unit had excellent interaction across several faculties. The following Virtual Partner Meetings were held in collaboration with Colleges/Faculties/ Institutes and Centres:

1. Rotman Business School, Canada
2. Toulouse Business School, France
3. Katholische Universität Eichstatt Ingolstadt, Germany
4. Birzeit University, Palestine
5. Ghent University
6. Illinois- Urbana Champagne (follow-up meeting with the Institute for Intelligent Systems)
7. I-DAIR, Graduate Institute, Geneva

As an overview of academic support services undertaken:


The Faculty of Humanities is working on several internationalization initiatives, including strengthening engagement with Birzeit University. A meeting was held with colleagues from Birzeit to discuss ways to activate the MoU we signed in 2019. Dr Amir Khalil of Birzeit University and Anisa Khan of the IO are working on a panel session for the IEASA conference taking place in August.


The Department of Jewellery Design and Manufacture, Faculty of Arts, Design and Architecture, are working closely with the IO (Study Abroad and Academic Services) on the development of a Short Learning Programme, adapting courses which can be offered as Collaborative Online Learning modules and also working on the formalization of a partnership with London Met University.

The Faculty of Science currently has three Joint Degrees being finalized with the following partners:

1. University of Montpellier
2. Ghent University
3. University of Padua, Italy

The Faculty of Health Sciences is in the process of developing a partnership with the International Digital Health and AI Research Collaborative, based at the Graduate Institute, Geneva and the Institute for Intelligent Systems (IJ).





We also have expanded our Erasmus+ Mobility Agreements with:

1. Universitat Politècnica de València, Spain
2. Ecoles Des Paris, France
3. Ankara, Turkey (in progress)

We were also approached to nominate academics to participate in the Oxford Martin School, Future of Development, research programme. Three academics were nominated and we will watch this space closely.

Meetings were held with the U21 network leads (U21 coordinator of the research group and with the Senior Academic Developers Open House meeting) and internally with UJ leads. A survey was also circulated and feedback provided to the UJ leads. We look forward to deepening our engagement in the network.

International Student Registration and UJELP

The International Admissions and Recruitment team prioritised the 2021 Council targets.

The Admissions team working together with the faculties followed up on international students registered conditionally while awaiting immigration documents. Many students have to date submitted the outstanding documents and their registration record accordingly updated to full registration. To date there's only four (4) students, 3 CBE and 1 FEBE who are yet to submit the outstanding documents.

As at the end of June 2021, the international applicants numbers for UG and PG programmes were at 3806 higher than the previous years. The positive statuses for UG and PG programmes are at 1709 compared to 774 in 2020 and 2021.

Five (5) virtual Information sessions have been held for the following International High Schools in Botswana, Lesotho and Swaziland:

- Maru a Pula (Botswana)
- Machabeng (Lesotho)
- Soofia (Lesotho)
- China Lesotho Collegiate (Lesotho)
- Waterford (Swaziland)

Three (3) faculty targeted Webinars have been held specific to the following faculties:


- CBE
- FEBE & SCIENCE
- FADA & EDU

As of the 30th June 2021, UJELP has 58 registered students across all levels (i.e. elementary to advanced level).

Fundraising and Administration

Scholarship Programme

The Africa Sustainable Infrastructure Mobility (ASIM) Scholarship Programme was officially launched on the 30th June 2021. The project aims to develop education, training and research capacity for African professionals to enhance the delivery of Africa's sustainable infrastructure. This grant was generously funded under the EU-AU Intra Africa Mobility Scheme. This is in partnership with, the University of Malawi, Ardhi University, Covenant University, and EU Technical partner Leeds Beckett University. The first cohort of students will start in September.



Funding proposals were submitted to:

IDRC Women in Science for an amount of R12million over 3 years. This initiative will support university-led consortium to expand and deepen scholarship particularly in Africa, on the challenges and opportunities that women scientists experience in STEM fields and on the importance of gender analysis in STEM research. The Faculty of Health Sciences at UJ is the lead applicant in partnership with University of Port Harcourt (Nigeria) University of Dar es Salaam (Tanzania) and three local partners (WITS, UNISA and Langage PTY)

The Faculty of Education under the VARSTEME hub submitted a proposal to AU Innovating Education Challenge. The purpose of this project is to develop Culturally-Anchored Virtual and Augmented Reality Simulations (CAVARs) that will concretize science concepts for school learners in South Africa and the continent at large, and also provide experiences that are culturally relevant.

