



ACCOUNTING MATTERS @UCT

COLLEGE OF ACCOUNTING



Newsletter

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Editor's Note

Welcome to the first revived issue of Accounting Matters @UCT

I am Zeenat Wormald, I joined UCT on 16 January 2023 as a lecturer in the College of Accounting. When I first heard the idea of reviving the College of Accounting newsletter from Ilse Lubbe, our Head of Department, my first reaction was panic! The big question for me and I am sure for you as well is "What can readers gain from reading this newsletter?"

My goal with every issue is to inform, educate, entertain and inspire by:

- Sharing relevant news both inside and outside of the College of Accounting,
- Being a source of collaboration and knowledge sharing,
- Building team spirit and
- Inspiring through acknowledging our achievements individually and as a team.

IN THIS ISSUE we take a look at an article by the University of Cambridge on the impact of AI on education, open our minds to the different ways we can teach from a book called "A Black Child Transformed by Accounting" and we look at how sustainability influences university choices of students.

Last but not least, we get to know and celebrate the people who make up the college, their achievements, their contribution and their dedication to education and transformation in more ways than one.

We also learn about initiatives that benefit the community driven by the people in our College and how you can get involved.

I hope you enjoy this issue.

Zeenat Wormald

Editor-in-Chief

Message from the Head of Department



We are incredibly grateful to our exceptional academics, academic trainees and administrative staff for their resilience and continued commitment to delivering the academic project while navigating the new learning environment. Their expertise, passion, and dedication as a team are truly commendable.

We are committed to transformational support for students and staff. Our curriculum is undergoing significant changes to include the competencies of the professional accountant of the future. These changes aim to improve the educational quality and integration of the respective courses to provide students with relevant and practical accounting knowledge and competencies required in the world of work while also aiming to achieve a balanced workload.

Our pedagogy, including lectures, practical exercises and interactive tutorials, engage students and foster their critical thinking and problem-solving skills. While we continue to monitor the participation levels of the students, we observe a significant increase in student engagement and work ethic. However, student funding remains a challenge. The College works closely with

the UCT Careers Office to assist in identifying and helping students without NSFAS or other bursaries. Furthermore, we continue to obtain FASSET funding to assist undergraduate Coloured and Black African students who are not assisted through NSFAS.

To support first-year students in financial literacy and budgeting, we have established a Money Matters programme that includes training the Academic Trainees as money mentors.

The College not only remains committed to excellence in teaching and learning but has also shown noteworthy improvements in research and scholarship. This is only possible with the collective efforts of a highly dedicated and motivated team.



A/Prof Ilse Lubbe, PhD, (CA)SA
Head: College of Accounting



Introducing The College of Accounting

The College's vision to be a center of excellence in the education of future professional accountants aligns with the Commerce Faculty's strategic vision of Care and Transformation, in addition to the three core pillars of UCT's Vision 2030: Sustainability, Excellence and Transformation.

The College of Accounting ('the College') offers undergraduate, postgraduate, and professional accounting programs and ongoing support on the journey toward obtaining the CA(SA) designation.

The undergraduate programmes

- B Com (Financial Accounting) and
- B Bus Sc (Finance with Accounting)

Post Graduate programmes

- Post Graduate Diploma in Accounting (PGDA)
- Master of Commerce programmes
- PHD programmes

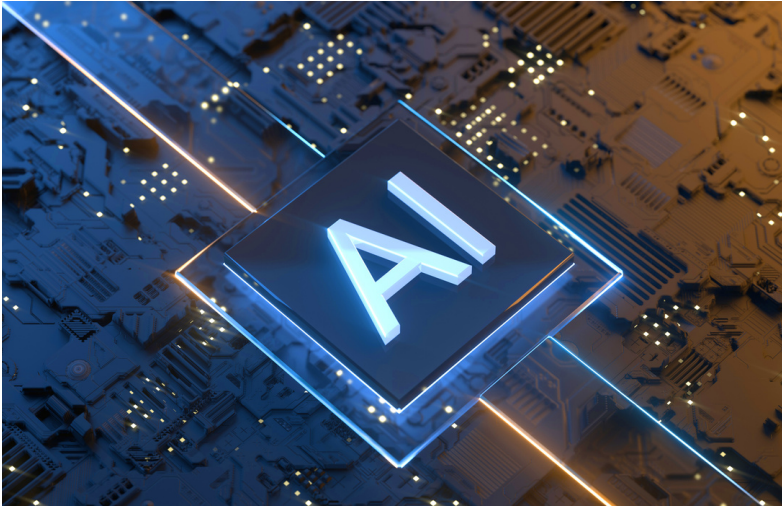
UCT Professional Programmes (PPs)

