

Highlights Division for Internationalisatio

Message from the Senior Director

A key focus for the current period was our engagement with diplomatic missions. The discussions aim to identify mobility programmes for students and staff, mutually beneficial joint projects and further funding opportunities. The division met with the Ambassador of Sweden to South Africa, Mr. Hakan Juholt as well as the Ambassador of Bulgaria to South Africa, Dr. Maria Pavlova Tzotzorkova.

The division hosted a webinar in August in partnership with Leading Like Mandela and the Thembekile Mandela Foundation. The theme of the webinar was "LEADING AFRICA TO RISE ABOVE THE EFFECTS OF THE PANDEMIC AND TO UNLOCK OPPORTUNITIES ARISING FROM THE 21ST CENTURY". A second webinar was hosted in August to celebrate "Women's month". The discussion focused on "Women in Higher Education".

Due to the challenges experienced by international students because of the COVID-19 pandemic, we reinforced mechanisms and processes to assist and support international students. A further emphasis has been placed on leveraging of our networks by advertising opportunities and supporting students and staff to participate in programmes offered by Universitas 21 (U21), the Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU) and the International Education Association of South Africa (IEASA).

The onset of the pandemic forced us to change the way we work and engage. The importance of the virtual environment cannot be understated and will become ever more important. As we reach the 2022 academic year with an easing of lockdown regulations and increased numbers of staff and students returning to campus, both the teaching and learning model will transform into an effective hybrid model which will also apply to the various types of engagements that will take place on the four campuses. It is thus imperative that we continuously seek to further embrace but also better understand the virtual space so we may optimise the platforms and tools we use.

Study Abroad programmes

The focus of this term was to continue to support the Faculties and Institutes to increase their virtual mobility activities to meet the agreed-upon targets. At the end of this reporting period, the total virtual mobility numbers are, Inbound – 4710 and Outbound – 7887. The attained engagements exceed the agreed-upon institutional targets of Inbound – 1500 and Outbound – 3000. The unit facilitates virtual mobilities centrally through traditional partners and network partners like U21 and ASIM and started mobility nominations for 2022. A presentation on the readiness to host ASIM scholars was delivered to all ASIM partners. We continue to assist the Faculty of Engineering and the Built Environment to manage the nomination and transition into UJ of these scholars.

A group of students from the Faculty of Education participated in the Africa By Bus programme which visited Namibia. Following the success of this programme, the Faculty of Engineering and the Built Environment and Academic Development Centre have expressed interest to offer Africa by Bus programmes before the end of 2021. Together with the UJ Sports Division, three additional physical mobility programmes will be offered in October and November 2021.

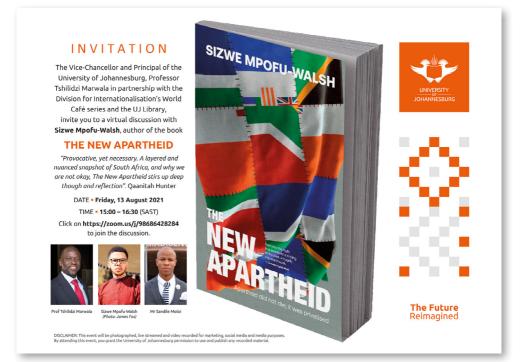
The unit offers immigration support to students, post-doctoral research fellows and staff by providing visa application advice, visa support letters and follow-ups on application outcomes. Due to changes in visa adjudication practice at the Department of Home Affairs, the unit issued a new immigration advisory for PDRFs. PDRFs are now advised and supported to apply for a Visitor's Visa (Research) instead of a Critical Skills Visa.

The unit works with the International Student Admissions unit to prepare newly admitted students for entry in 2022. One town hall was concluded with international students in this period, and the second one, focusing mainly on freshly admitted students, will be delivered in October.

