



UNIVERSITY
OF
JOHANNESBURG

**2021 DIVISION FOR
INTERNATIONALISATION**
Annual Report

The Future
Reimagined

INTERNATIONALISATION

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

OVERVIEW

Through internationalisation, the University of Johannesburg (UJ) continues to enhance its scholarly engagement and impact on national, regional, and continental transformation agendas, and reaffirms the university's position on the global higher education landscape.

The work undertaken by the Division for Internationalisation is central to UJ's vision of '*an International University of choice, anchored in Africa, dynamically shaping the future*'.

Internationalisation at UJ entails the cultivation of an international environment on campus, where students and staff from around the globe are recruited and fully integrated into the UJ life; Internationalisation of the academic curriculum, Dialogue with international partners and the international community about issues of national and global importance; as well as the development of international partnerships and implementation of international collaboration involving research as well as student and staff mobility. At UJ, Internationalisation is deliberately applied with the objective of enriching all aspects of the university's mission, including student experiences at home and abroad; research and innovation; teaching and learning and the enhancement of the UJ's International Profile.

The 2021 academic year continued to be an extremely challenging year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Globally, no sector of society was left unscathed and higher education no less so. As we grappled with various challenges due to the pandemic, the division continued to focus on re-imagining internationalisation both in the current as well as in a post COVID context. Our emphasis was on remote work and virtual engagements, reviewing and streamlining processes for online admissions and recruitment for both our degree programmes as well as short-term mobility programmes including virtual mobility opportunities for UJ students and students from our partner universities.

Regardless of the challenges, the reporting year proved to be a successful year for internationalisation at UJ. The pandemic forced us to think creatively and innovatively with regards to our marketing strategy to attract international students, to provide an increased number of virtual mobility programmes in consultation with our internal and external partners, to continue engaging with the global community by hosting virtual events and maintaining open lines of communication with our international students who were and still are anxious and unsure about the future and the academic year ahead. From the aforementioned, attracting new international students and retaining existing international students has posed the greatest challenge due to hurdles faced by the students in terms of funding as well as immigration and visa issues.

Virtual programmes allowed greater access for students to participate in mobility programmes at a substantially reduced cost and this is reflected in the mobility numbers reported below. Our current number of valid joint programmes indicate that our engagements with international partners is proving to be fruitful and the number is in line with the university's target. Particularly significant to 2021 was the continued work with Times Higher Education, Universitas 21 (U21) and BRICS networks to elevate UJ's global reputation while assuring the university's leadership position in influencing the development and governance of global higher education, with special reference to the Pan African agenda. Also significant in 2021 was the continued upward trajectory of UJ in various rankings bodies reflected by 10 UJ subjects rated amongst the best in the world in the QS World University Rankings by subject. Significantly, the 2021 THE University Impact Rankings which is shaped around the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) also ranked UJ 1st in the world for Decent Work and Economic Growth.

Firmly positioned in the University's Global Excellence and Stature 2025 Strategy, the work of the division is also informed by the university's mission of inspiring transformation through the collaborative pursuit of knowledge. Such collaboration is facilitated through both intra-university and international partnerships.

OPERATING CONTEXT

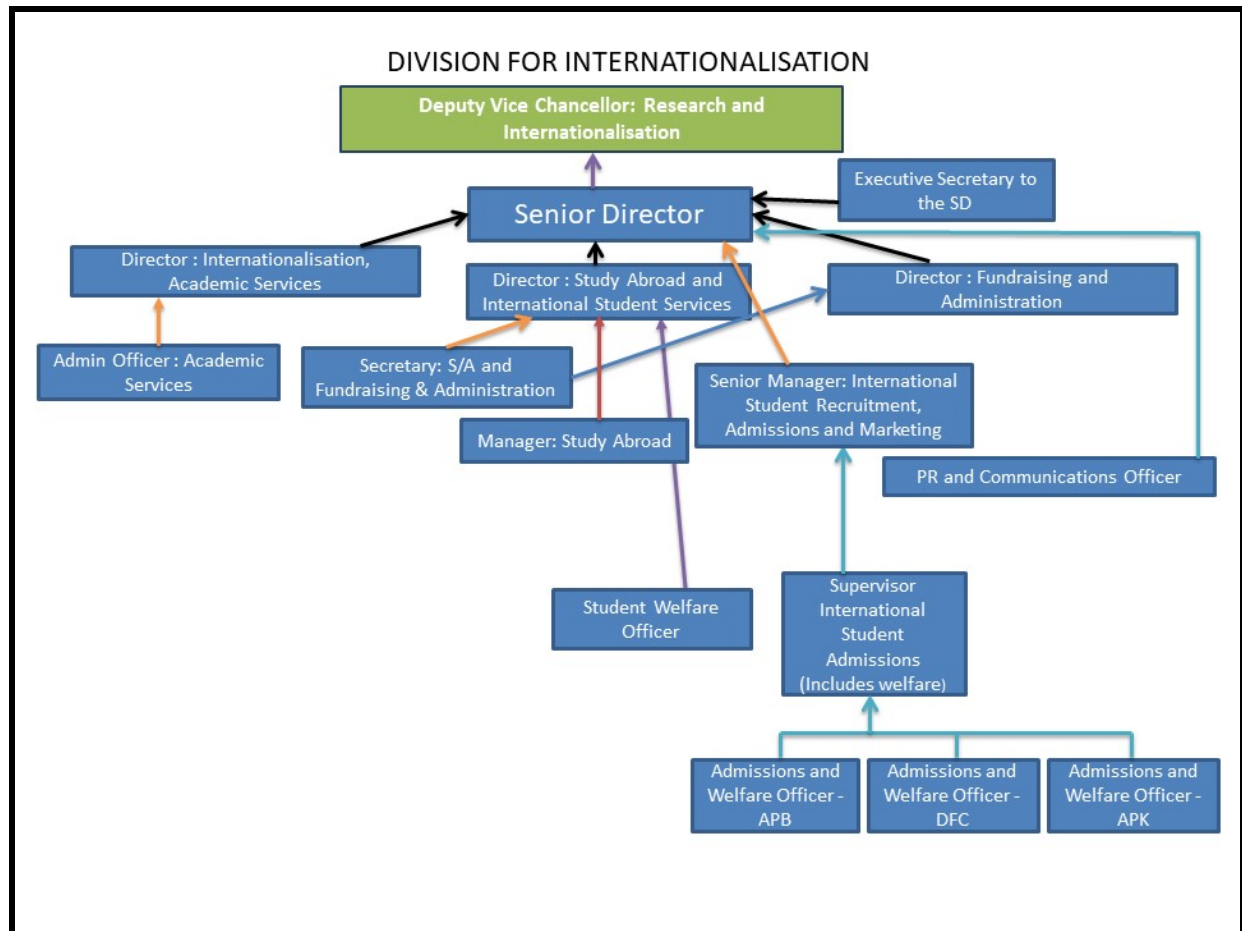
Operating Context: Human Resources

The drivers of any strategic initiative are the people who put strategy in to action. The UJ Division for Internationalisation has grown from a team of three in 2011 to a team of 15 permanent and two temporary staff members in 2021.

A new Director: Academic Services started in May 2021. The year 2021 marked the second year of the COVID-19 pandemic. As the Division for Internationalisation, staff adapted to working from home virtually. Most of the division's events, stakeholder engagements, recruitment activities and mobility programmes were conducted virtually, however there was a shift towards more in person engagements in the latter part of the year as the university allowed some physical mobility via the Africa By Bus programme, onsite visiting delegations as well as hybrid and onsite events with limited attendees.

Regardless of the challenges, work continued in the developing and strengthening of international partnerships and mobility programmes for students and staff. This work has increasingly come to focus on SMART partnerships with a view to advancing the UJ 4IR mission, including marketing of, and fundraising for, international projects and mobility programmes. Professor Rodny-Gumede is the UJ Senior Leader for the U21 network partnership and provides management and oversight of UJ's partnership with

internationally recognised ranking agencies, such as Quacquarelli Symonds (QS), Times Higher Education (THE) and the Centre for World University Rankings (CWUR).



Employee Profile

The Division operated at full capacity from May 2021 as the position of Director: Internationalisation, Academic Services was filled.

