



UNIVERSITY
OF
JOHANNESBURG

Awards Ceremony

Vice-Chancellor's
Distinguished Awards
for Teaching, Research,
Innovation and Service

Thursday 18 November 2021 | 17:30

**The Future
Reimagined**

Programme

WELCOME

Senior Director: Academic Planning, Quality Promotion
& Academic Staff Development Dr Kirti Menon

OPENING

Vice-Chancellor, Prof Tshilidzi Marwala

TEACHING AWARDS

Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Academic, Prof Letlhokwa Mpedi

- **MOST PROMISING YOUNG TEACHER OF THE YEAR**
- **TEACHER EXCELLENCE**

RESEARCH AWARDS

Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Research & Internationalisation, Prof Saurabh Sinha

- **MOST PROMISING YOUNG RESEARCHER OF THE YEAR**
- **OUTSTANDING RESEARCHER OF THE YEAR**

INNOVATION OF THE YEAR

Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Research & Internationalisation, Prof Saurabh Sinha

BOOK OF THE YEAR

Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Research & Internationalisation, Prof Saurabh Sinha

HIGHEST CITED RESEARCHER

Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Research & Internationalisation, Prof Saurabh Sinha

SERVICE BEYOND THE NORMAL CALL OF DUTY

Registrar, Prof Kinta Burger

CLOSING REMARKS

Vice-Chancellor, Prof Tshilidzi Marwala

PROGRAMME DIRECTOR

Senior Director: Academic Planning,
Quality Promotion & Academic Staff Development, Dr Kirti Menon

Vice-Chancellor's Distinguished Awards 2021

MOST PROMISING YOUNG TEACHER OF THE YEAR

- **Dr Gcobani Qambela** - Faculty of Humanities
- **Dr Phumlani Msomi** - Faculty of Science

TEACHER EXCELLENCE

- **Prof Maritha Pritchard** - Faculty of Humanities
- **Prof Shepherd Dhliwayo** - College of Business and Economics
- **Prof Habib Noorbhai** - Faculty of Health Sciences

MOST PROMISING YOUNG RESEARCHER OF THE YEAR

- **Prof Oluwafemi Adebo** - Faculty of Science

OUTSTANDING RESEARCHER OF THE YEAR

- **Prof Omotayo Arotiba** - Faculty of Science

INNOVATION OF THE YEAR

- **Prof Talita Greyling** - College of Business and Economics

BOOK OF THE YEAR

- **Prof Alex Broadbent** - Institute for the Future of Knowledge, Faculty of Humanities

HIGHEST CITED RESEARCHER

- **Prof Michael R Hamblin** - Faculty of Health Sciences

SERVICE BEYOND THE NORMAL CALL OF DUTY

- **Mr Martin Marubini Siluthanyi** - Operations Department

VICE-CHANCELLOR'S DISTINGUISHED AWARD

MOST PROMISING YOUNG TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Dr Gcobani Qambela

Faculty of Humanities
Department of Anthropology



Today I felt like a human being". This simple, yet profound Anthropology student's comment, perfectly captures the feelings of someone who has experienced the impact of Dr Gcobani Qambela's extraordinary compassion for his students and his commitment to providing them with a humanising and healing learning environment, which offers a space in which their voices are heard, where they can be vulnerable and learn without fear. Describing himself as a "teacher who loves justice, excellence and learning", Dr Qambela's emancipatory, transformative teaching philosophy aims to decolonise priorities and practices of his discipline and the University. It is embodied in his life experiences and closely connected to his students' lives, to their desires,

acknowledging that their encounters at the university are often unsympathetic, exclusionary and alienating. Dr Qambela, as a medical anthropologist, believes that for students to learn, they must heal – this means that full engagement with issues of inequality, trauma and loss should be courageously and carefully addressed. As he says, "we have so little time to process and to grieve for all that has been lost". In his quest to create a classroom that offers students this time and to facilitate critical consciousness and self-directed learning, students are engaged in animated debate, question and answer sessions and independent research.