- ITC (Initial Test of Competence) and APC (Assessment of Professional Competence) programmes.

Programmes are accredited by several professional accounting institutions, such as SAICA, SAIPA, ACCA and CIMA.

COFFEE

conversations



ChatGPT (we need to talk)

Article By Tom Kirk

Published: 5 April 2023

Source: <https://www.cam.ac.uk/stories/ChatGPT-and-education>

EXTRACT FROM ARTICLE:

"Since its public release at the end of 2022, ChatGPT – the artificial intelligence chatbot developed by OpenAI – has experienced rapid growth and widespread adoption. Its role in education, however, remains a topic of contention.

While some view it as a tool to enhance learning and reduce teacher workload, others see it as a threat to integrity which opens the door to cheating and plagiarism.

In this Q&A, two researchers from the Faculty of Education offer a more nuanced perspective on the opportunities, challenges and possibilities of ChatGPT.

Dr Vaughan Connolly is a teacher and researcher with interests in the role of technology in education and teacher workload. "

[CLICK HERE](#) to read the full article



Do you think the topic you teach is boring?

Could we use other fun ways to teach subjects typically known to be "boring"? The book "A Black Child Transformed by Accounting" uses poetry to explain accounting principles to students. The author, Botshelo Mhomboti, an accounting clerk, is determined to make learning fun for students.

[CLICK HERE](#) to watch the SABC News interview of the Author.



The value of sustainability in students' university choice

Article By Pete Moss

Published: 11 March 2023

Source:

<https://www.universityworldnews.com/>

"According to Times Higher Education research, prospective international students are more likely to choose a university based on its commitment to sustainability than for its location. Considering that a global survey..."

[CLICK HERE](#) to read the full article



There is light at the end of the tunnel for load shedding in South Africa: economists

Article By Luke Fraser

Published: 5 June 2023

Source:

<https://www.universityworldnews.com/>



"Despite the downbeat economic environment, South Africans can be hopeful as there are indications that load-shedding will start to ease in the foreseeable future..." **[CLICK HERE](#)** to read the full article

BE inspired

100%

FIRST-TIME UCT
WRITERS ITC PASS
RATE (NATIONAL
AVERAGE 93%)



SHAUN PARSONS
2022 PHD, BOOK AUTHOR, 2022/2023 TWO
PUBLICATIONS



GIZELLE WILLOWS
2023 KW JOHNSTON CHAIR
2022/2023 FOUR PUBLICATIONS

97%

OVERALL ITC PASS
RATE FOR UCT
(NATIONAL
AVERAGE 75%)



MAGON GAJEWSKI
2023 PGDIP IN HIGHER EDUCATION STUDIES



TARYN MILLER
2022 PHD AND 2023 PUBLICATION

[CLICK HERE
FOR LINKS TO
2022/2023
RESEARCH
PUBLICATIONS](#)

73%

FIRST-TIME UCT
WRITERS APC PASS
RATE (NATIONAL
AVERAGE 60%)



SHELLY HERBERT
2022/2023 SIX PUBLICATIONS



ILSE LUBBE
PUBLISHED A CHAPTER IN A BOOK BY WCED

70%

OVERALL APC PASS
RATE FOR UCT
(NATIONAL
AVERAGE 58%)



MAJEFF MPHAHLELE
2023 ITC HONORS ROLL



EVAN WALKER
2023 ITC HONORS ROLL

IN THE EXTRA-ORDINARY *course of business*



New course:

BUSINESS ACUMEN FOR ACCOUNTANTS

BY SHELLY HERBERT

The first semester of 2023 saw the introduction of our new first-year course, Business Acumen for Accountants. The **course was developed as a result of SAICA's new CA2025 competency framework** and seeks to introduce students to business, **integrated thinking and sustainable value creation**.

