# Message from the Senior Director

Work in the Division for Internationalisation during this period has in the main focused on maintaining business continuity and ensuring staff wellbeing while working remotely. Much work has also been done to ensuring that we are prepared for a 'post-COVID world' in which remote work and virtual engagements will form part of the new normal. This includes, among other services and activities, facilitation for staff to work remotely, continuous partnership engagements and facilitation, upgrading and ensuring value add of communication through the office, and the development of virtual campus tours.

Work has also commenced to look at the work, structure and purpose of the Division through the Organizational Design and Review initiative (21st Century Review).

In addition, a new vision and strategy for third stream income generation has been put in place and in addition to initiatives undertaken in the Fundraising and administration portfolio, the office has redeveloped some of the existing Short Learning Programmes (SLP's) to be marketed to an international audience.

# **Study Abroad programmes**

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a major impact on the physical mobility of students and staff and has therefore prompted us to think innovatively about Study Abroad. One of the obvious solutions is Virtual mobility which does not replace physical mobility but rather compliments it. Due to the current pandemic, virtual mobility has taken precedent. As a unit, engagements have occurred with our Study Abroad partners to provide opportunities for UJ students to participate in Virtual programmes which are reflected in the Outbound numbers below. In addition, the unit has initiated a Virtual Campus tours project, hosted two Town Hall meetings with International Students to update them on university developments and finalised a social media campaign to market the Winter/Summer School Short Learning Programmes (SLP's).

- → Our current Inbound Student number is 27
- → Our current Outbound Student number is 167

# **Academic Services**

## Virtual Conferences, Summits and Committee meetings

Due to the pandemic and travel ban, all international conferences and summits were conducted online. The Director: Academic Services - Prof Judy Peter participated/attended the following events virtually.

#### EAIE

June 16-17, 2020 - Community Summit

### **AIEA - Town Halls:**

- May 29, 2020 Is our field (and job) in Jeopardy?: Adapting and Re-inventing Internationalization
  of Higher Education to the After-COVID19 New "Normal", Moderator: Adel el Zaïm(University of
  Ottawa), Presenter: Francisco Marmolejo (Qatar Foundation)
- May 22, 2020 COVID-19 The Change Accelerator for Higher Education's International Practice and Programs: Turning Challenge to Opportunity, Moderator: Adel el Zaïm (University of Ottawa), Presenter: John Hudzik (Michigan State University)
- May 15, 2020 How to Support International Students during COVID-19, Moderator: Meredith McQuaid (University of Minnesota), Presenters: Carolyn Stefanco (President, The College of Saint Rose), Alfredo Valera (Associate Vice President, Global Affairs, The College of Saint Rose), Caroline Mangan (UCD), Hanna Sun (University of Minnesota)
- May 8, 2020 Open COVID-19 Discussion among SIOs, Moderator: Adel el Zaïm, Friday, May 1Leadership for the Future (and From a Distance), Moderators: Marcellus Caldas and Marie Anastasiouresenters: Joanna Regulska, John Lucas, Sufei Li
- April 24, 2020 International Partnerships after COVID-19, Moderators: Erich Dietrich, Susan Popko, Presenters: Jane Gatewood, Peter Lennie, Erik Lithander
- April 3, 2020 Communication during COVID-19, Moderator: Meredith McQuaid, Presenters: Ben Waxman, Paaige Turner, Judy Peter, and Jose Celso Friere Jr.

# **AIEA: SIO Leadership Academy:**

- Weekly updates
- Bi-weekly updates

## **AIEA:** Conference Committee:

- May 29, 2020 General Conference Committee
- May 22, 2020 First Conference Committee

### **U21-Sustantable GD Committee:**

June 3, 2020 - A community of Practice for Sustainability

### **Times Higher Education:**

- May 27, 2020 Webinário BRaVE II: Virtual Exchange and Global Learning
- April 1, 2020 How can African Universities respond to COVID-19? THE Southern African Impact Virtual Forum

### FUBAI - webingr:

### Peer-Learning Circle - AIEA:

- This group was assigned based on institution type: Mid/Large public universities.
- The expectation is that this group meets at least monthly for 4 months starting in June to discuss best practices, challenges, brainstorm ideas, and share resources around new challenges related to internationalization, especially during this pandemic time.

