

Graduation Programme

The Future. Reimagined.





Dear UJ Graduate

At the University of Johannesburg (UJ), graduation not only signifies an academic milestone but also represents the emergence of a new cohort of leaders. Our objective has been to empower you as leaders who are primed to face the challenges of an ever-changing world defined by a plethora of challenges and opportunities. As you navigate these great societal shifts, we hope that your time at UJ will serve as a constant source of reference and inspiration. As we have sought to demonstrate, the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR) presents the

opportunity for the exploration of new and exciting spheres, and you are uniquely poised to navigate this terrain. Our focus at UJ has been to create graduates who are agile, curious, and able to be active participants against this backdrop.

Your graduation today serves as a celebration of this momentous achievement! I want to take this opportunity to remind you that you now represent the privileged few in our country. You are uniquely poised to address some of the serious challenges we face and a qualification from UJ will stand you in good stead!

At UJ, you have encountered the finest academic minds from diverse backgrounds, spanning across the world as well as innovative technology-rich approaches to teaching and learning. As a result, UJ's global stature and academic robustness are recognised by the most prestigious global higher education ranking systems in the world. UJ has become a competitive player, not only in South Africa but also on the continent. You are an important part of this story.

We welcome you as a new member of our esteemed alumni community, which is making a lasting impact on society. We encourage you to join the UJ Alumni Network and become an active member of the University Convocation, which affords you an opportunity to make a significant contribution to our academic projects and beyond. Our promise in return to you is that we will continue to build UJ as an international university of choice, anchored in Africa, dynamically shaping the future.

Congratulations on this significant achievement. We look forward to witnessing you reimagine the future!

Prof Letlhokwa Mpedi Vice-Chancellor and Principal University of Johannesburg Welcome to the Graduation Ceremony of the University of Johannesburg 15 May 2023 at 09:30

Welkom by die
Gradeplegtigheid van die
Universiteit van Johannesburg
15 Mei 2023 om 09:30

Le a Amogelwa
Moletlong wa Dikapešo wa
Yunibesithi ya Johannesburg
15 Mopitlo 2023 ka 09:30

Niyamukelwa
eMcimbini wokweThweswa kweZiqu
weNyuvesi yaseJohannesburg
15 kuNhlaba 2023 ngele-09:30

UNIVERSITY OF JOHANNESBURG

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MEMBERS OF THE MANAGEMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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PhD (SUN)

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FACULTY OF LAW

Prof W Domingo
B SoSc (UCT), LLB (UWC), LLM (Columbia, USA),
SJD (Wisconsin-Madison, USA)

FACULTY OF SCIENCE

Prof R Meijboom (Acting)
M (Groningen, Netherlands), PhD (UCT)

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MBA (SUN), MCom (NWU), PhD (UWC)

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Dr A Mokoena

Ms N Molope

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Ms NP Mvubu

Dr WP Rowland

Ms JA Schreiner

Prof A Strydom

Mr T Thobejane

PRESIDENT OF CONVOCATION

Mr LM Mpunzi

GAUDEAMUS IGITUR

Gaudeamus igitur,
Juvenes dum sumus;
Post iucundum iuventutem,
Post molestam senectutem
Nos habebit humus.
Vivat academia,
Vivant professores,
Vivat membrum quodlibet,
Vivat membra quaelibet;
Semper sint in flore!

English

Let us rejoice, therefore,
While we are young.
After a pleasant youth
After a troubling old age
The earth will have us.
Long live the academy!
Long live the professors!
Long live each student;
Long live the whole fraternity;
For ever may they flourish!

Afrikaans

Laat ons dan vrolik wees,
Terwyl ons jonk is;
Na 'n aangename jeug.
Na 'n onaangename oudag,
Sal die aarde ons hou.
Lank lewe die universiteit,
Lank lewe die professore,
Lank lewe elke student,
Lank lewe al die studente,
Mag hulle vir ewig hul jeug behou!