Full Name	Supervisor	Title	Initials	Surname	EE Type	EE Category	Position Name
Marumo, Mr. Collins Tshepang	Konese, Mr. Tshidiso Simon	Mr.	CT	Marumo	Permanent	Support	Supervisor
Du Plessis, Mrs. Lisle	Malefo, Mr. Lebeth Dedricks	Mrs.	L	Du Plessis	Permanent	Support	Manager II
Konese, Mr. Tshidiso Simon	Rodny Gumede, Professor Ylva Margareta	Mr.	TS	Konese	Permanent	Support	Senior Manager
Sass, Miss Shantelle Sharon	Malefo, Mr. Lebeth Dedricks	Miss	SS	Sass	Permanent	Support	Administrative Officer II
Ngqumshe, Mrs. Mampou Adelaide	Marumo, Mr. Collins Tshepang	Mrs.	MA	Ngqumsh	Permanent	Support	Administrative Officer II
Mothebe, Mr. Thabang Comfort	Marumo, Mr. Collins Tshepang	Mr.	TC	Mothebe	Permanent	Support	Administrative Officer II
Rodny Gumede, Professor Ylva Margareta	Sinha, Professor Saurabh	Prof	YM	Rodny Gumede	FT Contract	Support	Senior Director

Masango, Mr. Khululekani Malibongwe	Khan, Ms. Anisa	Mr.	KM	Masango	Permanent	Support	Administrative Officer II
Makwela, Miss Palesa Portia	Marumo, Mr. Collins Tshepang	Miss	PP	Makwela	Permanent	Support	Administrative Officer II
Gilbert, Mrs. Lesley Ann	Rodny Gumede, Professor Ylva Margareta	Mrs.	LA	Gilbert	Permanent	Support	Executive Secretary
Malefo, Mr. Lebethe Dedricks	Rodny Gumede, Professor Ylva Margareta	Mr.	LD	Malefo	Permanent	Support	Director
Sam, Ms. Ziyanda	Malefo, Mr. Lebethe Dedricks	Ms.	Z	Sam	Permanent	Support	Administrative Officer I
Badrudin, Mr. Ismail	Rodny Gumede, Professor Ylva Margareta	Mr.	I	Badrudin	Permanent	Support	Public Relations Officer I
Mangqase, Ms. Ntombise Juanita	Rodny Gumede, Professor Ylva Margareta	Ms.	NJ	Mangqase	Permanent	Support	Director
Khan, Ms. Anisa	Rodny Gumede, Professor Ylva Margareta	Ms.	A	Khan	Permanent	Support	Director

In 2021 the Division is made up of the following Directorates and units:

- Study Abroad and International Student Services
- Academic Services
- Fundraising and Administration
- International Student Recruitment and Admissions

Operating context: Structure

Transformation, Leadership and Leading Change

The division is well represented in terms of gender, race, and international make-up as above.

Additionally, the Senior Director continued to play a leadership role, both within the university and outside the university, in line with the UJ values. In 2021, Prof Rodny-Gumede focused her work on re-imagining internationalisation in both our current context and post COVID-19. The division focused on remote work and virtual engagements, developing processes for online admissions and recruitment as well as virtual mobility opportunities for UJ students and students from partner universities. Furthermore, continuous engagement with both internal and external stakeholders proved fruitful in hosting meaningful virtual events and developing strong relationships with existing and new international partners. Prof Ylva Rodny-Gumede continues to play a critical role as the university's U21 Senior Leader as well as utilising her extensive knowledge and experience, both as an academic and administrator, to develop strategic international partnerships.

Partnerships, Global Reputation Management and Special Projects

Additional to the overall strategic direction as well as the administrative and financial operations of the division, the Senior Director's office, and the three Directorates directly take care of this function. Institutional Partnerships Management entails the

identification of strategic partners, initiation, and coordination of partnerships, facilitation of partnership agreements and delegation visits both inbound and outbound.

Global Reputation Management is closely linked to Partnerships Management and includes the identification of critical platforms for the university's visibility and strategic positioning, inclusive of the facilitation of the Institutional Rankings function. Particularly significant to 2021 was the continued work with Times Higher Education, QS, U21 and BRICS networks to continue to elevate UJ's global reputation while assuring the university's leadership position in influencing the development and governance of global higher education, with special reference to Africa. Also significant in 2021 was the recognition of UJ who ranked 1st in the world for Decent Work and Economic Growth in the THE University Impact Rankings which is shaped around the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's).

Units within the Division

Study Abroad and International Student Services

The Directorate is responsible for providing inbound and outbound study abroad opportunities. The Directorate also coordinates the welfare needs of international students to assist them to adjust to their environment at UJ.

A key facet of Study Abroad is the engagement with our internal and external stakeholders to both identify and create these opportunities for our staff and students. The COVID-19 pandemic thrust into the forefront, the importance of virtual mobility and the role it must play in the broader mobility landscape. Some of the groundwork related to virtual mobility was undertaken in 2020 and accelerated in 2021, the directorate focused on supporting the faculties and institutes to increase their virtual mobility activities to meet set targets.

Welfare played a critical role in supporting students during the pandemic by updating them on the latest developments of the university in line with the country's regulations.

Academic Services: Partnerships

The Directorate is responsible for facilitating international partnerships which include Joint/Co-badged degrees and engaging with UJ stakeholders to provide support in the development of Short Learning Programmes (SLP's).

Due to the pandemic, the directorate continued to operate primarily in the virtual space. This included concluding partnership agreements digitally and engaging with existing and potential partners virtually. The adjusted lockdown level in the second half of 2021 allowed international delegation visits to UJ to discuss collaboration.

Fundraising and Administration

Led by the Director, this directorate is responsible for coordinating and managing international funding initiatives to support student and staff mobility as well as the management of administration and governance within the division. Two key focus areas in 2021 were supporting our international students who had returned home due to the COVID-19 pandemic to enable them to continue with their online learning and the second area was identifying strategic funding and grant opportunities and developing proposals to support student and staff mobility and research projects. Linked to the second focus area was strategically engaging with diplomatic missions to identify mutually beneficial projects and scholarship/funding opportunities.

International Student Recruitment, Marketing and Admissions

The unit is led by a Senior Manager and is responsible for global student recruitment and marketing, international admissions and assisting with all international student queries. In keeping with thinking and working innovatively due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all international recruitment and marketing efforts were undertaken digitally/virtually for the year under review. Despite the travel embargos and complex challenges with the closure of schools, our agile, targeted International Student Recruitment efforts over the years yielded positive results for the formal and non-formal enrolment targets.

As a Council of International Schools (CIS) member, the University leveraged relationships with illustrious schools in various parts of the world to encourage applications and enrolments. UJ enjoys association with regional International School bodies such as the East Asia Regional Council of Schools (CIS-EARCOS), which holds annual workshops and conferences with Career Guidance teachers.

The unit hosted five virtual information sessions with international high schools on the continent. Recruitment webinars were hosted in partnership with BMI and specific faculties. In the third quarter, a newspaper print advert and digital web banner campaign were concluded targeting specific countries on the continent.

Governance

The strategic positioning of the division lends it an advisory role to Management Executive Committee (MEC), mainly through the DVC: Research and Internationalisation. More directly, the Senior Director (SD) participates in the DVC's monthly team meetings and offers direct advice and support to MEC and members of the Executive Leadership Group (ELG), as well as to teaching staff and students as necessary. The SD is also responsible for Institutional Partnerships development and Management and is the Senior Leader for U21. In this role, collaboration is undertaken with the Registrar's portfolio, as well as with the faculties.

The cross-cutting nature of the portfolio for Internationalisation necessitates a close interface with the core business of the university, together with various support

structures across the university. With changes to MECA and MECO, the division is invited when necessary to provide information and guidance to MECA. The Senior Director also sits on the Transformation Committee; the Management Enrolment Committee; and meets with the Executive Leadership Group at least twice a year to discuss cross-cutting strategic imperatives. Furthermore, Internationalisation is represented on various university committees, including the Marketing committee and the committee charged with preparing the annual Diversity Week.

In 2021, Directors in the Division participated in meetings with the following committees:

- COVID Coordinating Committee
- Heads of Faculty Administration
- Student Affairs
- Student Representative Bodies
- Postgraduate School
- Human Resources
- Finance
- Development and Alumni Office
- Institutional Fundraising Committee
- The Confucius Institute

Divisional staff meetings were held monthly, while heads of units met with the Senior Director on a regular basis. The Senior Director met the DVC: Research and Internationalisation on a monthly basis with his broader team. Other lines of engagement have been established with the Finance Division, Development Office, Alumni as well as with the Division for Student Affairs, where the Executive Directors, Directors, and business partners offer a crucial interface.

Risks and Management of Risks

Internationalisation presents with both immense opportunity and huge risk, not least with respect to the International reputation of the university. To put UJ's best foot forward internationally, a **PRESS** culture has been instituted: a culture of **P**ro-activity, **R**esponsiveness, **E**ngagement, and **S**tudent and **S**taff-first-service defines the work of the division.