Through trauma-informed pedagogy, they are encouraged to reflect on their histories, to challenge dominant, colonial belief systems and, importantly, to tell their individual stories as part of the healing process. Dr Qambela's vision for a transformed university, which has been remade with contemporary African students in mind, has not gone unnoticed. His workbook on anti-racist pedagogy is widely used and he has been recognised nationally as a person who has the insight and the humility to contribute to University transformation processes. For us, he has emerged as a leading voice in the call for a decolonised institution, and someone widely recognised as a teacher who has the humanity of his students at heart.

Dr Qambela, thank you for the crucial contribution you are making to our University and for enriching your students' lives in such a profound way – congratulations on receiving this award. We will continue to learn from you in future and wish you well in all the exciting endeavours to come.

VICE-CHANCELLOR'S DISTINGUISHED AWARD

MOST PROMISING YOUNG TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Dr Phumlani Msomi

Faculty of Science
Department of Chemical Sciences



"To raise new questions, new possibilities, to regard old problems from a new angle, requires creative imagination and marks real advances. This is what makes a chemistry student differ from other students". Although it is difficult to believe that this comment comes from a Chemistry teacher, it is at the heart of Dr Phumlani Msomi's teaching philosophy. Not many Chemistry teachers in South Africa are dynamic and imaginative enough to even begin to consider teaching Chemistry as a liberal art, but that is exactly what Dr Msomi does. Using an approach that is a far cry from traditional Chemistry teaching and widely known for his passion and energy, Dr Msomi believes that to think scientifically in a solution-solving discipline like Chemistry, students should be encouraged to be open

to new ideas, respect the opinions of others and develop the ability to generate questions. Most importantly, students should learn to scrutinise and challenge the evidence in flexible and creative ways and remain open to continuous learning.

Dr Msomi's classroom reflects his innovative approach by offering students an environment that encourages them to think differently. In keeping with his belief that the language of teaching and learning is a second language and mindful of possible language barriers, Dr Msomi's varied and challenging classroom activities are carried out in a language of the student's choice, which enables them to express new and complex ideas freely. In a world where English generally remains the norm, this is a unique and courageous practice where understanding is gained in the mother tongue and later translated into English. In addition, the inclusion of material based on indigenous knowledge systems brings chemistry closer to the students' lives and experiences. His inclusive and interactive student-centred approach means that the students are at the centre. Whether they are in the virtual lab or the classroom, they are always directly involved in creating new knowledge in interesting and collaborative ways, and it is their voice that is heard.

There is no question that Dr Msomi has transformed a difficult subject into one that is accessible and fun for students, and they are the first to recognise this. He has been described as a "perfect lecturer" who respects his students and is willing to go the extra mile. One student sums up the feeling of many when she says, "I didn't think Chemistry could be fun, but Dr Msomi made the module easier and enjoyable". Congratulations Dr Msomi – your students are very lucky to be learning alongside you, and we are delighted to be giving you this award. We look forward to following your success in the future.

VICE-CHANCELLOR'S DISTINGUISHED AWARD

TEACHER EXCELLENCE

Prof Maritha Pritchard

Faculty of Humanities
Department of Strategic Communication



When Prof Maritha Pritchard becomes as excited as her students when the class trends on Twitter, it is impossible to imagine anyone more equipped to be teaching 21st-century students of Strategic Communication. As an inspired, energetic and innovative teacher committed to her students' success, Prof Pritchard brings her discipline to life, offering them challenging and varied learning experiences that, whatever the topic, are always connected to diverse student experiences and interests. Without exception, they allow for both imagination and critical engagement and for students to be fully engaged in relevant debates, applied projects in community NGOs, media releases, writing blogs, interviewing, and making videos.

Professor Pritchard's classroom is a rich and supportive learning environment, grounded in a pedagogy of care, and characterised by trust, inclusivity and fun, where humour often serves as a safe catalyst for difficult conversations. Crucially, Professor Pritchard is willing to risk alongside her students as she decolonises her teaching and opens up frank, often painful discussions. This frequently results in closer personal relationships as she learns with them while they tell their own stories and she, in turn, shares her personal narratives. Linked to this is her frequent use of role-play during which students can create a safe place from which history can be better understood and where they can imagine future possibilities for their lives and the lives of others.