Blockchain series coordinated first webinar lecture themed "Block chain ecosystem" with Institute for Intelligent Systems and University of Zurich, and two industry partners CVVC and SANBA. The aim of these dialogues is to create a network of interlockings between Switzerland and South Africa, aiming to strengthen the blockchain collaboration. To further the knowledge and know-how of research and innovation amongst the blockchain stakeholders in Switzerland and South Africa. To communicate the blockchain relevance for societal benefits to the general public in Switzerland and South Africa.



Invitation

The University of Johannesburg Institute for Intelligent Systems in partnership with the Embassy of Switzerland and the University of Zurich invites you to the first in a series of panel discussions titled BLOCKCHAIN: Its future and promises for Accelerating Africa's Journey towards AGENDA 2063

DATE Friday, 09 April 2021
TIME 15:00-16:00 (SAT)
RSVP Ismail Badrudin on ismalb@uj.ac.za

Once you have RSVP'ed, we will send you the virtual event details

Speakers: **Dr Uche Okonkwo** – Senior Lecturer: Institute of Intelligent Systems (IIS), University of Johannesburg
Prof. Dr Claudio Tessone – Assistant Professor of Network Science and Academic Director: UZH Blockchain Centre, University of Zurich
Mr Raif Kubil – Director: CV VC AG
Mr Akhona Damane - Forum Chair of the South African National Blockchain Alliance (SANBA)

Facilitator: **Dr Herman Myburgh** – Senior Lecturer: Institute of Intelligent Systems (IIS), University of Johannesburg

Join us for an informative discussion



The Future Reimagined



Invitation

The Division for Internationalisation in partnership with the Library invites you to the first in a series of conversations titled

WORLD CAFÉ – the value of intercultural exchange and international travel

Theme: How can the youth continue to lead change?



DATE Tuesday, 08 June 2021
TIME 15:00-16:00
ZOOM LINK <https://zoom.us/j/95849893166>

SPEAKER = **Ms Mpho Letsoalo**, International Marketing and Sales Expert; Sustainability and Social Entrepreneurship Enthusiast

FACILITATOR = **Mr Lebethe Malefo**, Director: Study Abroad, Division for Internationalisation, University of Johannesburg

Join us for an informative discussion

The Future Reimagined

I N V I T A T I O N

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O N L I N E W E B I N A R

The University of Johannesburg (UJ) invites you to an online webinar with **Prof Phillip L Clay**, Former Chancellor, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).

Through great leadership MIT remain No.1 in the World University Rankings for the past nine years.

DATE • **Tuesday, 13 April 2021**
TIME • **16h00 – 17h00 (CAT)**
VENUE • **Zoom**
ZOOM • **<https://zoom.us/j/94548069248>**
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Communications and Marketing

- Caribbean architect appointed as new Director of the GSA
<https://www.uj.ac.za/newandevents/Pages/Caribbean-architect-appointed-as-new-Director-of-the-GSA.aspx>
- UJ top global impact rankings for its commitment to SDGs
<https://www.uj.ac.za/newandevents/Pages/UJ-top-global-impact-rankings-for-its-commitment-to-SDGs.aspx>
- UJ and EU forge student mobility partnership to enhance sustainable infrastructure in Africa
<https://www.uj.ac.za/newandevents/Pages/UJ-and-EU-forge-student-mobility-partnership-to-enhance-sustainable-infrastructure-in-Africa.aspx>
- UJ and ICARA reflect on mental health and addiction during COVID-19
<https://www.uj.ac.za/newandevents/Pages/UJ-and-ICARA-reflect-on-mental-health-and-addiction-during-COVID-19.aspx>
- 'Siyaya eJapan, Tokyo here we come,' say UJ sportsmen, women in SA squad
<https://www.uj.ac.za/newandevents/Pages/Siyaya-eJapan-Tokyo-here-we-come-say-UJ-sportsmen-women-in-SA-squad.aspx>
- UJ venerates Africa Day 2021
<https://www.uj.ac.za/newandevents/Pages/UJ-venerates-Africa-Day-2021.aspx>
- UJ climbs in the latest QS World University Rankings – now among the global Top 500, and only SA university with an upward trajectory
<https://www.uj.ac.za/newandevents/Pages/UJ-climbs-in-the-latest-QS-World-University-Rankings-now-among-the-global-Top-500-and-only-SA-university-with-an-upward-asp>
- Renowned American scientist, Prof James Sylvester Gates awarded honorary doctorate
<https://www.uj.ac.za/newandevents/Pages/Renowned-American-scientist-Prof-James-Sylvester-Gates-awarded-honorary-doctorate.aspx>
- UJ CACS celebrates 100th anniversary of the founding of the Communist Party of China
<https://www.uj.ac.za/newandevents/Pages/UJ-CACS-celebrates-100th-anniversary-of-the-founding-of-the-Communist-Party-of-China.aspx>