Sesotho sa Leboa

Ka gona, a re thabeng,
Re sa le ba bafsa.
Ka morago ga bofsa bjo bo bose
Ka morago ga go tšofala mo go nago
le mathata
Lefase le tla ba le rena.
Phela thuto phela!
Phelang diprofesa phelang!
Phelang baithuti phelang;
Phela kagišano ka botlalo phela;
O ka re ba ka phela gabotse
goyagoile!

Zulu

Ngakho, masithokoze
Sisebasha nje.
Emva kobumnandi bobusha
Emva kwezinkinga zobudala
Umhlaba uzosithatha.
Phambili ngemfundo!
Phambili boSolwazi!
Phambili nakuwe mfundi;
Phambili ngenhlangano yonke;
Maziqhubeke ngonaphakade!

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS

QUALIFICATIONS

1. Diploma

Bhoodoo, Marcia Melisiwe Nhlanhla (Food and Beverage Operations)

Hlungwane, Promise Letta (Human Resources Management)

Kajabila, Busime (Human Resources Management)

Majenge, Unati Carol (Retail Business Management)

Makhitha, Ndalama (Marketing)

Manchidi, Mmasechaba Marriam (Marketing)

Mathivha, Hulisani Pollen (Tourism Management)

Mfolo, Reabetswe Masego (Human Resources

Management)

Mkhonde, Luthando (Retail Business Management)

Mlangeni, Keoagile (Human Resources Management)

Mokgata, Sonti Derrick (Human Resources Management)

Mokoena, Laura (Marketing)

Ndou, Tia Vhugala (Retail Business Management)

Nkabinde, Ntobeko Menelisi (Marketing)

Ntsime, Onthatile (Tourism Management)

Osuagwu, Darnell Jerry-Fred (Human Resources

Management)

Pillay, Kody (Marketing)

Prim, Reyjean Shaneouise (Human Resources Management)

Rasego, Katlego Neo (Retail Business Management)

Tembo, Patricia Sebabaso (Human Resources Management) **Waters,** Sharne Samanther (Tourism Management) **Yende,** Zamaphangwa Senele (Human Resources
Management)

2. Advanced Diploma

Lephoto, Lerato Nkamoheleng (People Performance Management)

Madyibi, Mihle (Marketing)

Malotane, Billy Harry Kgabo Lehlogonolo (People Performance Management)

Mkhungo, Nelisiwe Noluthando (People Performance Management)

Mndebele, Samukelisiwe Gugu (Marketing)

Rikhotso, Hlayiseko Teddy (People Performance

Management)

Sangweni, Siboniso Mfanelo (Marketing)

Selahle, Reenetse (People Performance Management)

Sikwari, Hope Mutangwa (People Performance Management)

Sithole, Ntandokazi (People Performance Management)

3. Baccalaureus Artium

Chipanda, Takwana Koneck (Human Resource Management)

4. Bachelors'

Chwene, Kutlwano (Human Resource Management)
Govind, Cleo (Human Resource Management)
Kunene, Nelisiwe (Human Resource Management)
Malinga, Nokuthula Millicent (Human Resource
Management)
Mokgethi, Gosego Ebenezer (Hospitality Management)
Ramosidi, Mathapelo Pertunia (Human Resource
Management)

5. Bachelor of Commerce

Baig. Irfaan (Marketing Management) **Chavoos,** Rahil (Marketing Management) Gebashe, Buhle (Industrial Psychology) **Louwrens,** Gabrielle (Industrial Psychology) Mashweng, Lethabo Pleasure (Industrial Psychology) Mathelemusa, Tshivindzo Hosney (Marketing Management) Mphara, Alilali Nicole (Marketing Management) Mulaudzi, Unarine (Industrial Psychology) **Netshandama**, Rofunwa (Industrial Psychology) Nkhasi, Keketso (Industrial Psychology) **Phale,** Tiyang Nteme (Marketing Management) Regomoditswe Rebecca (Industrial Psychology) Radebe, Amahle Pearl (Industrial Psychology) **Seanego**, Kwena Idah (Industrial Psychology) Segoba, Motlalepula (Industrial Psychology)