Appreciative student evaluations describe Maritha as "amazing", "awesome", challenging" and "always kind" and reveal a teacher who is loved and admired by all, who is recognised as someone deeply responsive to the needs of the 21st-century learner, and who lives her commitment to authentic student learning and to building a more socially just society.

What stands out is how Maritha has taken what she has learnt in the classroom and shared it with colleagues in her Faculty and the University community. Over the last five years, she has inspired her colleagues to use blended learning and a host of apps and social media tools to make online learning engaging. In her Faculty, she has become the 'go-to' person on innovation and creativity in teaching and learning.

Maritha, thank you for all your leadership in teaching and learning – we so appreciate it. Congratulations on this well-deserved award – the excitement you feel about teaching is infectious and we celebrate with you – we are also looking forward to the next time you trend on Twitter!

VICE-CHANCELLOR'S DISTINGUISHED AWARD

TEACHER EXCELLENCE

Prof Shepherd Dhliwayo

College of Business and Economics
Department of Business Management



If we are looking for someone who has made a major impact on teaching and learning at UJ and further afield, we need to look no further than Business Management's acclaimed Prof Shepherd Dhliwayo. Described by his students as "absolutely the best", "well informed," and as someone who "really knows his stuff", it is clear that he has won their respect, admiration and trust. When he walks into his classroom, his students are quick to pay attention because they know that they are privileged to work alongside a teacher and scholar who has their best interests at heart and brings a unique depth of experience and insight into their lives.

Beyond this, he has gained enthusiastic national and international recognition for his outstanding contribution to the field, most

notably, his ground-breaking entrepreneurial education model based on experiential learning. As one would expect, Prof Dhliwayo's teaching is grounded in this model, which in turn, is closely linked to learning-to-be. His approach is experiential, transformational learning, as well as being informed by the principles of ecological design. With an eye constantly on the demands of the workplace, his classroom – whether virtual or face to face – is always abuzz with activity as students engage and collaborate on a wide range of applied, real-life, problem-solving tasks, which include field trips, storytelling, case studies, videos and debates.

The multidisciplinary material is always relevant to the students' lives and learning needs, and here Prof Dhliwayo is remarkable in his ability to adapt to the requirements of disciplines as diverse as Chemical Engineering and Homoeopathy. Students in homoeopathy learn how to establish their own practices, while the engineering students are fully involved in identifying a problem in a local chemical company, finding solutions, writing reports and making recommendations.

Congratulations Prof Dhliwayo – we are delighted to be giving you this award and proud to have you as an esteemed member of the UJ community. Thank you for your enormous contribution to our University and beyond. You have gained the respect and admiration of all who know and work with you, and there is no doubt that this can only grow as you follow your transformational teaching path in future.

VICE-CHANCELLOR'S DISTINGUISHED AWARD

TEACHER EXCELLENCE

Prof Habib Noorbhai

Faculty of Health Sciences
Department of Sport and Movement Studies



It should come as no surprise that Prof Habib Noorbhai, firmly believes that “Lecture halls don’t need tech geeks who can teach; (they) need teaching geeks who can use tech effectively” because he is an inspiring example of one such talented teaching geek!

Over the past few years, focused on fostering an African footprint and in response to 4IR, Prof Noorbhai has developed a special interest in teaching clinical skills via simulated and video-based learning, which can benefit both staff and students. In the classroom, through a willingness to risk and experiment, he has designed a wide range of innovative, applied tasks that offer students the opportunity to engage in learning activities, which are perfect examples of student-centred, technology-enhanced

learning. Human engagement and technology interact and enhance each other; they co-exist in balanced and exciting ways, always with the students’ interests at heart.

There is no doubt that students are intrigued by this – discussions are enlivened by a linked video, while Blackboard serves as an important repository for the exchange of ideas and role-plays are complemented by digital material. When students debate the extent to which sport is a catalyst for change in South Africa, their conclusions are presented in many digitally enhanced ways.