## **Partnerships**

## The following partnerships were concluded:

- Far East Federal University MOU
- University of Zimbabwe FEBE MOA
- Afyon Kocatepe University (Erasmus + agreement)
- Ladoke Akintola University of Technology MOU\*
- Appalachian State University MOU renewal\*

#### Winter school:

The Academic Services unit collaborated with Marketing, Study Abroad, Academic Development Centre and Academic Development and Support in reviewing and migrating 3 existing UJ Short Learning Programme's (SLP's). The programmes will be offered online over a 3 week period in the third quarter of 2020.

Programmes as follows:

African Insights, Artificial Intelligence in the 4IR, and UJELP - English Language Programme.

# International Recruitment

The COVID-19 pandemic has compelled the division to work differently and to utilise technology more effectively to meet certain objectives.

The International Student Recruitment and Admissions team worked with the P.R. and Communications Officer to finalise the "Internationalisation Application Cycle 2020" booklet.

The booklet was sent to identified schools (CIS Counselors and Prospective Students), Partner Schools in the SADC region (Botswana, Lesotho, Eswatini, Namibia, Zambia etc.), UG leads from Keystone and 2019 Career Fairs and Information sessions prospect lists, funding agencies and Embassy Education Attaché's. The brochure was also sent to East and West Africa schools that were visited via CIS.

Further to the above, the booklet was uploaded onto the division's Facebook profile and shared across other pages.

The International Admissions and Recruitment team are also exploring a number of opportunities related to participating in Online Recruitment drives.

# **International Student Registration**

As of the 30 June, Undergraduate – 2516 (Headcount) and Postgraduate – 1528 (Headcount)

# **Fundraising and Administration**

#### **COVID-19 Relief Funds**

We find ourselves in difficult and unparalleled times, where the COVID-19 pandemic dominates each day's news headlines. In helping to alleviate the COVID19 pandemic, the international community extended a generous hand to support our international students. The Botswana High Commission and Namibia Students Financial Assistance Fund (NSFAF) created a relief fund to support their students. The Consulate of Eswatini provided food parcels to support their students in the country.

### **Data Provision For International Students**

To ensure that our students abroad continue with their online learning, we negotiated with international telecoms to subsides data. Negotiations were concluded with MTN Eswatini and Vodacom Lesotho. IO is collaborating with the University of Free State and will jointly approach Nigeria, Zimbabwe and Namibia service providers for discounted deals.

# **Communications and Marketing**

- Embassy of the People's Republic of China donate surgical masks to UJ https://www.uj.ac.za/newandevents/Pages/Embassy-of-the-Peoples-Republic-of-China-donate-surgical-masks-to-UJ.aspx
- Global Impact Rankings UJ in the top 100 in the world https://www.uj.ac.za/newandevents/Pages/Global-Impact-Rankings-UJ-in-the-top-100-in-the-world.aspx
- UJ scientist awarded Royal Society 2020 FLAIR fellowship https://www.uj.ac.za/newandevents/Pages/UJ-scientist-awarded-Royal-Society-2020-FLAIR-fellowship.aspx
- U21 People's Choice Award for UJ research on Sustainable Universities
   https://www.uj.ac.za/newandevents/Pages/U21-Peoples-Choice-Award-for-UJ-research-on-Sustainable-Universities.aspx
- CWUR ranks UJ in the top 3.6% of universities worldwide https://www.uj.ac.za/newandevents/Pages/CWUR-ranks-UJ-in-the-top-3-6-of-universities-worldwide.aspx
- UJ surges ahead with phenomenal gains in QS World University Rankings debut in Top 500 and 3rd in South Africa
   https://www.uj.ac.za/newandevents/Pages/UJ-surges-ahead-with-phenomenal-gains-in-QS-World-University-Rankings-%E2%80%93-debut-in-Top-500-and-3rd-in-South-Africa.aspx
- Prof David Bilchitz elected Vice-President of the International Association of Constitutional Law https://www.uj.ac.za/newandevents/Pages/Prof-David-Bilchitz-elected-Vice-Presidentof-the-International-Association-of-Constitutional-Law.aspx
- UJ earns recognition again as one of the world's best youngest universities
   https://www.uj.ac.za/newandevents/Pages/UJ-earns-recognition-again-as-one-of-the-worlds-best-youngest-universities.aspx



Embassy of the People's Republic of China donate surgical masks to UJ