



# ANNUAL REPORT 2024

## ACEPS by the numbers

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**Visiting researchers:** 9 Professors & 1 PhD

**Fellowships:** 3

**MoUs:** 2 –Great Zimbabwe University and University of Botswana.

**Collaborations:** 18

**4IR Initiatives:** 12

**Grants/In-kind:** R 2,7 Mil

**Grant applications:** 4

**No. of Talks:** 28

**Conferences/Workshops organised:** 25

**No. of Publications:** 67 articles/chapters and 3 books

## Who is ACEPS?



Director Prof Veli Mitova

ACEPS is a tiny centre with 1 full-time director, 13 postgraduates and 70 RAs, that has had a great year both qualitatively and based on a purely numbers metric. According to the latter, ACEPS topped all of UJ's heavily funded and staffed centres and institutes. This success is a continuation from 2023, when ACEPS jumped from obscurity to the 2<sup>nd</sup> top UJ Centre and Institute all the while learning the ropes and paying school fees.

## What did ACEPS do in 2024?

ACEPS leaned heavily on its great team of PhDs and PDRF to pick up the slack and run with the ball, using its extensive network of Research Associates and Visiting Professors.



This synergy allowed tiny ACEPS to be a heavy hitter in the epistemic decolonisation and justice international space, and a major contributor to UJ Humanities success story.

## Who did we do it with?

ACEPS partnered with Northwestern via their Buffet foundation initiative, McGill, Quebec, Brandon, Melbourne, ANU, Tilburg, 1 Res ICT Africa, Karlsruhe Inst of Tech, Lima, and New Delhi Universities, hosted 10 self-funded international visitors, and ran 25 workshops.



Back row (l-t-r):  
Amandine Catala (UQAM), Shené (ACEPS), Sarah Wright (U Georgia), Veli (ACEPS), Gontse (ACEPS/ UKZN), Dimpho (ACEPS), Swazi (ACEPS), Paige (ACEPS).

Front row (l-t-r):  
Abe (ACEPS/ UQAM), Gaile Poblhans (U of Miami), Dimpho (ACEPS)

## ACEPS Postgraduate Successes

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ACEPS is particularly proud of sending all of its PhDs and a PDRF to international conferences funded by their hosts! True gratification is giving ACEPS Postgrads the invaluable experience that they can only gain from international exposure, both from international visitors to ACEPS and their own international invites, allowing them to start levelling the academic playing field! Moreover, all 4 PhDs and 1 MA who graduated in 2024 were meaningfully employed full-time upon graduation.

*Our 3 PhD graduates this year: Dr Tobi, Dr Maḡonya, Dr Akḡpan*

## ACEPS Biggest Achievements

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ACEPS biggest achievement this year was to put it on a self-sustainable footing! Equally impressive, ACEPS introduced an African Welcome by Elders initiative which is now being adopted by the rest of UJ Humanities.



Mma Jovce Dibale

Mma Elizabeth More

## ACEPS in 2025

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Carry on doing what we are now doing!

With the only caveat: to optimise opportunities relative to resources.