Prof Noorbhai’s learning space is infused with the support students need to be courageous and are inspired to be brave in taking risks in their learning process. One of the areas where this is most noticeable is Prof Noorbhai’s rare ability to merge the development of writing skills with critical thinking and problem solving, so students do not only apply principles to the workplace but also write about them in interesting ways. Prof Noorbhai’s classroom is an exciting, inclusive space based on respect and trust and in which all contributions are valued. Student comments reflect this, revealing a much-loved teacher, widely recognised for his enthusiastic commitment to his students. “He is a great teacher! His teaching was completely student-centred, and he always made it clear that he wanted the best for us.”

We fully agree with your students, Prof Noorbhai’s – congratulations on this award! You have every reason to be proud of your achievements, and we look forward to seeing you go from strength to strength in the future.

VICE-CHANCELLOR'S DISTINGUISHED AWARD

MOST PROMISING YOUNG RESEARCHER OF THE YEAR

Prof Oluwafemi Adebo

Faculty of Science
Department of Biotechnology and Food Technology



Prof Oluwafemi Adebo is an Associate Professor in the Department of Biotechnology and Food Technology within the Faculty of Science. He leads the Food Innovation Research Group (FIRG), which consists of postgraduate Students and postdoctoral research fellows. The FIRG is involved in research that improves various traditional food processes, food product development and value addition, using conventional, novel and Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR) approaches, including predictive optimization, pattern recognition of food metabolites, and three-dimensional (3D)-printing of foods as well as other innovative solutions to address food insecurity.

Since his employment at UJ in 2018, Prof Adebo has attracted over R6 million in grants and won numerous awards, including the highly coveted Institute of Food Technologists Emerging Leader Award (he was the only recipient from Africa in 2019). As at early October 2021, he has published 64 articles (majorly in high-impact factor journals) including *Critical Reviews in Food Science and Nutrition* (IF = 11.176), *International Journal of Biological Macromolecules* (IF = 6.953), *Food Research International* (IF = 6.475), *Nutrients* (5.717), *Industrial Crops and Products* (IF = 5.645), *Food Control* (IF = 5.548), *LWT-Food Science and Technology* (IF = 4.952), *Molecules* (IF = 4.411), *Scientific Reports* (IF = 4.379), *Metabolomics* (IF = 4.290), among others. He has also contributed to 16 book chapters with reputable publishers, about 40 national and international conference presentations, a number of invited talks and keynote presentations and he recently filed a patent. Prof Adebo is currently the lead editor of a book, titled 'Indigenous Fermented Foods in the Tropics', to be published by Elsevier in 2022. He has a Google Scholar and Scopus h-indices of 18 and 16, respectively.

Prof Adebo collaborates both locally and internationally and remains passionate about food security in the continent and beyond. He is also a regular volunteer for activities that promote food science and technology and an active member of different professional organisations.

VICE-CHANCELLOR'S DISTINGUISHED AWARD

OUTSTANDING RESEARCHER OF THE YEAR

Prof Omotayo Arotiba

Faculty of Science
Department of Chemical Sciences



Prof Omotayo Arotiba joined UJ as Senior Lecturer in 2011, and over the years, he has distinguished himself as an excellent researcher, supervisor and mentor. He is well recognised nationally and internationally as a leader in his research field, particularly as an Electrochemist. Nationally, Prof Arotiba is the Chairperson of the Electrochemistry Division of the South African Chemical Institute (SACI) called ELECTROCHEMSA. Internationally, he is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry, United Kingdom. He is a Fellow of the Nigerian Chemical Society. He has been a guest editor to leading journals in his field, and he is on the editorial board of three journals of international repute.