Several support mechanisms were either created or enhanced for both Study Abroad and degreeseeking students:

- The outbound online study abroad application system was completed and handed over and is fully operational,
- Development of a virtual orientation programme for all new international students entering in 2022 in progress
- The virtual tours and the instructional videos will also form part of the virtual orientation programme to be completed and deployed by the end of the third quarter of 2021.

The unit hosted a virtual book discussion with Dr Sizwe Mpofu-Walsh to discuss his latest book, The New Apartheid. The discussion was a collaborative effort between Internationalisation's World Café Serties and the Vice-Chancellor's Reading Club. We have also participated in a number of international engagements in aid of the internationalisation project, these includes and are not limited to participation in the IEASA conference, serving on the conference planning committee for the FORUM on Education Abroad 2022, participating in the U21 Virtual Mobility Definitions Project and sitting on the Selection Panel of the Universities Canada Mobilities Grant.



Academic Services

The Academic Services unit is striving to improve the support provided to academics in their internationalization efforts have developed a staff intranet page and sharepoint site which holds key partnership data. This also includes an interactive partnerships map that is also available on the UJ website. This has significantly added to the visibility of the Academic Services Unit across the university.

Academic Services continues to work closely with faculties, colleges, institutes and other entities and is in the process of establishing an I-DAIR Digital Health hub at UJ, led by Prof Babu Paul, Dr Wesley Doorsamy of the IIS and Prof Noorbhai of the FMHS. We are also working closely with the Faculty of Humanities to establish a Centre for Palestine-Africa Studies and Centre for Qatar-South Africa cultural relations. As part of the proposed Centre for Palestine-Africa Studies, the Director for Academic Services co-delivered a conference session together with Dr Shahid Mathee and Dr Amir Khalil (Birzeit) at the annual IEASA conference. Under this theme of Partnerships for Social Justice, the Academic Services Unit also arranged an information session with the Scholars at Risk Network and with Hamburg University, Germany in order to explore themes of academic freedom and advocacy for scholars at risk.

During the period July to September the Academic Services Division processed and completed nine International collaboration agreements, several other agreements are in the process of completion, including four Joint Degree Agreements. Virtual partner meetings were also held with various stakeholders.

International Student Registration and UJELP

The 2022 application process increased steadily and based on historical data, we have seen an increase in the number of applicants for the academic year 2022 (7834) compared to 2021 (6952).

Positive status (as of 28 September 2021)

Undergraduate: 2743: Postgraduate: 741: Total 3484

Our international recruitment activities in 2021 started in the first half of the year and included virtual information sessions with 4 schools in Lesotho and Botswana. We followed this up with virtual student engagements that have taken place with our partners BMI, the last of these 4 engagements taking place in August with the Faculty of Humanities and Faculty of Health Sciences. In the period August/September we concluded a digital web banner campaign in 7 countries in Africa as follows:

- Kenya
- Nigeria
- Ghana
- Uganda
- Tanzania
- Zambia
- Namibia

The web banner campaign was followed by a newspaper print advert campaign in 6 countries on the continent.

Fundraising and Administration

The Centre for Entrepreneurship at the Johannesburg Business School in partnership with The Institute for Employment Research at the Warwick University, (UK) received a grant of R1.1million from the British Council Innovative African Universities. The consortium will form part of a research and peer learning community of practise that aims to support the African entrepreneurship ecosystem. During this period the unit coordinated research funding calls with faculties and the following were shortlisted by IDRC Women in Science, British Council, African Union Innovating Education.

On the 8th September, the unit hosted an info session webinar on the Horizon Europe Africa Initiative Funding Calls. As a strategic partner, the EU seeks to enhance cooperation with Africa to promote actions targeted to finding locally adapted solutions to challenges that are global in nature, but which often hit Africa hardest. The programme will start from 2021-2027 with a total budget of €350 million.

On the 23rd September, the unit hosted an information session webinar regarding the French Scholarship Programme. The session focused on scholarship opportunities for South Africans to pursue their Masters and PhD studies at a university in France.