Charged as it is with growing International student numbers at UJ, one area of risk for the division remains adequate recruitment and retention of fee-paying international students in the current global economic climate. The aforementioned risk factors have been exacerbated by the current COVID-19 pandemic. An international recruitment strategy towards diversification of feeder countries, as well as a funding proposal geared at enhancing the university's competitive edge, which was approved by MEC in 2013, continues to bear fruit: student numbers have grown, as have the number of countries represented on our four campuses. Due to the pandemic, we anticipate the challenges mentioned above to become a stark reality for the next 2 to 3 years. As the Division for Internationalisation, we are aware of the ramifications and have already started planning to mitigate the impact of the pandemic on international student numbers.

Key areas for which the division has set steps in place towards risk-preparedness include student integration, as well as international mobility of students and staff associated with the university's Study Abroad and International linkages programmes. The Division has also placed a greater emphasis on the virtual space for student mobility, virtual recruitment sessions in partnership with both internal and external stakeholders, a greater focus on our Social media platforms and creating virtual platforms for easier interaction with the university.

In addition to these measures and in an effort to assure optimal risk-preparedness and promote security, the division has published a Risk Management Plan that serves as a guide to operationalising this area of work, and is consistent with global standards. An integral part of a well operating Internationalisation Office, a Risk Management Plan is also often a requirement for membership of international recruitment agencies. The current plan is devised primarily with the prevention of disasters in mind and was developed in consultation with Protection Services and the Risk Office, in order to ensure it fits with UJ's overarching risk and prevention of disasters mechanisms.

The plan delineates the following:

- Types of disasters
- Responsibility of the disaster team
- Disaster action team
- Prevention and protection measures
- Disaster response
- Disaster response procedures
- Recovery procedures

- Disaster team members' responsibilities
- The disaster team leader's responsibilities
- Documentation
- Volunteers
- Communications
- Supplies and services
- Backup for disaster recovery

High on the Risk agenda was the COVID-19 global pandemic. UJ's response proved the institution's sufficient preparedness and even leadership in both instances. More importantly, the experience threw up key lessons that will be reflected in both our Risk Register going forward, as well as for strategy and tactical reconfiguration in the areas of security, recruitment, and welfare provision particularly.

2021 Performance Highlights

- 2021 allowed the university to continue to leverage its membership into the acclaimed Universitas 21 network to further spread the UJ brand globally. UJ participated in a number of U21 activities which included the U21/PwC Innovation Challenge, the U21 Rise Awards and promoted the U21 Global Citizen programme to UJ students.
- UJ remains anchored in the Top 100 of THE Global Impact Rankings.
- 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, Pepsico Development Fund, British Council, African Union Innovating Education.

UJ continues to expand its Pan African footprint to drive innovation and build capacity in critical areas. A number of partnerships were renewed in 2021 and are currently active.

Study Abroad and Virtual Programmes

The Division supported a limited number of physical Inbound and Outbound student mobility to meet and exceed targets. The greater part of mobility comprised virtual mobilities through programmes delivered in collaboration with Faculties, Institutes and the Library. At the end of the 2021 reporting period the mobility record was as below:

STRATEGIC PLAN INSTITUTIONAL (COUNCIL) MOBILITY TARGETS AND ACTUALS			
	TARGET	ACTUAL	TARGET VS ACTUAL
INBOUND	1500	6416	428%
OUTBOUND	3000	11554	385%
TOTAL	4500	17970	399%

The majority of the above mobility was conducted virtually and included students attending conferences, exchange students undertaking their semester abroad virtually, Short learning programmes and World Café and International Design studio which is a joint virtual programme between FADA at UJ and University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. As part of the Africa By Bus programme, three trips took place to Namibia and Mozambique in partnership with the Faculty of Education and Faculty of Humanities.

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021 Target	2021 Actuals
Outbound	146	224	198	1087	1176	1219	7949	3000	11554
Inbound	195	399	794	190	391	580	3414	1500	6416
Total Semester Mobility	341	623	992	1277	960	1799	11363	4500	17970

The Study Abroad Office also supported and chaperoned three UJ Sport programmes for participation in the FASU Games:

- 2nd Kings of Rugby Africa University 7s 9th -10th October, Makerere University, Kampala-Uganda qualifier for World Cup in Kazan Russia in 2022.
- 4th Afro Varsity 3X3 Basketball Challenge 6th -7th November, Nairobi-Kenya Qualifier for the World University Championship in Xiamen China 2022
- 5th FASU Cross Country Championships 20th November, Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT) in Kenya

While Study Abroad is mostly known for out of country participation, the Study Abroad team has been exploring “Study Away” as an alternative and had a very successful collaboration with the Nelson Mandela University where more than 20 students participated in a seven-day cultural immersion programme in Gqeberha. The

programme will expand to Durban and Cape Town in 2022. It will ultimately be written up as an inbound short learning programme for international partners, to be offered in 2023. Through this unit, the Division participated in all U21 mobility initiatives and meetings.

The area of international student services continues to support international students with continuous onboarding and virtual orientation. The UJ International Student Virtual Orientation programme has been finalized - <https://uj.goorientation.com/>

Further engagements hosted included:

- World Café – How can the youth continue to lead change?
- 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 Series and the Vice-Chancellor's Reading Club.
- Participation in international engagements in aid of the internationalisation project, these include participation in the IEASA conference, serving on the conference planning committee for the FORUM on Education Abroad 2022, the U21 Virtual Mobility Definitions Project and served on the Selection Panel of the Universities Canada Mobilities Grant.
- Hosting a webinar focusing on the visa application administration process in collaboration with the Visa Facilitation Service Centre (VFS), for new and returning students.

With the objective of becoming a profitable Study Abroad Programme by 2025 with an annual enrolment of 5% of the student population, the Study Abroad programme at UJ is also being developed in an academic-enhancing manner, geared towards developing UJ students as global citizens, and UJ staff as globally connected, mobile, collaborative international faculty. The same principle is followed in the development of short learning programmes which is primarily the mandate of the Academic Services Directorate. The programmes are designed to be academically rigorous, in line with UJ's teaching and learning policies, relevant to national, continental, and/or global needs, while also attracting income to assure a long-term viable study abroad programme for the university.

The directorate focused on virtual mobility programmes which included marketing the "African Insights" and "Artificial Intelligence in the 4IR" SLP's to an international student audience. Engagements with partners ensured that a variety of virtual opportunities were available in which students were able to participate in.

Due to the pandemic, the majority of mobility was conducted virtually. The virtual space will remain as the primary form of mobility whilst we grapple with the pandemic. The future is clear, we will see a mixture of physical mobility supported by virtual mobility. The aforementioned, blended approach provides further opportunities to

create relevant, engaging and interesting virtual programmes which will contribute to the broader goal of a profitable Study Abroad programme by 2025.

The year 2021 has seen further promising Study Abroad activity, which sets UJ on a sound platform towards further growth and development in this area.

Key Work Areas for Study Abroad

The unit's key foci were:

- Virtual Programme Development and Growth, both divisional and in partnership with faculties.
- Growth of fee-paying study abroad programmes with a focus on SLP's
- Advice to faculties on student and staff mobility
- Recruitment of study abroad students (inbound and outbound)
- Business processes and procedures
- Develop, publicise, and manage procedures for the development and running of all study abroad programmes at UJ (at all levels)
 - Application and registration procedures
 - New development to include a grade conversion scale,
 - Completed the outbound study abroad application system,
 - Development of electronic systems for mobility application management. Procedures for all study abroad programmes
 - Procedures for all study abroad programmes:
 - Student mobility/Exchange,
 - Faculty led programmes,
 - Short learning programmes,
 - Conference participation.
 - Relationship Building:
 - Internally**
 - Faculty Offices, Academic Departments, Service Departments.
 - Externally**
 - Study Abroad Providers, Partner Universities, Service Providers.
 - Student Support and Welfare

- Develop, Run and Evaluate a suitable orientation programme.
 - One orientation a week, twice a year for semester students.
 - Personalized one-to-two-day orientation for other students.
 - Sourcing and placing in suitable accommodation.
- Ongoing support for Study Abroad students from application to departure
- Integration into the UJ Community and Johannesburg Society
 - Community engagement, Excursions and Internships

PROCESSES, PROCEDURES, MANUALS AND BROCHURES

- The illustrated study abroad manual for use by academics, Student Enrolment Centre, Heads of Faculty Administration and Deans is in place
- Electronic inbound and outbound application forms are signed and submitted electronically,
- Security protocols for international students are constantly updated



“Study Away” as an alternative and had a very successful collaboration with the Nelson Mandela University where more than 20 students participated in a seven-day cultural immersion programme in Gqeberha



Painting Namibia orange, Africa By Bus trip with the Faculty of Education



FASU 2nd Kings of Africa University Rugby Sevens Championships at Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda. The men's lifted the trophy as champions.



FASU 2nd Kings of Africa University Rugby Sevens Championships at Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda. The women's team bagged silver.