As with any new course, the first running wasn't without hiccups. But we are indebted to our team who so patiently worked with us to deliver a course that has stretched all of us that were involved. **We have had much positive feedback from students and staff, and we look forward to building on our experiences this semester** to continue to create value for our students!



EDU INDUCTION WEEK AND GRADUATION

BY CARLA FOURIE

EDU Induction week took place in February 2023 and was rounded off by the EDU Fun Day; both playing a huge role in instilling the **EDU culture - care, community, voice, diversity, inclusivity, support, identity, commitment, accountability and hard work**.

The last week of **March saw the Autumn Graduation where 247 EDU students were capped**. In partnership with Investec, we held our first official graduation celebration, and it was a celebration indeed!

The hard work, dedication, and perseverance of the graduates as well as the longstanding and committed work of the EDU, was acknowledged, and celebrated through praise poetry, song, and an inspirational address from Setlogane Manchidi, the head of Investec's Corporate Social Investment team. We were also honoured to be joined by June Pym, who initiated the partnership with Investec over 10 years ago.



IN THE EXTRA-ORDINARY

course of business



TUTOR TRAINING

BY MARIAM BARDIEN

The College of Accounting re-introduced face-to-face tutor training for our student tutors in 2023 after a two-year break due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Feedback from course evaluations:

- I ENJOYED IT SO MUCH.
- There's so much more to consider when being a tutor.
- It was more valuable than what I was expecting.
- I will not be as nervous when I am going to tutor.
- It was so lovely to meet so many new and wonderful people that I probably would never have met without the tutor experience.
- I can't wait to work with the College of Accounting you guys are truly inspiring <3

The three-day program provided holistic support for seventy-five tutors across four subject areas as they enter into the teaching and learning space.

The sessions included **practical communicative and teaching tools in addition to a session on personal values and ethics** to address the conflicts that may emerge for tutors and a **workshop on inclusivity**. The tutors had an opportunity to implement the facilitation skills they developed over three days with constructive feedback shared by the course-convenors.

We thank all the lecturers and administrative staff who played a vital role in the success of our Tutor Training program this year. **We extend our gratitude to all our tutors** who have committed to being agents of change by sharing their knowledge and expertise with our students.



MORE THAN *JUST ACADEMICS*

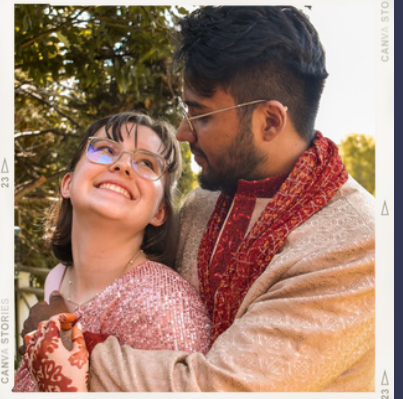
**DAKI - PET OF
THE SEMESTER** [CLICK HERE
FOR VIDEO](#)



BABY ASHER ADAMS



**WEDDING
KATE & RAHUL**



UCT OPEN DAY



BABY LAVANGEE



**WEDDING
OLIVIA & RUSSELL**



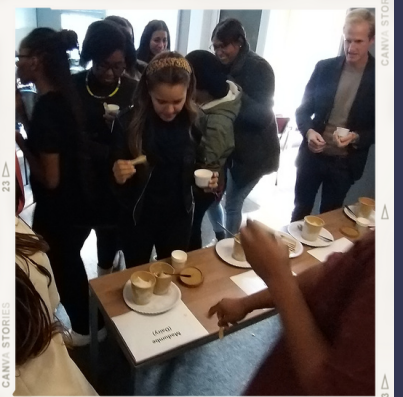
CoA IFTAAR



CoA EASTER



**COMMERCE ENGAGE
TAPI TAPI ICE-CREAM**



MORE THAN *just academics*

Q&A

with the newbies

1. What did you want to be when you were a kid?
2. What is your other talent that some people may not know about?
3. Pull out your phone, what is your most used emoji?
4. What movie made you laugh the hardest?
5. Please share one thing on your bucket list



Boitumelo
DIALE
.....