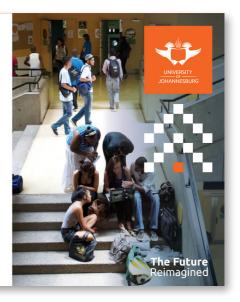
INVITATION

The Division for Internationalisation at the University of Johannesburg invites you to a virtual information session focusing on Funding and Scholarship Opportunities

TITLE: Horizon Europe Africa Initiative Calls DATE: Wednesday, 08 September 2021 TIME: 14:00 – 15:00 REGISTER TO JOIN THE VIRTUAL SESSION: https://bit.ly/3zw3xeV



DISCLAIMER: This event will be photographed, live streamed and video recorded for marketing, social media and media purposes. By attending this event, you grant the University of Johannesburg permission to use and publish any recorded material.



INVITATION

The Division for Internationalisation at the University of Johannesburg in partnership with the Embassy of France in South Africa and Campus France invites you to a virtual information session focusing on the

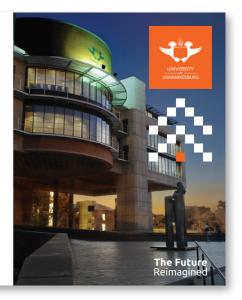
French Scholarship Programme

TITLE: France - South Africa Scholarship Programme DATE: Thursday, 23 September 2021 TIME: 14:00 – 15:00 REGISTER TO JOIN THE VIRTUAL SESSION: https://bit.ly/3EfZlms



AMBASSADE DE FRANCE EN AFRIQUE DU SUD Liberté Équilité

DISCLAIMER: This event will be photographed, live streamed and video recorded for marketing, social media and media purposes. By attending this event, you grant the University of Johannesburg permission to use and publish any recorded material.



Communications and Marketing

- UJ's CBE hosts the International Conference in Accounting and Business (ICAB) https://www.uj.ac.za/newandevents/Pages/UJs-CBE-hosts-the-International-Conference-in-Accounting-and-Business-(ICAB).aspx
- UJ Sport Physiotherapist Ndlovu wins 2021 COSAFA Cup with Bafana Bafana https://www.uj.ac.za/newandevents/Pages/UJ-Sport-Physiotherapist-Ndlovu-wins-2021-COSAFA-Cup-with-Bafana-Bafana.aspx
- UJ hosts inaugural SA-China tourism cooperation webinar https://www.uj.ac.za/newandevents/Pages/UJ-hosts-inaugural-SA-China-tourismcooperation-webinar-.aspx
- Dr Sizwe Mpofu-Walsh unpacks 'The New Apartheid' at VC's Book Club https://www.uj.ac.za/newandevents/Pages/Dr-Sizwe-Mpofu-Walsh-unpacks-The-New-Apartheid-at-VCs-Book-Club.aspx
- UJ's Dane Roets wins bronze at the World Athletics U20 Championships in Nairobi https://www.uj.ac.za/newandevents/Pages/UJ%27s-Dane-Roets-wins-bronze-at-the-World-Athletics-U20-Championships-in-Nairobi.aspx
- UJ graduate wins Falling Walls Lab Johannesburg https://www.uj.ac.za/newandevents/Pages/UJ-graduate-wins-Falling-Walls-Lab-Johannesburg.aspx



INVITATION

The Division for Internationalisation in partnership with the UJ Library, invite you to celebrate Women's Month by recognising the great strides that women have made in Higher Education.

"If you educate a man, you educate an individual but if you educate a woman, you educate a whole nation". Dr. James Emman Kwegyir Aggrey

THEME

Women in Higher Education

DATE = Thursday, 26 August 2021 TIME = 12:30 – 14:00 (SAST) ZOOM LINK = https://zoom.us/j/96757729101

DISCLAIMER: This event will be photographed, live streamed and video recorded for marketing, social media and media purposes. By attending this event, you grant the University of Johannesburg permission to use and publish any recorded material. JOHANNESBURG



The Future Reimagined