Shaw, Jason Ryan (Marketing Management) **Tiro,** Boitshepo (Industrial Psychology) **Zibaya,** Phumlisa (Industrial Psychology)

6. Bachelor of Arts Honours

Khumalo, Bongiwe (Human Resource Management)
Mabotsa, Tebogo Sebaetseng (Human Resource Management)
Mohapi, Puseletso Adelaide (Human Resource Management)
Mvelase, Thokozile (Human Resource Management)

7. Bachelor of Commerce Honours

Majola, Samukelisiwe Andile (Human Resource Management) Mongale, Palesa (Industrial Psychology)

Moropa, Latricia Thapelo (Industrial Psychology) Mosebi, Mahlapane Theresia (Human Resource

Management)

Motloba, Kagiso (Marketing Management)

Ngobeni, Nyeleti Carol Grace (Industrial Psychology)

Raat, Hope Yvonne (Industrial Psychology)

Ramaboa, Daphney Lebogang (Human Resource Management)

Seluka, Mawela Elias (Human Resource Management)

Xulu, Sphelele Slindile (Industrial Psychology)

8. Master of Commerce

Ankiah, Thylanu (Human Resource Management)

Dissertation: Exploring the influence of the 4IR on total

rewards in the pharmaceutical industry

Supervisor: Prof EN Barkhuizen **Co-Supervisor:** Dr CM Mabaso

Clayton, Kelley Claire (Human Resource Management) (with distinction)

Dissertation: The influence of performance management process changes on the identity of employees during COVID-19

Supervisor: Prof RT de Braine

Jacobs, Ashley Cindy (Industrial Psychology) (with distinction)

Minor dissertation: Meaning of work for South African

women during the Pandemic

Supervisor: Mrs MNR Mamathuba

Lekgoathi, Kgaogelo Welminah Lovel (Industrial Psychology) **Minor dissertation:** The relationship between public service

motivation and career engagement

Supervisor: Mr MA Themba

Mahlake, Matome Vincent (Employment Relations) **Dissertation:** The impact of leadership on progressive

workplace relationships

Supervisor: Prof EN Barkhuizen **Co-Supervisor:** Mr W de Beer

Manyeke, Natina (Employment Relations) (with distinction)

Dissertation: Exploring the work and family demands on the

wellbeing of female employees **Supervisor:** Prof N Dhanpat

Marozva, Rudo Rachel (Strategic Human Resource Management)

Minor dissertation: Retention strategies for millennial

academics in South Africa

Supervisor: Prof EN Barkhuizen **Co-Supervisor:** Mrs ME Mokhethi

Maseko, Nosipho Mbali (Human Resource Management)

Dissertation: Identity work of public hospital nurses

Supervisor: Prof RT de Braine

Mohamed, Naheedah (Industrial Psychology)

Minor dissertation: Decent work experiences of domestic

workers in South Africa **Supervisor:** Dr K Łaba

Molebatsi, Alinah Mammone (Strategic Human Resource Management)

Minor dissertation: The work identity of academic library

staff in the era of COVID-19 **Supervisor:** Prof RT de Braine **Co-Supervisor:** Dr CM Mabaso

Motara, Farzaana (Marketing Management)

Dissertation: Effects of Social Media Influencers on consumer purchase intentions of beauty products

Supervisor: Prof CF De Meyer-Heydenrych

Co-Supervisor: Dr N Cunningham

Nel, Sean Peter Jacques (Marketing Management) (with distinction)

Dissertation: Customer experience, satisfaction and loyalty

in the omni-channel retailing journey

Supervisor: Prof DK Maduku

Nkanyani, Michele Keitumetse (Leadership in Performance and Change)

Minor dissertation: The moderating effect of communication frequency on the relationship between leader-member exchange and psychological contract breach