Mr Tshidiso Konese, Senior Manager: International Student Recruitment, Marketing and Admissions accompanied the UJ rugby teams to the FASU Rugby Championships

Student Welfare

Provision of **student-focused services** is in place: the division's office continues to be a welcoming and comfortable space for students to meet each other, interface with outside service providers and just relax.

The division supported the UJ International Student Society (UJISS) as well as the UJ Golden Key Chapter. For both UJISS and Golden Key, support was for their virtual activities in 2021, which included consultation with student societies, elections, training and planning, community engagement, fundraising, as well as networking with the private sector. An important component in 2021 regarding student welfare centred on immigration support and the latest developments related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Division hosted two successful Town Hall meetings in July and October to update students on the COVID-19 pandemic and to address their concerns. A key component of the Student Welfare function is support provided to Distinguished Visiting Professors (DVPs) and international Post-Doctoral Research Fellows (PDRFs). This support entails providing immigration advice, referrals to other sources to attain visa requirements, preparing visa support letters, follow ups with the Department of Home Affairs regarding outstanding visa adjudications and providing updated advisory's as it relates to immigration and compliance matters. A further webinar was hosted in partnership with the Visa Facilitation Service Centre (VFS) for new and returning students. As in previous years, Student Welfare officers also supported students at risk and/or with emergencies.

Enriching the International Student Experience

Every effort is made to ensure that an exceptional experience, marked by efficiency, friendliness and excellence is offered to every UJ student. The Internationalisation Welfare Unit assists with the following:

Registration and Immigration

- Continuous support is given to current students and newly admitted applicants.
- Communication is sent weekly to students and applicants to ensure support from the Division for Internationalisation.
- All new students received a Pre-Arrival guide that provides all information necessary to people new to South Africa and Johannesburg.
- Support is given to alleviate immigration challenges by continuously liaising with the Department of Home Affairs to resolve student immigration issues.
- VFS mobile unit implemented at UJ for new visa and renewal applications. Due to the global pandemic, VFS did not come to campus in 2021 but instead offered a webinar on how to submit visa applications on their online system

Improvements for 2021 preparedness:

- Current students are advised to prepare relevant documents for their study visa renewal in August.
- Keep students abreast of immigration regulations and any change that might affect them.

Accommodation

In 2021, we continued with virtual learning, this meant that majority of students continued their studies remotely. However, we still accommodated students in residence who were required to conduct laboratory work as well as postgraduate students.

Orientation/First Year Experience

The First-Year Seminar took place virtually in 2021 using the UJ Learning Management system called Blackboard. The seminar adopts a holistic approach and provides important information about both the academic and social aspects of student life with the intention of preparing students for their journey at UJ.

Partners and Stakeholders

Beyond the support offered to Faculties and Departments across the university, special assistance is offered to students pursuing full degree programmes at UJ on partnership arrangements with their home institutions. These include Postgraduate students on 'minimum finishing' terms and, therefore, need to expedite their studies and return home. Among the candidates and partners that received special attention in 2021 are:

Zimbabwe Presidential Scholarship

- Supported students with Immigration by sending admission and accommodation letters.
- Follow up with the South African High Commission on the progress of student visas.
- Keeping faculties informed of arrival dates.
- Accommodation arranged on campus for first time entering students,
- Working with Finance to issue invoices and reconciliations and payment of providers, i.e. medical aid and off-campus accommodation

Challenges

- Late registration due to the delay at the Zimbabwe Scholarship office and visa issuing authority.

- Late payment of fees, which adversely affects the students' timeous settling in, and has ramifications for students' legal compliance, access to textbooks and meal allowances.

Interventions:

- Due to the pandemic, the university provided meals to international students who remained at UJ.

Faculties and Departments:

Assist Faculties and Departments to secure accommodation for Postgraduate students, support these students to obtain study visas by following up with the SA missions abroad.

The directorate created four short videos on Immigration, Study Abroad, Student Welfare and PDRF requirements to assist current and new students. Developed a virtual orientation programme for all new international students studying at UJ in 2022.



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

INVITATION




The Vice-Chancellor and Principal of the University of Johannesburg, Professor Tshilidzi Marwala in partnership with the Division for Internationalisation's World Café series and the UJ Library, invite you to a virtual discussion with **Sizwe Mpofo-Walsh**, author of the book

THE NEW APARTHEID

"Provocative, yet necessary. A layered and nuanced snapshot of South Africa, and why we are not okay, The New Apartheid stirs up deep thought and reflection". Qaanitah Hunter

DATE • Friday, 13 August 2021
TIME • 15:00 – 16:30 (SAST)

Click on <https://zoom.us/j/98686428284> to join the discussion.







Prof Tshilidzi Marwala


Sizwe Mpofo-Walsh
(Photo: James Fox)

Mr Sandile Moloi

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.







The Future
Reimagined

Partnerships

Partnership development continued through online engagement as mobility was still constrained in 2021, however, we did welcome a few incoming delegations to campus towards the latter half of the year. Highlights included an incoming delegation from the University of Namibia who met with the DVC research and Internationalisation, with the Senior Director of the IO and Prof Jen Tien-Chen and other colleagues from FEBE. The focus of the visit was on green technology and links between the Green Hydrogen Institute at UNAM and Atomic Layer Deposition Lab at UJ. Other delegation visits included a visit from the EU delegation to South Africa, from the French Embassy (Science and Innovation Attache) and from Ambassador Pavlova of the Bulgarian Embassy to South Africa. In addition, Academic Services conducted at least 50 international partner meetings, including with:

1. The US-HE Network
2. The British Council and the British High Commission
3. The Embassy of Qatar
4. Hamburg University
5. Birzeit University
6. The Academy of Sciences International Relations team
7. The Department of Higher Education, International Relations team
8. Edinburgh University
9. Katholische Universitiet Eichstatt Ingolstadt
10. National Chengchi University
11. California State University
12. Illinois Urbana Champagne University
13. Federal University of Technology, Lagos

14. International Digital Health & AI Research Collaborative (I-DAIR)
15. Woxen University
16. New Universities in Exile
17. Scholars at Risk Network
18. Toulouse Business School
19. Universidad Nacional de Rafaela
20. University of Padua
21. Ghent University
22. Montpellier University
23. Embassy of Sweden
24. Rotman Business School
25. Western Sydney University
26. Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine (Nanyang Technical Univ.) and Imperial College, London
27. U21 partner meetings
28. The Embassy of Palestine and DHET Directorate for International Relations
29. Birzeit University
30. Oxford Martin School, Future of Development Programme
31. Cincinnati University
32. New University, New York
33. University of Padua
34. UC Davis
35. Pune Institute of Computer Technology
36. Eastern Mediterranean University
37. Duke Executive Education
38. Carnegie Mellon University, Rwanda
39. Illinois-Urbana Champagne
40. Pimpri Chinwad College of Engineering
41. National Forensic Sciences University
42. University Nazionale De Rafaela
43. Bulgarian Embassy in SA
44. EU Delegation in SA
45. Embassy of France in SA
46. Lahore University of Management Sciences
47. Linnaeus University
48. Groningen University
49. Lund University

Academic Services continues to work closely with faculties, colleges, institutes and other entities on their internationalisation priorities. Two key projects in 2021 are: the I-DAIR Digital Health hub at UJ, led by Prof Babu Paul, Dr Wesley Doorsamy of the IIS and Prof Noorbhai of the FMHS and the developing partnership with the University of Edinburgh. UJ is working closely with I-DAIR to shape the I-DAIR capacity development and fundraising strategy. The second initiative with Edinburgh University included links between IIS and the Bayes Centre at Edinburgh University. UJ has also been invited to participate as a partner on Edinburgh's NICE programme in 2022. Embassy engagements have also been fruitful in terms of access to funding calls (e.g. through the British Council) and further meetings with senior leadership. We are also

working closely with the Faculty of Humanities to establish a Centre for Peace and Intercultural Understanding.

The UJ Confucius Institute continues to work very closely with Nanjing Tech University (co-partners), to teach Mandarin, host seminars and dialogues with a deliberate focus on South Africa/Africa and China relations. In 2021 we bid farewell to the co-Director of the Institute, Prof Peng, who led the Institute on a number of important initiatives, including trying to establish the institute as a global model of excellence in teaching, learning and research. Together with the Centre for China Studies (CACS), the UJ hosted Confucius Institute is fast becoming a model institute and centre of excellence in China Studies. Prof Peng also established an important partnership with DIRCO and conducted training in Mandarin for diplomats. We are pleased to welcome the new incoming co-Director of the Confucius Institute, Prof Li Baosheng

The directorate hosted several webinars and participated in online conferences. The first webinar focused on Collaborative Online International Learning. The second was a series of consultative sessions to engage with the university community on the need for a partnerships information management session. Linked to this, Academic Services has launched an information management system project with ICS to help manage partnership development. As a step towards this a Sharepoint site has been developed to help support academics with FAQ's, toolkits and templates. Academic Services also contributed to fundraising webinars and provided virtual contact sessions for departments that required guidance on their international partnerships. As part of Global Engagement, the Director for Academic Services co-delivered a conference session together with Dr Shahid Mathee and Dr Amir Khalil (Birzeit University) 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.