From a township in Pretoria called Soshanguve. Taught grades 8-12 at San Souci Girls High School. Joined UCT for the great growth opportunity. Loves engaging with students & loves that her job is not desk bound.

1. Doctor/ Teacher
2. Presenting/Hosting (emceeing) events.
3. 🤔 (crying & laughing)
4.I hardly watch movies. I will do better.
5. To travel abroad & to attend WTG Media House's voice over artist's training sessions.

1. Ironically, I never imagined I would go into business. I told people I would be a poet, a writer and possibly a Professor in English
2. I write books for kids in my spare time and I am a poet
3. ♥ I feel darkness is all around yes but if we focus on love this to can grow into a powerful force.
4. I remember as a kid it was Home Alone & Dr Dolittle
5. I hope to publish my books and poetry at some stage

Zeenaat
JHAVERI
.....

From Durban, lived there most of her life. Combination of corporate and academic experience. Worked for UKZN. Contracted to UCT from 2021, now permanent. Loves the work at UCT, it is rewarding to share knowledge and develop skills in our students.



MORE THAN *just academics*

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Zeenat
WORMALD

Capetonian, originally from Grassy Park. UCT Alumni. 13 years of corporate experience. Articles at EY, specialised in VAT at PwC and ended off a 9 year career at Liberty as a Senior Tax Manager. Joined UCT to help improve lives through education as she feels the UCT staff did that for her.

1. *Fashion designer and singer*
2. *I love designing, drafting sewing patterns & sewing women's clothing*
3. ❤️
4. *Get Hard with Kevin Hart and Will Ferrell*
5. *At some stage I want to revive my clothing brand, Maashuma and use it to support South African women in business in disadvantaged communities.*

Sibusisiwe
MAQHUBELA

1. *I was quite good in Maths and so I wanted to be a Maths teacher. This was also motivated by the fact that my mother, my grandfather and my aunt are Maths teachers.*
2. *I can sing. No one will ever hear me singing, so you will have to take my word for it 😊*
3. 🎧
4. *Just go with it*
5. *I want to travel to Paris*

Born & bred in Mthatha, Eastern Cape. Lived in Joburg for the past 13 years.

Articles at Auditor General & group accountant at Bidvest Mc Carthy. "Teaching feels like I am living my purpose". Being a UCT alumni, joined UCT as they care about their students & to be part of the team that contributed to her own journey of being a CA(SA). Loves helping students apply themselves to get to the answer



MORE THAN *just academics*

GET TO KNOW THE ACADEMIC TRAINEES



**VINOLIA
RAVELE**

I Just love football. It's The Reds or Nothing. Obviously believe that there is only one football king and that is the Egyptian King, Salah :)



**TOSHEEN
MAHARAJ**

I enjoy silence. I'm also a sneakerhead



**RUVIMBO
MAPENDERE**

I'm a book fanatic, obsessed with escapism and any game that challenges me mentally.



**SHALOM
NGOBENI**

Best believe I'll use every opportunity I get to make it known that I am Tsonga, and I am from Limpopo... and to always remind you to choose yourself always!



**ROGAN
WIGET- BEATTIE**

I enjoy being outdoors, doing a variety of sports. I enjoy a Saturday afternoon braai with friends.



**PRANESH
SUKHA**

I enjoy learning about history, and I've probably seen every WW2 movie there is (yes, I have already booked tickets for Oppenheimer) Rumor is I have a doppelganger, others call him Dylan



**MPILO
VILAKAZI**

I really enjoy cooking and baking. I will never turn down an invitation for an outing to find a good bottle of wine!