Furthermore, Prof Arotiba has been an invited speaker and keynote speaker at international conferences, such as the annual meetings of the International Society of Electrochemistry (ISE), which is the highest summit of electrochemists globally. Some of his achievements in the last five years are:

- He has published 126 articles since 2008 in high-impact journals of international repute.
- He has graduated 13 PhDs and 18 MSc (15 with distinction).
- He is the current Chairperson of ElectrochemSA – the Electrochemistry Division of the South African Chemical Institute.
- He has a Google scholar h-index of 33 with citation count of 4 201 and a Scopus h-index of 30 with citation count of 3 365 (as at October 2021).
- He has been Full Professor at UJ since October 2016.
- He is the Director of the Centre for Nanomaterials Science Research at UJ.
- Journal Guest Editor: *Electrocatalysis, Electroanalysis and Catalysts* (MDPI)
- Editorial Board Member: Micro- and Nano-Sensors Specialty Section of *Frontiers in Sensors*.

Prof Arotiba has been to leading universities globally as Visiting Professor. In June 2019, he was Visiting Professor at Tohoku University, Japan, under the Tohoku University Competitive Special Intervention Programme. He has attracted funding in the millions of rands to UJ and has built a world-class Electrochemistry Lab/Group from an empty store in just a few years.

VICE-CHANCELLOR'S DISTINGUISHED AWARD

INNOVATION OF THE YEAR

Prof Talita Greyling

College of Business and Economics
School of Economics



An innovative measure of real-time subjective wellbeing The Gross National Happiness (GNH).today project

Background

Policymakers across the globe aim to maximise the wellbeing of citizens – a multidimensional construct of social relationships, economic activity, health, education, safety, and the environment. Traditionally, the wellbeing of a nation was singularly measured by Gross National Income (GNI), which provides an economic dimension. However, it neglects other dimensions of human wellbeing. This becomes evident in the arguments of renowned wellbeing researchers, such as Ed Diener, Richard Layard, Richard Easterlin, Ruut Veenhoven and Daniel Kahneman.

Recent research on “evaluative wellbeing” posits that human perceptions of the quality of their lives can accurately measure individuals’ wellbeing. Aggregating individuals’ perceptions of wellbeing within a country provides a robust measure of the country’s overall wellbeing. Evaluative wellbeing is now widely accepted as a robust wellbeing measure and stated in global reports such as the World Happiness Report. However, these reports are based on survey data, which is costly and not timeous and would likely only be available a year after the survey, and it captures wellbeing at only one point in time. The fact is that the evaluative wellbeing (SWB) of a nation changes momentarily, affected by political, social or economic events. Therefore, the need to monitor evaluative wellbeing at a high (hourly) frequency in real-time to enable policymakers to respond to changes and communicate inspiring solutions to societal challenges. For example, a health crisis, changes in lockdown regulations, and riots. The ultimate result: a healthier, more productive nation with higher levels of wellbeing, more law abiding, exposed to less crime, and more eagerness to learn.

Policymakers had no access to high frequency, accurate, real-time data on wellbeing, but the innovative Gross National Happiness (GNH).today Index, constructed by using 4IR techniques and big data, addresses this gap. The Index is constructed by extracting tweets from Twitter at real-time, analysing the sentiment of the tweets and applying a balancing algorithm to derive time-series data.

GNH.today project has now garnered international interest and extended to include eight European countries (Luxembourg, France, Italy, Spain, Germany, Great Britain, the Netherlands and Belgium). Researchers from Luxembourg (Institut National de la Statistique et des Études Économiques du Grand-Duché de Luxembourg) and New Zealand (Victoria University of Wellington and Auckland University of Technology) have adopted the data and published journal articles. The German Institute for Economic Research (DIW) collaborates, using the German and South African time-series datasets. The University of Al Khawayn (Morocco) collaborates to develop a GNH.today Index for Morocco. Furthermore, New Zealand’s statistical service has adopted the measure as an official economic measure.

VICE-CHANCELLOR'S DISTINGUISHED AWARD

INNOVATION OF THE YEAR

The project was further enriched by analysing the underpinning emotions of tweets and, for the first time, derive daily time-series data for the following emotions: joy, anticipation, trust, disgust, anger, surprise, fear and sadness. The project has limitless potential in its ability to measure the evaluative wellbeing and underpinning emotions of specific topics, for example, themes condensed as a reflection of "trust in government", "attitude towards vaccines", and "emotions underlying COVID".