Several Erasmus Plus and partnership agreements were finalised in 2021 Some of the key strategic agreements are:

<u>Vytautas Magnus University</u>	IO	Lithuania	2021-2027
<u>Ecole des Ponts ParisTech</u>	CBE	France	2020-2023
<u>Universitat Politècnica De València</u>	Science	Spain	2020-2023
<u>University of Gdansk</u>	Law	Poland	2020-2022
<u>Palacký University Olomouc</u>	Humanities	Czech Republic	2020-2023

Partnership agreements were also concluded with the following institutions:

UNIVERSITY	TYPE OF AGREEMENT	FACULTY/ INSTITUTIONAL
Accra Technical University, Ghana	Memorandum of Understanding	FEBE, Department CiDB
National Chengchi University, Taiwan	Memorandum of Understanding	Institutional

Caucasus University, Georgia	Memorandum Understanding of	Institutional
Group ESPI, France	Memorandum Understanding of	Institutional
Toulouse Business School, France	Memorandum Understanding of	Institutional
FH Munster, Germany	Memorandum Understanding of	CBE, School of Management
Eastern Mediterranean University, Cyprus	Memorandum Understanding of	FEBE, Mechanical Engineering Science
ASIM Inter-Africa Erasmus	Memorandum Understanding of	Institutional/ FEBE, Dept. Construction Management and Quantity Surveying
Kenyatta University, Kenya	Memorandum Understanding of	Institutional/ Faculty of Science, Dept of Physics
Worcester Polytechnic	Memorandum Understanding of	Faculty of Science
Universit� Grenoble Alpes	Memorandum Understanding of	FEBE
Strathclyde University	Memorandum Understanding- USDP Sub-Award Grant Agreement of	Faculty of Humanities
Manchester Metropolitan University and Mangosuthu Tech	Memorandum Understanding- USDP Sub-Award Grant Agreement of	Faculty of Science
Vrije University	Student Exchange Agreement	International Office
University of Hong Kong	MoU Renewal	International Office
Nanjing Technical University	MoU Renewal	FEBE
Ghent University	Joint Degree MoU	Faculty of Science
I-DAIR	MoU	Institute for Intelligent Systems

UJELP – UJ English Language Programme

UJELP is an essential academic support initiative of the ADS and the IO. As of May 2021, the new incoming Director of Academic Services worked closely with the UJELP team to understand the challenges and opportunities presented through UJELP. While the strategic discussions are ongoing, the Academic Services administrator continues to work closely with the Director for ADS to deliver on the operational elements of the UJELP programme.

As of the end of 2021 UJELP had registered students across all levels (i.e. elementary to advanced level). Advanced – 15, Intermediate – 25 and Elementary – 26

The Africa Focus

The University of Johannesburg holds Africa as a key priority in its internationalisation strategy. UJ seeks to, amongst others, strengthen partnerships on the continent, contribute to the conversation around the challenges Africa faces and explore long-term solutions to these challenges. Several institutes and Research Chairs play an integral role in advancing this strategy and in 2021 engagement with the Africa Centre for Evidence helped UJ to exceed its annual target on Pan-African partnerships.



Meeting with the Ambassador of Bulgaria



Meeting with EU delegation



Meeting with delegation from the Embassy of France

Fundraising and Administration

The Centre for Entrepreneurship at the Johannesburg Business School in partnership with the Institute for Employment Research at Warwick University, (UK) received a grant of R1.1 million from the British Council Innovation for African Universities. This consortium will form part of a research and peer learning community of practice that aims to support the African entrepreneurship ecosystem. The Chinese Consulate General in South Africa generously donated R110 000 towards bursaries which will support eleven (11) top performing international students in paying their tuition fee.

The International Office partnered with the Institute of International Education's Scholar Rescue Fund (IIE-SRF) as well as with the New University in Exile, New School, New York. The aim of the collaboration is to provide support to endangered scholars within the IIE-SRF network by hosting a scholar. Both organisations have committed to fund a scholar at risk for a year and will contribute \$25 000 each.

During this period the directorate submitted research funding calls with different faculties as lead applicants and the following applications were amongst those shortlisted by the following funders: Pepsico Development Fund (FEBE), IDRC Women in Science (FHS), British Council (JBS), African Union Innovating Education (Education). However, we didn't receive the funding.

Embassy Outreach

Key to the work of the Division is to build strategic partnerships. This entails the identification, initiation and coordination of partnerships as well as facilitating agreements and delegation visits (inbound and outbound) To this end, we propose VC's Roundtable Discussion with the Ambassadors. The aim of this is to build diplomatic relations and to promote the work of the University.

The first event was hosted by Ambassador H.E. Dr Nicolas Brühl, Switzerland in South Africa. The VC addressed a high-level delegation comprising ambassadors (EU Delegation, France, Italy, Germany, Finland, Denmark) and deputy heads of mission (Norway, Sweden, Austria). The address focused on the eight recommendations from the Presidential Commission on the Fourth Industrial Revolution (PC4IR) as well as UJ's strategic focus on the 4IR. Mr Daan Du Toit, Deputy Director-General: International Cooperation and Resources, Department of Science and Innovation, provided South Africa's positioning on Science Diplomacy and how the PC4IR recommendations are already being implemented.

Other Events Hosted

Coordinated the launch of the ASIM. The project aims to develop education, training and research capacity for African professionals to enhance the delivery of Africa's sustainable infrastructure. This project was generously funded under the EU-AU Intra Africa Mobility Scheme.

In August, the directorate hosted an information 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. A proposal under the theme on Biodiversity and ecosystem was submitted during this period and FEBE was lead applicant.

We also partnered with Embassy of France and 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.

In November, we co-hosted the launch of Crypto Valley Venture Capital Africa (CV VC) with The Institute for Intelligent System (IIS) CV VC is an investment company based in Zurich, and will invest \$11 million over the next 4 years to support 100 African startups and this will include setting up incubation hubs, mentorship and investment opportunities. They are currently supporting 4 start-ups based on the continent. Through this event, further engagements with IIS and funders are currently underway and the proposal is to support Mining in Blockchain projects.



Engagement with Ambassadors at the residence of the Ambassador of Switzerland to South Africa, Dr. iur. Nicolas BRÜHL



Co-hosted the launch of Crypto Valley Venture Capital Africa (CV VC) with The Institute for Intelligent Systems (IIS) at UJ

International Staff, Student Recruitment and Admissions

The total headcount achieved for 2021 was 4307. Undergraduate - 2594 and Postgraduate - 1713.

Due to the pandemic, the International Recruitment and Admissions Office conducted recruitment digitally/virtually. During the pandemic, the division continued to leverage its relationship with the Council of International Schools to share information on their social media platforms as well as with their international schools database.

While the Division for Internationalisation met the set targets, challenges still existed with timeous issuance of student visas for Undergraduate prospective students especially in the DRC, Swaziland, Lesotho, Gabon and Zimbabwe which led to non-registrations.

In order to improve service provision to applicants the Division further improved and streamlined International Admissions processes to produce greater efficiency. As a member of Council of International Schools (CIS), the University has automatic access to illustrious International Schools across the globe. UJ also enjoys association with regional International school bodies such as CIS-EARCOS (East Asia Regional

Council of Schools) which holds annual Career Guidance teachers' schools' workshops

and conferences. CIS also provides a search and information database for member Institutions and all learners from International Schools. We have seen an increase in the number of IB (International Baccalaureate) curriculum students joining the University especially in Science, Engineering and Technology (SET) programmes and Economics and Business. We have also experienced a rise in opportunities to present at International Schools fairs and Information sessions. This membership is part of our strategy to diversify our markets for student recruitment and reduce UJ's over reliance on the Zimbabwe Presidential Scholarship.

Keystone is the Division's targeted digital marketing platform that generates leads for all of our qualifications and courses. The Keystone platform was utilized to advertise all Undergraduate (UG) and Postgraduate (PG) programmes and follow ups were undertaken with prospective applicants by email. Colleagues also kept in touch with Guidance Teachers from schools in SADC, East and West Africa for leads and information on applications and admissions.

The team in partnership with BMI and UJ faculties hosted four virtual recruitment webinars. The target market for the webinars were Europe, North America, the Middle East and Asia. A further five virtual information sessions were held with international high schools in Botswana, Lesotho and Swaziland.

A digital web banner campaign was undertaken in seven countries 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.

2022 Application Cycle

Preparations for the Cycle

- Reviewed the 2021 undergraduate prospectus in order to assess the amendments made to the admission requirements.
- Met with the faculties in which the amendments were made that are to be impacted on the admission of international applicants and working on an amicable procedure in improving admission of international applicants in the affected faculties.