Supervisor: Mr PD Chrysler-Fox

Pillay, Tertia (Leadership in Performance and Change) **Minor dissertation:** Middle level leadership influence on organisational culture in a cash management company

Supervisor: Prof N Dhanpat

Co-Supervisor: Prof RT de Braine

Sheppard, Nadine (Industrial Psychology)

Minor dissertation: Validation of the Decent Work Scale in

South Africa

Supervisor: Dr K Łaba

Stofile, Palesa Thandi (Leadership in Performance and Change)

Minor dissertation: Industry 4.0, work identity and new

ways of work

Supervisor: Prof RT de Braine **Co-Supervisor:** Prof N Dhanpat

Venter, Stephanie (Computer Auditing) **(with distinction) Minor dissertation:** Attitudes of accounting students towards experiential learning in ethics education

Supervisor: Mrs VC van Dyk

9. Master of Philosophy

Blechman, Alexa (Industrial Psychology) (with distinction)
Minor dissertation: Experiences of psychological Black Tax

by professionals in South African organisations

Supervisor: Ms L Sekaja

Cele, Khanyisile Pretty-Girl (Personal and Professional Leadership)

Minor dissertation: Responsible leadership practices to

sustain socio-economic transformation

Supervisor: Dr J Toendepi

Diko, Banzi (Industrial Psychology)

Minor dissertation: Experiences of Black Tax by professional

women in South Africa **Supervisor:** Ms L Sekaja

Gumbie, Anoziva Chemist (Human Resource Development) (with distinction)

Dissertation: The lived experiences of Zimbabwean HR

practitioners in urban local authorities

Supervisor: Prof N Dhanpat **Co-Supervisor:** Dr RM Joseph

Esterhuizen, Frans Nicolaas (Leadership in Emerging Economies)

Minor dissertation: Implications of personal purpose on

effective leadership

Supervisor: Dr J Toendepi

Kgoete, Oliviah Matlale (Personal and Professional Leadership)

Minor dissertation: Women leadership in the mining

industry

Supervisor: Dr J Toendepi

Lattuca, Tracy-Lee (Leadership Coaching) (with distinction) Minor dissertation: The development of a manager-ascoach framework to educate and enhance management coaching

Supervisor: Dr O Coetzee

Co-Supervisor: Prof LMM Hewitt

Loehmer, Curtis Ernst (Leadership Coaching) (with distinction)

Minor dissertation: The fostering of shared leadership in a

South African sports coaching context **Supervisor:** Dr LJ Janse van Rensburg **Co-Supervisor:** Prof LMM Hewitt

Mabanya, Phindile Kefoue (Industrial Psychology)

Minor dissertation: Men taxi drivers' perceptions of women

taxi drivers

Supervisor: Mrs MNR Mamathuba

Co-Supervisor: Ms L Sekaja

Machingambi, Molly (Personal and Professional Leadership)

Minor dissertation: Motivating staff towards higher performance in a non-governmental organisation

Supervisor: Dr J Toendepi

Moloi, Percy Thabiso Goodenough (Leadership in Emerging Economies)

Minor dissertation: The role of leadership styles in promoting connectedness and inclusivity in a diverse workplace

Supervisor: Dr J Toendepi

Nethononda, Angeline Baaitse Gaingalelwe (Leadership Coaching)

Minor dissertation: The value-add of a coaching intervention towards the promotion of women in the secondary education sector **Supervisor:** Dr J Toendepi

Niniganga, Tanyada Sandra (Personal and Professional Leadership)

Minor dissertation: Leadership challenges faced by women

in the public sector in Malawi **Supervisor:** Dr J Toendepi

Patel, Naeem (Personal and Professional Leadership) (with distinction)

Minor dissertation: Motivational career drivers of millennials in the management consulting industry

Supervisor: Prof LMM Hewitt

Tshabalala, Sindisiwe Pearl (Leadership Coaching) **Minor dissertation:** Development of an emerging higher

education leadership coaching framework

Supervisor: Dr J Toendepi

Victor, Bianca (Industrial Psychology)