Significance of the innovation

- Real-time measures of evaluative wellbeing and the emotions of a nation to inform policymakers towards timeous policy decision making.
- Reducing the costs of survey data.
- A robust, accurate measure based on enormous sample sizes (big data).
- An accurate measure of progress towards wellbeing goals.
- An official statistical measure alongside traditional measures by government agencies. (The index has been adopted by the New Zealand government, while STATEC is investigating the potential of the Index.)
- Prediction of the evaluative wellbeing and underlying emotions related to upcoming events such as elections and riots. This timeous information can limit economic deterrents and the loss of lives.
- Policy actions based on timeous data from the GNH.today project can improve the evaluative wellbeing of nations and thereby increase the levels of health, productivity, community wellness and safety.
- Accurately measuring evaluative wellbeing also contributes to reaching the Sustainable Development Goals. It is a subjective measure informing on the following goals: 1 and 2 – poverty and hunger; 3 – health; 4 – education; 8 – decent work and economic growth.
- Eleven countries are already using the measure, and it can be expanded to more countries to supply timeous data, which has become essential to an unpredictable fast-changing world, as is apparent with the COVID pandemic.

VICE-CHANCELLOR'S DISTINGUISHED AWARD

BOOK OF THE YEAR

Prof Alex Broadbent

Institute for the Future of Knowledge, Faculty of Humanities



Prof Alex Broadbent is Professor of Philosophy of Science and a Director of the Centre for Humanities Engaging Science and Society at Durham University, and a Visiting Professor at the University of Johannesburg. Until recently, he was founding Director of the Institute for the Future of Knowledge and Professor of Philosophy at the University of Johannesburg, prior to which he was Executive Dean of Humanities. He is also an Associate Member of Millennium Chambers in London. He specialises in prediction, causal inference, and explanation, especially in epidemiology and medicine. He publishes in major journals in philosophy, epidemiology, medicine and law, and his books include *Philosophy of Epidemiology* (Palgrave, 2013) and *Philosophy of Medicine* (Oxford University Press, 2019). He

was report writer for the United Nations COVID-19 Rapid Needs Assessment for South Africa. He writes opinion pieces on health and education matters and is regularly interviewed on television and radio and was UJ's most-read contributor to *The Conversation* in 2020 with 470 000 reads.

Philosophy of Medicine probes two critical areas about medicine: what is it, and what should we think of it? The philosophy of medicine derives from developments in the philosophy of science, specifically dealing with epistemology, placing it in a unique position to make valuable contributions that are medically useful. Prof Broadbent's book locates these developments in a larger framework proposing a novel theory of the nature of medicine, clarifying both its purpose and its meaning. It suggests appropriate attitudes to medicine as a whole and explores debates between competing medical traditions. In addition, it provides an overview of contemporary and historical medical traditions, advocating decolonization of medicine and non-Western medical traditions. A reviewer commented, "Philosophy of Medicine presents, for the most part, a fascinating and compelling discussion that brings to light an exciting area in the philosophy of science. As such, the book is an excellent starting point for anyone wishing to explore the rapidly growing literature on this remarkable subject."

VICE-CHANCELLOR'S DISTINGUISHED AWARD

HIGHEST CITED RESEARCHER

Prof Michael R Hamblin

Faculty of Health Sciences
Distinguished Visiting Professor: Laser Research Centre



Prof Michael Hamblin is a world-renowned scholar in the field of photodynamic therapy and Photobiomodulation, referring to the use of visible and infrared light in healing practices. Prof Hamblin was the Principal Investigator at the Wellmann Centre for Photomedicine at Massachusetts General Hospital, a Professor of Dermatology at the Harvard Medical School, and associated with the Harvard-MIT Division of Health Science and Technology. Throughout his illustrious career, he has received research grants from, among others, the National Institute of Health.