- College of Business and Economics and the Faculty of Engineering and Built Environment made concessions for the applicants with good APS and not meeting the English Language requirement.
- Study applications were received from over 100 countries for the 2021 academic year.

Electronic and Physical Enquiries

Electronic Enquiries

- The International Admissions Unit attended to electronic enquiries within 2 days of receiving an enquiry.
- Prospective applicants were provided guided and assisted with the procedures to follow when submitting an online academic applications and residence application.
- Residence application form was also emailed in cases of applicants that were struggling with the online application for residence.

Physical Enquiries

- Due to the pandemic for most of the 2022 application cycle there were no physical enquiries and the most of application queries were electronic and telephonic.
- The Admissions office personnel worked remotely, and the office phones were coded to their cellphones to allow for continuous service offering during period of hard and re-evaluated lockdown periods.

2022 Application Communication

- All applicants received communication on acknowledging receipt of application and information on the status of the application by e-mail.
- Communication sent to the applicant was retrievable from the university website upon enquiry of the application status.

Stakeholder Engagement

- All 7 Faculties and the College of Business and Economics were engaged on various issues affecting international applicants and students.
- Agreement remains in place with regards to the signing and submission of Deviation forms to the Student Enrolment Centre.
- Meetings continued with the Student Enrolment Centre on issues of applications, registering international students and registered international students.
- Agreements reached on processes and procedures to be undertaken when attending to issues affecting international applicants and students.

- Meeting and formalizing procedures and processes when attending to international students.
- Met with the Postgraduate Centre to discuss the procedures and processes on handling international post-doctoral fellows.

Achievements

- Continuous engagements with SAQA and USAF to assist and facilitate applicants for degree seeking students at undergraduate and postgraduate level.
- Our membership with the Council of International Schools yielded increased access to international schools in Asia and Africa.

Admissions and Client Service

A stakeholder forum led by the office of the Registrar continued to identify and mitigate any challenges for the 2022 application cycle. The Division for Internationalisation is represented by the Senior Manager: International Student Recruitment, Admissions & Marketing and the Supervisor International Admissions.

- The Division continuously engaged all faculties on all matters pertaining to International prospective students throughout the period under review. The International Admissions personnel maintained the agreed 5 days turn-around time on the processing of all Undergraduate applications.

The Division will continue to enhance the system challenges on a rolling basis, with the view to improving absorption rates in order to take advantage of the growing international student application numbers.

General support and communication

Frequent communication is sent to students on events and mainly immigration matters. Supported students who require assistance from PsyCad.

Student Engagements

Due to the pandemic, many of the engagements with international students focused on issues related to student welfare and challenges. The University of Johannesburg International Student Society (UJISS) participated in these discussions which included meetings in July and October to discuss registration matters, COVID-19 updates and online learning. UJISS also organised a virtual Game Night in July, a virtual session to assist students with their CV's in August, a session with alumni to discuss life after university in August, facilitated a virtual Symposium for the Nigerian Students Association in September and finally hosted a virtual session in September to introduce key UJ stakeholders to UJ students.

Marketing and Recruitment (Exhibitions and Information Sessions)

As part of the Internationalisation Strategy to enhance UJ global reach, build the university brand abroad, recruit the best students globally, grow student numbers, and increase the breadth of representation by country to better cultivate an international culture at UJ, the division continues to identify international student recruitment markets in various countries. Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 pandemic which started in 2020 and the subsequent lockdown, the unit responsible for recruitment only attended the CHE Recruitment Fair in Lesotho in February. The unit concentrated on virtual and electronic recruitment opportunities for the remainder of 2021.

Observations

- Africa is, and remains a recruitment priority for UJ, particularly the SADC region where we receive our biggest pool of international students.
- Although our recruitment efforts in Asia have been disrupted in 2021, the region still presents a viable market to increase our pool of both undergraduate and postgraduate students once we can travel and continue with onsite recruitment.
- Lesotho remains a strong student feeder country for UJ and our continuous efforts have continued to translate into positive numbers of applications, particularly from excellent students out of the International Baccalaureate (IB) system
- The devastating impact of the pandemic will force us to reassess our recruitment strategy to include the virtual space, which has become extremely important. We will also have to work smart in order to attract new international students who are still anxious and unsure about what the future holds.

Regardless of the challenges, the International student application and admissions process ran smoothly in 2021. The streamlined processes assisted greatly in providing a seamless application and admission process both for Study Abroad and Full Degree-purpose students. Further reviewing and refining of the Postgraduate process as well as support for Post-Doctoral Fellows and Distinguished Visiting Professors took place in 2021.

The division continues to be represented on all four campuses, enhancing visibility, and ensuring easier reach and better support for students and staff.

The relationship between Home Affairs and UJ remains strong and continuous engagement took place between both stakeholders. This key stakeholder relationship will need continuous attention as it is a critical component of the international student admissions process. Permanent solutions will need to be discussed and finalised particularly regarding the issuing of visas timeously, both in South Africa and from Embassies/Missions in other countries.

The relationship forged with Universities South Africa, formerly known as Higher Education South Africa (HESA) has allowed for better facilitation of students' applications by the unit.

Our marketing and recruitment efforts continue to reflect a positive impact on application numbers: new applications have risen, as have the total number of International undergraduate applications with positive results, indicating better applicants, and a higher propensity, therefore, for absorption.

Global Reputation (Marketing, Events and visits)

Global advertising for 2021 included both print and digital advertising. A substantial amount of our advertising involved utilizing our social media platforms, leveraging off our partner social media platforms and networks and finalized a recruitment campaign through web/mobile banner advertising and newspaper adverts.

The Division utilised their digital platforms more effectively with greater usage of our Facebook page, Twitter, Instagram, Keystone Academic Solutions, UJ Alumni Connect platform and websites. The Division reproduced the Z-Card which was first developed and printed in 2016. The Z Card served a key marketing tool for international undergraduate recruitment. Further to the above:

- Amended the Z Card to include additional important information, additional quantity printed.
- Invitation created for World Café webinar.
- Invitation created for the “Blockchain: Its future and promises for Accelerating Africa’s Journey towards Agenda 2063” webinar.
- Invitation created for the UJ Africa Day Virtual Celebration – “An Africa we strive for, a student perspective on ‘Ubuntu’ webinar”.
- Invitation created for African Leadership Summit & Dialogue Series titled “Leading Africa to rise above the effects of the pandemic and to unlock opportunities arising from the 21st century”
- Invitation created for “France – South Africa Scholarship Programme” webinar.
- Invitation created for Women’s Month event titled “Women in Higher Education”
- Invitation created for “Horizon Europe Africa Initiative Calls” webinar.
- Four quarterly editions of the 2021 Divisional highlights publication produced and sent to relevant colleagues.
- Finalised a Web and Mobile Banner recruitment campaign. The target countries were Kenya, Nigeria, Ghana, Uganda, Tanzania, Zambia and Namibia.
- Finalised a newspaper print advert recruitment campaign. The target countries were Botswana, Lesotho, Eswatini, Namibia, Ghana and Kenya.
- 2022 Pre-Arrival Guide completed in November 2019).

Global rankings:

- Ten UJ subjects rated amongst the best in the world by QS (Quacquarelli Symonds) World University Rankings by Subject.
- UJ is now ranked in the 1st position in the world for Decent Work and Economic Growth by Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Rankings
- UJ ranked among the global Top 500 by QS World University Rankings,

Onsite delegations:

- H.E. The Ambassador of Bulgaria to South Africa, Dr. Maria Pavlova Tzotzorkova-Kaymaktchieva visited UJ on the 21st October. The discussion focused on creating partnership links with Sofia University, Republic of Bulgaria and other areas of mutual interest.
- An EU delegation including H.E. Dr. Riina Kionka, EU Ambassador to SA visited UJ on the 27th October. The discussion focused on areas for collaboration and research.
- A delegation from the Embassy of France visited UJ on the 09th November. The discussion focused on the PROTEA Research Programme, France-South Africa Scholarship and other areas of mutual interest.

The following engagements were hosted virtually:

- In August, UJ in partnership with the Thembekile Mandela Foundation and Leading Like Mandela hosted an African Leadership Summit & Dialogue Series titled “Leading Africa to rise above the effects of the pandemic and to unlock opportunities arising from the 21st century”
- The division hosted the first webinar in April as part of a Blockchain series. The title was “BLOCKCHAIN: Its future and promises for Accelerating Africa’s Journey towards AGENDA 2063” with UJ Institute for Intelligent Systems, University of Zurich, and two industry partners CVVC and SANBA.
- The division in partnership with the UJ Library, hosted a webinar in April titled “Through great leadership MIT remain No.1 in the World University Rankings for the past nine years”. The speaker was Prof. Phillip L. Clay, former Chancellor, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)
- The division in partnership with the DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service) and the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany in South Africa, hosted the virtual Falling Walls Lab Johannesburg event. The winner of the

Falling Walls Lab Johannesburg event was Ms Adivhaho Mphaphuli, UJ BEng. Civil Engineering graduate whose pitch focused on “Breaking The Wall of Water Leakages”. Ms Mphaphuli will now be representing South Africa at the global Falling Walls Lab conference in Berlin, Germany in November. She will be competing against the winners from the Falling Walls Lab events that have taken place globally.