**MATTHEW
BROOKS**

I once failed an exam because of a girl. If I'm not napping, I'm reading a fantasy book. Visca Barca!



**JUNSUB
LEE**

I'm the original Asian in the office. I am caffeine addicted. I feel like sleeping is a waste of time.



**MAJEFF
MPHAHLELE**

I have a lot of haters so that's why I always wear my air-pods. Apparently, I am intimidating. I believe in my grind .

MORE THAN *just academics*

GET TO KNOW THE ACADEMIC TRAINEES



**DYLAN
NAICKER**

I taught myself to play guitar when I was in high school.



**LINDELA
MALAMBE**

Give me a good book, a cup of tea and a rainy winter day anytime! Stephen King is indeed the King of horror.



**KATE
SCHOLTZ**

My hobby is collecting hobbies. Some examples are scuba diving, painting, running an art club and ballet.



**MARIANIE
KAPENDA**

In aggregate I know 3 ½ languages, granted these languages have their moments. 'Mangez bien, riez souvent, aimez beaucoup' - my life motto



**EVAN
WALKER**

I betrayed UP to be here and I am loving every minute of it!



FATIEMA TEXEIRA

I love Greek and Egyptian Mythology. I watch series on 1.5x speed with subtitles and I have flexible arms. My art skills are a solid 6/10 ;)



**BONGANI
MAKHUBU**

I talk to anyone, anywhere... apparently, maybe that's why I learnt some basic programming languages. Playing football and making music are my other worldly experiences.



KAREN WU

I'm the other Asian and no, I don't know kung fu. My name may be Karen but I'm not a "Karen". If I see panda merchandise, I'm buying it.



ADHIR SINGH

I know the answer to life: 42. Google it.



My time at UCT will always be a very special phase in my life. It has been a long and wonderful journey. I leave with lifelong memories and I hope the relationships and the friendships will endure for many years to come. I wish the College of Accounting much success in the coming years. Thank you, enkosi, ke a leboga, ndiyabonga, ndiyabulela, rho livhuwa, ha khensa, dankie, shukran!

Asia Brey

RETIREMENT Q&A

When did you start at UCT?

13 February 1984

What do you remember about your first day?

I was excited to join UCT, my alma mater. The excitement was tinged with nervousness. I was enthusiastic and curious about the work environment, nature of the job and future colleagues.

How long have you worked in various departments?

- **12 years** working in the different branches of the Jagger Library (now the Chancellor Oppenheimer Library)
- **1996** I joined the Department of Religious Studies
- **1998** Faculty of Humanities in 1998
- For the **past 22 years**, The College of Accounting has been my home- from- home

Any particular event/s that you will never forget from your time at UCT?

The changes at UCT have been phenomenal. With the formation of the **Rhodes Must Fall and Fees Must Fall Movements** we have come full circle and the transformation that was spoken about years ago is now being realised. **UCT is becoming a place that truly celebrates diversity and is welcoming to all** and it is a privilege to be part of this transformation.

UCT Fire on 18 April 2021. It was a day of unspeakable tragedy as a runaway wildfire gutted large parts of campus, including the historic Jagger Library. **I started my working career in the Jagger Library. Watching it going up in flames was indeed distressing and sad.**

What will you miss the most about working at UCT?

The academic environment which provides a rich working experience, the opportunity to work with a huge diversity of people ranging in ages and backgrounds from students to Academic Trainees (ATs), to PASS Staff to the range of service providers. I have found great fulfilment and career satisfaction in seeing young people grow and develop.

What do you envision doing on the very first day of retirement?

My first day of retirement is going to be a complex set of mixed emotions. Retirement morning will definitely be an extra hour or two in bed, especially if it is raining.

What are your plans after UCT?

I hope to spend more time with my family and friends. It is also the perfect time to grow my Atchar (pickle) and wool business which I am passionate about.