Minor dissertation: The role of animal presence on employees' work-related stress during COVID-19

Supervisor: Prof C Mayer

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

QUALIFICATIONS

10. Doctor of Philosophy

Chiyangwa, Betty (Sociology)

Thesis: Second-generation Mozambican Migrant Youth's Identity and Sense of Belonging in South Africa: The Case of

Rural Bushbuckridge, Mpumalanga **Supervisor**: Prof P Rugunanan **Co-Supervisor**: Prof K Batisai

Geyer, Wesley (Philosophy)

Thesis: Towards a Truth-Sensitive Theory of Health

Supervisor: Prof B Smart

Jairam, Hmrithi (Psychology)

Thesis: Representations of Marriage and Infidelity in

Psychology: A Foucauldian Discourse Analysis of TED Talks

Supervisor: Dr S Ebrahim

Jiyane, Makhosazana Sibongiseni (Psychology)

Thesis: How Africa(n)-Centred Psychology Scholars Conceptualise Black Psychological Empowerment

Supervisor: Prof BR Barnes

Klarmann, Stephanie Emmy (Psychology)

Thesis: Wild Shots: Conservation, Education, and Capacity

Building Through Photography **Supervisor**: Prof BR Barnes

Konlan, Samson Sambian (Social Work)

Thesis: Contribution of the LEAP Cash Transfer Programme

to Sustainable Livelihoods of the Poor in the Northern

Region of Ghana

Supervisor: Prof T Raniga

Lekhelebana, Vuyokazi Anneline (Psychology)

Thesis: The Lived Experiences of Survivors of a Religious

Cult: A Phenomenological Study

Supervisor: Dr T Tlali

Lipeleke, Freddy (Sociology)

Thesis: The Lived Experiences of Young Adult Female Sex

Workers in Zimbabwe

Supervisor: Prof IA Palmary

Co-Supervisor: Prof P Rugunanan

Sibanda, Sehlaphi (Sociology)

Thesis: Gender as a Central Organising Axis of Power: Zimbabwean Women in the Restaurant Sector in

Johannesburg

Supervisor: Prof MS Hlatshwayo **Co-Supervisor**: Prof SU Ngcwangu

Van Der Merwe, Ragnar (Philosophy)

Thesis: Towards a Novel Pragmatist Alternative to Realist, Anti-realist and Pluralist Views in the Philosophy of Science

Supervisor: Prof AB Broadbent **Co-Supervisor**: Prof B Smart

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

DOCTORAL LAUDATIONS

Chiyangwa, Betty PhD (Sociology)

Betty Chiyangwa is a researcher in migration studies at the University of Johannesburg (UJ). She holds an undergraduate degree in Psychology, and Honours and Master's degrees in Development Studies from UJ. She is a member of the Golden Key Society and a recipient of the Global Excellence Stature 4.0 Scholarship. Betty works in the academic environment and has presented her research at national and international conferences, and published a book chapter on migrant education1 She has also worked with organisations such as the Mandela Institute for Development Studies, Buffelshoek Trust, Africa Tikkun, M&ESURE Research and Evaluation.

Her thesis explored the complexities of second-generation Mozambican migrant youth's lived experiences in how they construct their identities and develop a sense of belonging in post-apartheid South Africa. She employed a qualitative methodology with a phenomenological approach in collecting data. Findings revealed that identity formation and the development of a sense of belonging were marginalised in complex, intersectional and precarious ways, where participants constantly (re)negotiated daily experiences, shaped by their paradoxical migrant status in a host country.

Supervisor: Prof P Rugunanan **Co-Supervisor**: Prof K Batisai

Geyer, Wesley PhD (Philosophy)

Wesley Geyer is an emerging researcher working on developing theories about health and disease, with a specific focus on building a contextualist framework for defining health states in underrepresented reference class groups. His research interests include the application of artificial intelligence (AI) ethics to health policy, as well as Philosophy in Science, media, popular culture and humour. He has a passion for teaching, with a background in English as a Second Language (ESL) and a strong focus on public philosophy, having presented his research at a number of academic conferences and published a book chapter on the intersection of philosophy and pop culture.