Prof Hamblin has (co)authored more than a thousand publications (including books and book chapters) and has a Scopus h-index of 104 with 45 226 citations. Some of his work on the application of

light to stimulate healing remains the definitive reference in medicine. It is not surprising that Prof Hamblin is included by Clarivate Analytics as one of the Highly Cited Researchers for 2022 in the broad field of Pharmacology and Toxicology. Prof Hamblin has been a Distinguished Visiting Professor with the Laser Research Centre, Faculty of Health Sciences, for some years, where he makes a significant contribution to research projects, staff development, and student training. Current collaborative research projects include stem cell differentiation using Photobiomodulation with a view of autologous grafts for regenerative medicine as well as Photodynamic therapy for cancer diagnosis and treatment.

VICE-CHANCELLOR'S DISTINGUISHED AWARD

SERVICE BEYOND THE NORMAL CALL OF DUTY

Mr Martin Marubini Siluthanyi

Operations Department



Mr Siluthanyi was born in Mushiru Village in Venda, Limpopo.

He is currently the Director of Logistics at the University of Johannesburg and a member of the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport: South Africa and the South African Transport Forum.

He has served as stakeholder for the JHB Inner City Transport Master Plan 2025 group and has worked for some of South Africa's top transport and logistics companies, such as Unitrans Supply Chain Solutions (Pty) Ltd, Imperial Logistics, the Edcon Group, and the Famous Brand Group.

Shortly after his appointment at UJ in March 2020, Mr Siluthanyi implemented a high-tech transport management system, which focuses on mitigating the risks regarding vehicle and fuel management. During the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, UJ was inundated with requests for the transportation of persons possibly infected with COVID-19. Mr Siluthanyi initiated the initiative to convert four of the UJ vehicles to transport such persons to hospitals, quarantine facilities or testing stations. The vehicles were fitted with the required standards within a very short period and transported more than 50 such potentially infected persons.

During COVID-19 Lockdown Level 5, Mr Siluthanyi negotiated payment relief with the bus service provider and as a result saved R8.2 million for the University in 2020. Recently, when the Logistics Division was faced with vehicle hijackings, he implemented a second tracker unit on all UJ fleet assets to prevent hijackers from being able to strip the tracker. This intervention resulted in the speedy recovery of hijacked vehicles.

Mr Siluthanyi is currently initiating a process for cost savings in overtime in the Logistics Division. He is also leading the development of an app for the users of the intercampus bus service to allow the bus service provider to communicate late bus arrival times to students. He is driving a proposal to introduce an electric bus concept to improve the sustainability of the University in terms of transport and fossil fuel usage.

He has earned the respect, appreciation, and admiration from colleagues at UJ, due to his loyalty and great sense of commitment towards UJ.

Mr Martin Marubini Siluthanyi is an exemplar of what it means to provide service to the institution that goes beyond the normal call of duty.

PAST AWARDEES

VICE-CHANCELLOR'S DISTINGUISHED AWARD 2020

MOST PROMISING YOUNG TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Dr Michele Marié van Eck

Faculty of Law

Dr Tebogo Mashifana

Faculty of Engineering and the Built Environment

TEACHER EXCELLENCE

Mr Andrew Makkink

Faculty of Health Sciences

Prof Catherine Botha

Faculty of Humanities

Prof Abejide Ade-Ibijola

College of Business and Economics

MOST PROMISING RESEARCHER OF THE YEAR

Prof Nnamdi Nwulu

Faculty of Engineering and the Built Environment

OUTSTANDING RESEARCHER OF THE YEAR

Prof Heidi Abrahamse

Faculty of Health Sciences

INNOVATION OF THE YEAR

Dr Samson Oluwasegun Masebinu

Faculty of Engineering and the Built Environment

Ms Nickey Janse van Rensburg

Faculty of Engineering and the Built Environment

Dr Tafadzwa Makonese

Faculty of Engineering and the Built Environment

Mr Pieter Erasmus

Faculty of Engineering and the Built Environment

Ms Katharina Gihring

Faculty of Engineering and the Built Environment

BOOK OF THE YEAR

Prof Liz Gunner

Faculty of Humanities

SERVICE BEYOND THE NORMAL CALL OF DUTY

Mr Riaan Loots

Centre for Academic Technologies

PAST AWARDEES

VICE-CHANCELLOR'S DISTINGUISHED AWARD 2019

MOST PROMISING YOUNG TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Dr Andrew Craig