Prof Ylva Rodny Gumede facilitated the following UJ Cloudebates, aimed at debating:

Cryptocurrency. Holy Grail or Fools Gold?

- Is it a get-rich-quick scheme or genuine alternative to traditional money?

How Private are Messaging Apps in the Age of 4IR?

- Unfounded hysteria or genuine cause for alarm?

Cyberbullying: How do we stem the tide?

- Who is responsible for protecting us from online bullies?

When Ransomware Attacks, Pay Up or Hold Out?

- Hacking for profit

Delegations

As UJ becomes more visible globally, the university continues to attract potential partners. In 2021, the university continued its tradition of engaging meaningfully with international delegations both virtually and onsite. UJ’s continued engagement with organisations and partners in Africa reaffirms a key component of the vision of the University. Due to the pandemic, we hosted three international delegations at UJ. Some notable activity for the year includes:

<u>Date of Visit</u>	<u>Name of Institution/ Organisation</u>	<u>Purpose of Meeting</u>	<u>Meeting Participants (Visiting Delegation)</u>	<u>UJ Meeting Participants</u>
26/01/2021	University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student and Staff mobility • Programme specific interest • Joint Grant applications • Co-badging SLP’s • Other initiatives 	Dr. Robert J. Jones Prof. Andreas C. Cangellaris Prof. Reitumetse Obakeng Mabokela	Prof. Tshilidzi Marwala Prof. Saurabh Sinha Prof. Letlhokwa Mpedi Prof Kinta Burger Prof Andre Swart Ms Nolwazi Mamorare Dr. Nolitha Vukuza

				Prof. Daniel Mashao Prof. Sehaam Khan Prof. Kammila Naidoo Prof. Ylva Rodny-Gumede Mr Lebethe Malefo
18/02/2021	Ladoke Akintola University of Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Architecture • Computer Engineering • Computer Science • Nursing (Postgraduate level). • Mechanical Engineering • Civil engineering 	Prof. Micheal Olufisayo Ologunde Prof. Simeon Olatayo Jekayinfa Prof. Ajibade Bayo-Lawal Prof. Justice Emuoyibofarhe Prof. A. Michael Atolagbe Dr. Oluwale Ajayi Dr. ASABA Tesleem Babatunde Dr. OLAOYE Rebecca Adepate Prof. Elijah Olusayo Omidiora Prof. Ayodele Samuel Onawumi Dr. Michael Olukorede Osuolale Prof. Stephen Olatunde Olabiyisi	Prof. Tshilidzi Marwala Prof. Saurabh Sinha Prof. Daniel Mashao Prof. Tien-Chien Jen Prof. Megersa Dinka Mr Denver Hendricks Prof. Duncan Coulter Dr. Lee-Ann Sade Modley Prof. Charlene Downing Prof. Ylva Rodny-Gumede
21/10/2021	Ambassador of the Republic of Bulgaria to South Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishing partnership links with Sofia University, Republic of Bulgaria • Discuss other areas of mutual interest 	H.E. Dr. Maria Pavlova Tzotzorkova-Kaymaktchieva	Prof. Tshilidzi Marwala Prof. Letlhokwa Mpedi Dr. Nolitha Vukuza Prof. Costa Georghiou Prof Ylva Rodny-Gumede Ms Anisa Khan

26/10/2021	High level engagement with Ambassadors at the residence of the Ambassador of Switzerland to South Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof Marwala delivered a keynote to the audience • Discussion focused on the 4IR, Science and Innovation 	Dr. Nicolas BRÜHL Dr. Riina Kionka Mr. Aurélien Lechevallier Mr. Paolo Cuculi Mr. Andreas Peschke Dr. Stian Christensen Mrs. Raija Anne Lammila Mr. Tobias Elling Rehfeld Mr. Oliver Grünbacher Mrs. Ami Larsson Jain Mr. Daan du Toit	Prof. Tshilidzi Marwala Prof. Saurabh Sinha Prof. Letlhokwa Mpedi Dr. Nolitha Vukuza Prof. Ylva Rodny-Gumede Ms. Ntombise Mangqase
27/10/2021	EU Ambassador delegation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussions with the College of Business and Economics • Discussions related to 4IR 	H.E. Dr. Riina Kionka	Prof. Daneel van Lill Prof Fiona Tregenna Prof. Babu Paul Prof. Kraemer-Mbula Prof. Ylva Rodny-Gumede Ms Anisa Khan
09/11/2021	Embassy of France	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss the PROTEA Research Programme, France-South Africa Scholarship programme and other potential areas of interest. 	Dr. Moncef Meddeb Mr. Vincent Perrier Ms. Gail Vermaak Ms. Bertille Daran	Prof. Ylva Rodny-Gumede Prof. Stephane Laurent Dr. Ndivhuwo Luruli Ms. Anisa Khan Mr. Lebethe Malefo Ms. Ntombise Mangqase

Events at UJ

DATE	ACTIVITY	TOPIC/S	NOTES
09 th April 2021	Webinar	BLOCKCHAIN: Its future and promises for Accelerating Africa's Journey towards AGENDA 2063	Hosted in partnership with the Embassy of Switzerland and the University of Zurich
13 th April 2021	Webinar	Through great leadership MIT remain No.1 in the World University Rankings for the past nine years.	Hosted in partnership with the UJ Library
25 th May 2021	Webinar	An Africa We Strive For, A Student Perspective On 'UBUNTU'	A joint Africa Day event hosted in partnership with UJISS (University of Johannesburg International Student Society)
25 th May 2021	Information Session	Information regarding programmes offered by the College of Business and Economics	Hosted in partnership with our recruitment partner, BMI
08 th June 2021	Webinar/Conversation with Ms Mpho Letsoalo, International Marketing and Sales Expert and Social Entrepreneurs hip Enthusiast	World Café – the value of intercultural exchange and international travel	An in depth discussion with individuals in different industries regarding the impact of exchange or mobility in both their educational or professional careers and how it has shaped the person they have become
23 rd June 2021	Information Session	Information regarding programmes offered by the Faculty of Engineering and the Built Environment and the Faculty of Science	Hosted in partnership with our recruitment partner, BMI
07 th July 2021	Information Session	Information regarding programmes offered by the Faculty of Art, Design and Architecture and Faculty of Education	Hosted in partnership with our recruitment partner, BMI
03 rd August 2021	Webinar	Building A United, Prosperous and Peaceful Africa...	Hosted in partnership with the Thembekile Mandela Foundation, Leading Like

		Leading Africa to Rise Above the Effects of the Pandemic and to Unlock Opportunities Arising from the 21st Century	Mandela and the Institute of People Management
11th August 2021	Information Session	Information regarding programmes offered by the Faculty of Humanities and Faculty of Health Sciences	Hosted in partnership with our recruitment partner, BMI
13th August 2021	Virtual Book Discussion	The New Apartheid by Sizwe Mpofu-Walsh	Hosted in partnership with the UJ Library and the VC's Reading Club
26th August 2021	Webinar	Women in Higher Education	Hosted in partnership with the UJ Library
02nd September 2021	Virtual three-minute Pitch competition	Falling Walls Lab, Johannesburg	Hosted in partnership with the DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service), Federal Foreign Office and the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany, Pretoria
08th September 2021	Information Session on funding opportunities	Horizon Europe Africa Initiative Calls	Hosted in partnership with the European Commission
23rd September 2021	Information Session on French scholarships	France – South Africa Scholarship Programme	Hosted in partnership with the Embassy of France in South Africa and Campus France
19th October 2021	Webinar	BLOCKCHAIN: Finance Industry	Hosted in partnership with UZH Blockchain Center, University of Zurich

11th November 2021	Launch event hosted at the UJ Library	CV VC Africa Launch	Hosted in partnership with the Institute for Intelligent Systems (IIS) and CV VC AG (Crypto Valley Venture Capital), Zurich
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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 ismailb@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 Ralf Kubli – 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




UJ AFRICA DAY VIRTUAL CELEBRATION

INVITATION • DISCUSSION
AN AFRICA WE STRIVE FOR, A STUDENT
PERSPECTIVE ON 'UBUNTU' –

Presented by the UJ Division for Internationalisation
and the University of Johannesburg International
Student Society in partnership with the UJ Library