The dominant debate in the philosophy of medicine since the discipline went mainstream in the 1970s, has focused on understanding the concept of disease. Having a robust theoretical understanding of what counts as a pathological condition has proven important in the fields of medicine, public health, welfare, and insurance, but whilst Christopher Boorse's 1977 Biostatistical theory laid the groundwork for much of the debate that followed, his naturalist conception is fraught with difficulties. Many philosophers have addressed problems with the Biostatistical theory with varying degrees of success, but in his thesis, Wesley Geyer provides a novel approach to two core concerns, namely the line drawing problem and the problem of reference classes. Geyer argues that the line drawing problem reduces the problem of vagueness, thereby providing valuable insights into the nature of the problem, and feasible means of

reducing the vagueness by introducing well-specified additional reference classes.

Supervisor: Prof B Smart

Jairam, Hmrithi PhD (Psychology)

Hmrithi Jairam is a Clinical Psychologist. She completed her bachelor's degree in Psychology at the University of Johannesburg (UJ) in 2007 where she was a member of the Golden Key International Honour Society. She passed her honours degree in Psychology at the University of South Africa (Unisa) in 2012. Having completed the Psychology MA programme at UJ in 2016, she graduated with distinction. She presented her dissertation findings at the 2nd Interdisciplinary Gender Conference in October 2016. Her internship was spent at the Fort Napier and Town Hill Hospitals in 2017. She completed her community service at the Far East Rand Hospital in 2019 before embarking on her PhD thesis.

This study drew on Foucauldian Theory to analyse TED Talks given by psychologists to determine current discourses utilised by the discipline of psychology to represent marriage and infidelity. As a dominant knowledge system, psychology's influence on marriage and infidelity has increased with the rise of and access to technology in the 21st century postmodern era. Psychological knowledge shared on media platforms such as TED Talks has played a role in the perpetuation and creation of certain central societal discourses and 'subject-positions' related to marriage and infidelity. Foucauldian Discourse Analysis enabled the investigation of three points of intersection: discourse, power, and subjectivity in marriage and infidelity. In terms of its theoretical contribution to the discipline of psychology, the study augmented Foucault's theory of subjectivity by elucidating a psychology of the subject. Having

implemented the main Foucauldian analytical threads as an archaeology of psychology and genealogy of marriage and infidelity, formulating a psychology of the spouse detailed by the subjectification of wives and husbands.

Supervisor: Dr S Ebrahim

Jiyane, Makhosazana Sibongiseni PhD (Psychology)

Makhosazana was born, raised, and educated in Soweto. She completed a BA degree in Psychology and Sociology at Wits University, a Post-Graduate Diploma at the Wits Business School, Honours in Psychology and a Master's degree in Clinical Psychology (cum laude) at the University of Johannesburg (UJ), where she undertook a qualitative study of anorexia nervosa in black females. She is a certified master training facilitator, team, and individual leadership development coach across a broad spectrum of corporate, parastatal and academic clients throughout Africa. She practices individual, couples and family therapy. She is a TV show host and resident radio show clinical psychologist.

The experience of slavery, colonisation and apartheid is a significant motif in the life history of African descendants. Black Psychology advocated the urgent need for liberation from mental slavery among American and diasporic Africans. Building on this, African Psychology echoed the pressing need for liberation from colonisation of the mind, including apartheid among continental Africans. This indicates that the broad canopy of Black/African psychology considers itself a key custodian in the psychological life of African descendants. In turn, it marks black psychological empowerment as important construct within this constituency. By exploring how Africa(n)-centred psychology scholars conceptualise construct of black psychological empowerment, this study strengthens the knowledge base of Africa(n)-centred psychology by turning the gaze on this cohort to reveal the different ways in which they conceptualise and position themselves in the broader discipline of psychology, and how they conceptualise this important construct within their corpus and practice.