Faculty of Science

Dr Marius van Staden

Faculty of Law

TEACHER EXCELLENCE

Dr Jacqueline Batchelor

Faculty of Education

Prof Sune von Solms

Faculty of Engineering and the Built Environment

MOST PROMISING RESEARCHER OF THE YEAR

Dr Cherie Kruger

Faculty of Health Sciences

Prof Tankiso Moloi

School of Accounting

College of Business and Economics

OUTSTANDING RESEARCHER OF THE YEAR

Prof Reinout Meijboom

Faculty of Science

INNOVATION OF THE YEAR

Prof Abejide Ade-Ibijola

College of Business and Economics

Dr Marius Wait

College of Business and Economics

SERVICE BEYOND THE NORMAL CALL OF DUTY

Ms Goodness Ndimande

Protection Service

PAST AWARDEES

VICE-CHANCELLOR'S DISTINGUISHED AWARD 2018

MOST PROMISING YOUNG TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Ms Monique Keevy

School of Accounting

College of Business and Economics

TEACHER EXCELLENCE

Prof Johnson Carroll

Engineering Education Group

Faculty of Engineering and the Built Environment

MOST PROMISING RESEARCHER OF THE YEAR

Prof Penny Govender

Department of Applied Chemistry

Faculty of Science

OUTSTANDING RESEARCHER OF THE YEAR

Prof Marlize Lombard

Department of Anthropology and Development Studies

Faculty of Humanities

BOOK OF THE YEAR

Prof Velislava Mitova

Department of Philosophy

Faculty of Humanities

SERVICE BEYOND THE NORMAL CALL OF DUTY

Mr Basil Mugwena

Student Affairs Division

GLOBAL EXCELLENCE AND STATURE

Prof Muna Ndulo

Professor of Law, Elizabeth and Arthur Reich Director,

Leo and Arvilla Berger International Legal Studies Programme and

Director of the Institute for African Development at Cornell Law School, Cornell University

PAST AWARDEES

VICE-CHANCELLOR'S DISTINGUISHED AWARD 2017

MOST PROMISING YOUNG TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Dr Melissa Card

Department of Psychology
Faculty of Humanities

Ms Naiefa Rashied

School of Economics
College of Business and Economics

TEACHER EXCELLENCE

Dr Wai Sze (Grace) Leung

Academy of Computer Science and Software Engineering
Faculty of Science

MOST PROMISING RESEARCHER OF THE YEAR

Prof Philiswa Nomngongo

Department of Applied Chemistry
Faculty of Science

SPECIAL VICE-CHANCELLOR'S AWARD FOR HIGHEST CITED RESEARCHER

Prof Vinod Kumar Gupta

Department of Applied Chemistry
Faculty of Science

OUTSTANDING RESEARCHER OF THE YEAR

Prof Ian Dubery

Department of Biochemistry
Faculty of Science

SERVICE BEYOND THE NORMAL CALL OF DUTY

Ms Daphney Nemakhavhani

Student Finance Division

PAST AWARDEES

VICE-CHANCELLOR'S DISTINGUISHED AWARD 2016

MOST PROMISING YOUNG TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Mr Husain Coovadia CA(SA)

Department of Commercial Accounting
Faculty of Economics and Financial Sciences

TEACHER EXCELLENCE

Prof Maria Frahm-Arp

Department of Religion Studies
Faculty of Humanities

Prof Khmaies Ouahada

Department of Electrical and Electronically Engineering Science
Faculty of Engineering and the Built Environment

MOST PROMISING RESEARCHER OF THE YEAR

Department of Religion Studies
Faculty of Humanities

OUTSTANDING RESEARCHER OF THE YEAR

Prof Christian M. Rogerson

School for Tourism and Hospitality
Faculty of Management

SERVICE BEYOND THE NORMAL CALL OF DUTY

Mr Andries (Godfrey) Helani

Student Affairs

GLOBAL EXCELLENCE AND STATURE

Prof Bertil Andersson

President of Nanyang Technological University

Prof Adebayo Olukoshi

Director of the International Institute of Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA),
Africa and West Asia