DATE • 25 May 2021 | TIME • 13:00 to 14:00
LINK • Link: <https://zoom.us/j/95356607154>



The Future
Reimagined

INVITATION

ONLINE WEBINAR

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>
#ujalumni • @UJInternationalOffice




INVITATION

"It is in your hands to create a better world for all who live in it". Nelson Mandela

AFRICAN LEADERSHIP SUMMIT & DIALOGUE SERIES

BUILDING A UNITED, PROSPEROUS & PEACEFUL AFRICA

THEME

**LEADING AFRICA TO RISE ABOVE THE EFFECTS OF THE
PANDEMIC AND TO UNLOCK OPPORTUNITIES ARISING
FROM THE 21ST CENTURY**

SPEAKERS

- **The Honourable Minister, Ms Lindiwe Zulu**, Minister of Social Development, Republic of South Africa
- **H.E. Ms Scholastica Kimanyo**, Global Thought Leader on Governance, international Diplomacy & Development Cooperation; Founder & Chief Executive, Maadili Leadership Solutions and UN veteran
- **Prof. Tshilidzi Marwala**, Vice-Chancellor and Principal, University of Johannesburg
- **Dr. Jerry Gule**, CEO: Institute of People Management
- **Prof. Bonang Mohale**, Chancellor: University of Free State and Former CEO of Business Leadership South Africa (BLSA)
- **Dr. Reuel Khoza**, Chairman: Public Investment Corporation (PIC)
- **Dr. Jasmine Pega**, Executive Director: PJS Global and UN Global Award Nominee

FACILITATOR

- **Dr. Liaqat Azam**, CEO: Leading Like Mandela

DATE: Tuesday, 3 August 2021

TIME: 14:00 - 15:30 (SAST)

ZOOM LINK: <https://zoom.us/j/98715754181>



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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

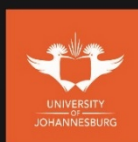
Women in Higher Education

DATE ■ Thursday, 26 August 2021

TIME ■ 12:30 – 14:00 (SAST)

ZOOM LINK ■ <https://zoom.us/j/96757729101>

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The Future
Reimagined

International Representation and Visibility

DATE	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
05/08/2021 – 08/08/2021	Executive Leadership and Creativity Workshop with Prof Eugene Cloete	Cape Town, South Africa
25/08/2021 – 27/08/2021	IEASA Conference	Virtual
08/10/2021 - 11/10/2021	Chaperoned the UJ rugby team to participate at the 2 nd Kings of Rugby Africa University 7's	Kampala, Uganda
02/11/2021 – 06/11/2021	CEIA Conference	George, Eastern Cape

Membership of Networks and Professional Bodies

COUNCIL OF GRADUATE SCHOOLS	Representation and Visibility in the Graduate Community Information and Best Practices Professional Development and Networking Opportunities
COUNCIL OF INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS	Provide recruitment opportunities for undergraduate students
UK NARIC	System utilised to evaluate international qualifications and provide training
ISEP	Study Abroad Organisation for recruitment and placement of exchange students
ASSOCIATION OF COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITIES	<p>The Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU) is a professional association for those working in higher education across the Commonwealth, providing avenues for collaboration and cooperation between our members. Joining the ACU brings you into a network of like-minded organisations whose aim is to build and forge sustainable, mutually beneficial international partnerships.</p> <p>ACU membership is open to institutions of higher education accredited by their respective national accreditation boards, in any of the 54 member states of the Commonwealth of Nations.</p>
UNIVERSITAS 21	Universitas 21 is the leading global network of research-intensive universities, working together to foster global citizenship and institutional innovation through research-inspired teaching and learning, student mobility, connecting our students and staff, and wider advocacy for internationalisation.

	Collectively, its 25 members enrol over 1.3 million students and employ over 220,000 staff and faculty.
EAIE	<p>A European network of global minds</p> <p>Membership comprises higher education professionals from all around Europe and beyond that form a vibrant community. Members come from almost every function within higher education; from international relations managers, student counsellors and study abroad advisors to admissions officers, credential evaluators, marketing and recruitment coordinators, rectors, teachers, and managers of international educational programmes.</p>
ASSOCIATION OF AFRICAN UNIVERSITIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <p>Academic Staff Exchange Programme</p> <p>The Academic Staff Exchange Programme is designed to foster inter-university cooperation through exchange of external examiners, staff exchange for teaching, participation in seminars, workshops and conferences and research cooperation.</p> <p>Fellowships and Scholarships</p> <p>As part of the effort to enhance student mobility in Africa, the AAU makes available fellowships and scholarships on a competitive basis to support students from AAU member universities wishing to study in an African university outside their country of citizenship or normal residence.</p> <p>On and off campus Special Issues Workshops</p> <p>Over the years, the AAU has carried out several studies and conducted workshops and seminars on critical issues of higher education in Africa. In the process, considerable expertise on these issues has been accumulated both within the AAU Secretariat as well as among AAU resources persons in member universities.</p> <p>On the invitation of a member university in good financial standing with respect to payment of membership subscriptions, the AAU will arrange to send to the university campus, at the AAU's expense, one of its resource persons or Secretariat staff to conduct a seminar or workshop on an issue relevant to AAU programmes and expertise for the benefit of the members to that university's community</p>

IEASA	<p>The International Education Association of South Africa (IEASA), a non-profit organisation, was established as a result of the need for universities and universities of technology in South Africa to respond to international educational trends.</p> <p>If South Africa is to remain competitive within the global economic environment it is important that our higher education provides opportunities for students to obtain a global perspective to their studies .It also means that we open up international contacts which will benefit students, our tertiary institutions and will assist South Africa to be a competitor and participant in world markets.</p>
SANORD	<p>Many of the world's problems are global in nature and exceed the fragmented capacities of single institutions, countries and regions and, instead, require their combined efforts. SANORD therefore promotes academic networking, joint research, staff and student exchange and innovation in multilateral processes.</p> <p>Networking. SANORD facilitates networking and meetings among leaders, researchers and students from Nordic and Southern African institutions to discuss and plan joint endeavours. Members get access to contact persons and research groups. SANORD assist with organising regular academic events including a major conference every second year.</p> <p>Joint research. SANORD seeks to stimulate research for the creation and sharing of knowledge and understanding on issues of shared concern. Members drive the process of bringing together people, experience, expertise and equipment in multilateral and cross-disciplinary research groups. They identify academic fields and research topics where sharing of resources and expertise will expand the capacity and achievements of each member.</p> <p>Facilitation and support. The SC), with the help of member institutions, develops the SANORD portal to provide information and facilitate the exchange among member institutions, research groups and individuals. To the extent allowed by resources from internal or external sources, SANORD stimulates activities by providing seed money for research, academic events, publications and so on.</p>
AIEA	<p>The Association of International Education Administrators is the only association dedicated exclusively to senior leaders in the field of International education. AIEA members are senior international officers who serve as leaders of higher education institutions and of organisations that support international higher education.</p>

NAFSA	Association of International Educators (USA)
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Hyperlinks to divisional videos

Immigration: https://youtu.be/ax971_50Q24

Student Welfare: <https://youtu.be/FQ6GZDTGekI>

UJISS: <https://youtu.be/EqEugUTM-I8>

Looking Forward

2021 proved to be another successful year for Internationalisation at UJ but not without challenges which primarily stemmed from the COVID-19 pandemic. The successes achieved thus far serve as both a reminder as well as impetus to further enhance the Internationalisation of the university based on the university-wide strategy towards global excellence and stature. Challenges will remain in the areas of retaining International student numbers but also attracting new international students, dealing with growing international student historical debt and how do we support affected students, development of new virtual Short Learning Programmes which are aligned to national and international imperatives, as well as dealing with potential risks for international staff and students.

The overall success of the strategy for internationalising UJ and assuring UJ's place in the global higher education landscape will require a collective effort which includes greater support from faculty for supervisory support, the necessary facilities for international postgraduate students, support for international researchers and visiting scholars.

As we enter 2022, it will be necessary to focus on re-imagining internationalisation both in the current as well as in a post COVID context. Key areas of growth envisaged will be the development of Global Academic Programmes, both traditional as well as a greater emphasis on virtual, inclusive of Executive Programmes as well as furthering the discussion on International accreditation. Another key focus will be the development and implementation of a new UJ internationalisation strategy fit for a university that is taking the lead in the Fourth Industrial Revolution, and in alignment with the broader university vision as an international University of choice, anchored in Africa, dynamically shaping the future.

This also includes work with regards to continuously developing and strengthening international partnerships and mobility programmes for students and staff. This work has increasingly come to focus on SMART partnerships with a view to advancing the UJ 4IR mission, including marketing of, and fundraising for, international projects, internships and mobility programmes.