Supervisor: Prof BR Barnes

Klarmann, Stephanie Emmy PhD (Psychology)

Stephanie Klarmann completed an Honours degree in Psychology at the University of South Africa (Unisa) in 2014 and a Master's degree in Counselling Psychology (with distinction) at the University of Johannesburg (UJ) in 2018. She enrolled for her doctoral studies at UJ in 2019 to pursue her research interests in conservation psychology. Based on her doctoral studies, the candidate has published one article in a psychology journal and presented papers at two conferences. Based on additional conservation research, she has also co-authored a second article for a zoological journal.

The candidate's doctoral research focused on developing an understanding of how conservation psychology could be made relevant in a South African context. To do this, her research brought together capacity building, photography, psychology within the sphere of conservation to foreground environmental justice. The research explored the experiences of a group of outreach participants living in the community of Bushbuckridge bordering the Kruger National Park, specifically to understand how they have experienced photographic training and conservation in the context of their historical experiences of marginalisation. Through the use of photovoice, she gained insight into the storytelling power of photography as a platform, to share stories and voice the participants' perspectives on conservation issues as part of a community marginalised under apartheid and still experiencing exclusion in the present day. The findings present a justice foregrounded in conservation

psychology that prioritises the wellbeing of people and the health of the environment with equal importance.

Supervisor: Prof BR Barnes

Konlan, Samson Sambian PhD (Social Work)

Mr Konlan has interdisciplinary academic experience. This comprises social work, development studies, environmental studies, health policy and education. Thus, Samson's research interest falls within the ambit of social development, connected to social policy, poverty alleviation and livelihoods. As a researcher Samson has extensive experience in qualitative and mixed methodology and has advanced skills in two social science statistical packages (SPSS and STATA). He is a hardworking, committed and determined individual who always strives to achieve goals timeously.

This qualitative, descriptive study adopted a sustainable livelihood approach to explore the contributions of the LEAP cash transfer programme to the poor in the Northern region of Samson conducted 36 in-depth interviews Ghana. beneficiaries and key informants. The themes that emerged from the study included positive livelihood capital benefits and livelihood capital challenges of beneficiaries. Community capital challenges were lack of good roads, hospitals, schools, markets which impeded livelihoods. Environmental and water. challenges such as drought, floods, pests, diseases, and health also identified. Policy suggestions included crises were harmonising Afrocentric strategies with formal social work strategies to enhance social protection services for the poor in Ghana. Recommendations are made for the cash transfer amount to be increased and paid out monthly. The LEAP programme should include asset transfer or food transfer

packages to help beneficiaries reduce poverty. Finally, work for cash is needed for young people from beneficiary households.

Supervisor: Prof T Raniga

Lekhelebana, Vuyokazi Anneline PhD (Psychology)

Vuyo Lekhelebana is registered with the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA) as a Counselling Psychologist. She is currently a psychologist in private practice in Gqberha. She holds a BSc degree in Psychology from Rhodes University, a Master's degree in Business Administration (MBA) and a Master's degree in Counselling Psychology from the Nelson Mandela University. As practicing psychologist, her areas of interest are personality development and the psychology of religion and cognitive psychology. Before venturing into full-time psychology practice, Vuyo worked for various corporate entities in the field of behavioural change management and consulting.

The study explored the experiences of a disbanded religious cult. The research concluded that cult affiliation was due to an interplay between an affective bond with the cult leaders, a compelling religious ideology, a tightly regulated environment, and a close-knit social group. Importantly, leaving a cult setting does not necessarily liberate a person from the ongoing impact of the cult. This continued commitment to church ethos beyond its disbandment is attributable to numerous factors including upholding the exalted status of the leaders, an incessant belief in the church's ideology, and lack of meaningful social contact with the outside world. A combination of these factors creates sufficient conditions for continued existence in a closed system resembling a cult, that hinders adjustment and reintegration. In a context that is increasingly characterised by incidents of religious exploitation, this study makes a significant contribution

to an understanding of the psychosocial needs of former cult members.

Supervisor: Dr T Tlali

Lipeleke, Freddy **PhD** (Sociology)

Freddy Lipeleke is a social researcher with experience in field coordination and data collection. He holds a Master's in Social Development from the University of Cape Town (UCT). He has vast experience working with both local and international NGOs in Zimbabwe. Freddy has been working with marginalized communities, including young female sex workers and key populations in HIV prevention, care, and treatment.

This study explored the lived experiences of young female sex workers in Zimbabwe, informed by a qualitative approach and Gagnon's sexual script theory, aimed Simon and understanding how women involved in sex work constructed meaning out of the sexual scripts that form and influence their behaviour in the industry, and how these scripts have evolved in different contexts. By constructing what they do as a form of ordinary employment, the sex workers distance themselves from the dominant discourses of sex work, which are stigmatised and victim-centered, thus challenging existing (re)presentations of sex work as a site of immorality, poverty, and struggles. These narratives functioned to negotiate and navigate dominant stereotypes about themselves by bringing in multiple competing representations.

Supervisor: Prof IA Palmary

Co-Supervisor: Prof P Rugunanan

Sibanda, Sehlaphi PhD (Sociology)

Sehlaphi Sibanda graduated from the University of Witwatersrand (Wits) with a MA in Development Studies in 2008. In 2004, she earned a BA Honours degree in History and Development Studies from Zimbabwe's Midlands State University. In addition to her academic credentials, Sehlaphi is a social justice activist who has worked in a number of social justice organisations in Zimbabwe and South Africa.

Sibanda's thesis, which deployed qualitative methods, adopted precarious resistance as its conceptual framework. Precarious resistance is analytically useful because it captures a holistic migration experience, from the decision to migrate to living in Johannesburg. Precarious resistance as a conceptual framework was useful in explaining the various forms of precarious working and living conditions of migrant women. Findings of this study may be classified under three broad categories: survival skills, transferable skills, and political skills. These three categories apply across the three migration moments. While the research identified themes that are consistent with existing literature, the study also produced pioneering findings across all moments. The research captured some of the most cutting-edge forms of resistance. The study found that migrant women are agentic beings within the migration process who exercise precarious resistance strategies to defeat, elude, evade, deceive, dodge, bypass, circumvent, and acculturate to assimilate in, and adapt to the system.

Supervisor: Prof MS Hlatshwayo **Co-Supervisor**: Prof SU Ngcwangu

Van Der Merwe, Ragnar PhD (Philosophy)

Ragnar van der Merwe's research interests are in the philosophy of science, philosophy of truth, pragmatism, and complexity science. His PhD thesis focused on questions related to how we can have knowledge of the world, given its complex nature, and most importantly, what this can tell us about scientific progress and scientific truth. Some of the journals where Ragnar has published include Axoimathes, Foundations of Science, and Journal for General Philosophy of Science. He has given talks at seminars hosted by, among others, Bath University, Kent University, University of Connecticut, and University of Vienna.

In this thesis, Van der Merwe investigated realist, anti-realist, and pluralist views in the philosophy of science and the philosophy of complexity. He argued that the philosophy of science can inform the philosophy of complexity and vice versa, because we can consider scientific inquiry to largely involve the study of complex systems. However, he found that the relevant realist, anti-realist, and pluralist views are problematic in various ways, and that a version of pragmatism could suggest a promising alternative. This version of pragmatism incorporates elements of pluralism, but maintains a commitment to epistemic hierarchy, convergence, and progress. The way to develop such a version of pragmatism would depend on rebooting William Whewell's 19th-century philosophy of science.

Van der Merwe completed this PhD by writing no fewer than seven articles (three more than required for a PhD), and during the course of his doctoral study, had six articles accepted for publication in peer-reviewed journals.

Supervisor: Prof AB Broadbent **Co-Supervisor**: Prof B Smart



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