I now stand on the threshold of retirement... It has been a pleasant journey which outshone the occasional challenges. I've built beautiful friendships along the way, some of which feel like family. I take wonderful memories along with me of those I leave behind at the college and those who have already left, some retired, some in their eternal resting place. I will remember the relationships I have built with the students and the pleasure of interacting with them. Some viewed me as their fairy God Mother when I released funds for their education and some hailed from the areas of Zululand accepting me as their UCT Mother. THANK YOU to those who have walked the walk with me in making my life at UCT an interesting one. Lastly, I give thanks to our Heavenly Father who granted me this opportunity for the past 27 years of being of service to UCT.

Eugenia Lodewyks

RETIREMENT Q&A

When did you start at UCT?

1 May 1996 and worked for UCT for 27 years but broken service. In 2009 I left UCT to do SAP private consulting and in those 7 years, every year I came back to assist with UCT Debtors Department external audit.

What do you remember about your first day?

Walking up to UCT upper campus from the Baxter with a computer box going to find the CS building, in order for them to set-up the computer. I then worked from an off-campus office in Athlone.

How long have you worked in various departments?

Most of my UCT years was spent in the Finance Department from Grant Officer to Debtors Manager. I also spent time in:

- Health Sciences with the late Prof Baqwa
- Financial officer in the then called Research Office
- Research supervisor in Debtors department
- Consultant to UCT SAP office on a system still used today
- Project Administrator in the CoA

Any particular event/s that you will never forget from your time at UCT?

Walking with a computer box from the Baxter to the CS building as I did not know how to get to upper campus.

You must have had many colleagues in your time at UCT, anyone (or more than one person) that you had an extra special bond with?

Yes, I had a very good working bond with Dallas Heynes, she worked in the then called SAP Office and thanks to her and UCT, today I am a SAP Sales & Distribution consultant. BUT I must say - my extra special bond I have is with Eleanor Williams, our now retired Office Manager. With her our relationship was not just work but family as well and today we are still friends.

What will you miss the most about working at UCT?

The students and the challenges I have to overcome together with them for example having babies, trying to commit suicide, not having a calculator etc.

What do you envision doing on the very first day after your last day at work?

Probably go to the study to start working, forgetting that I am retired, LOL What does retirement morning look like? Sleeping late for the next 6 months.

What are you plans after UCT?

Visiting my grandchildren in New Zealand. I may even relocate to be with them.



MONEY MATTERS

BY ZEENAT JHAVERI

Money Matters is an exciting transformational project intended on promoting money management and financial literacy to students. The initiative introduces students (both within the college and within other faculties) to tools such as budgets and vision boards that enhance their decision making around managing their money in a wise and sustainable manner.



"Money Matters" also aims to build an environment of sharing ideas on various theoretical concepts that influence money management e.g. the benefits of savings and dangers of interest in a perpetual debt trap.

THE COLLEGE *Cares*

The roll out in terms of our implementation strategy will begin in semester two. **A big thank you to:**

- All our AT's for their exceptional work and enthusiasm in pioneering this project.
- Kate Scholtz for taking a lead role and
- Everyone in the College who has provided valuable advice and guidance every step of the way.

We hope and pray that through this venture we see enhancements in the quality of life of our mentee students at UCT, as they embrace this concept and make wise decisions with the funds allocated to them.



Join the Winter Clothing Drive

A Legacy of Love is a foundation rooted in wanting to uplift people, through love, that are less privileged than we are
By Shalom Ngobeni

We collect and **donate clothes, blankets, shoes and non-perishables to underprivileged children and learners in rural communities** around Limpopo, Tzaneen. The **drive runs all year-round** and we humbly accept any donations that people offer.

**A LEGACY OF
LOVE
FOUNDATION**

James 2:15-17

DONATE

For Upper campus collections please call/text Shalom on 0631544450 and Shiluva on 0837467409.

JOB hacks

This is a knowledge sharing space where we can share useful information and tools to help us with administration tasks, organisation and where and how to find the help we need.

For all UCT admin forms, click [HERE](#)



By Asia Brey

Can't keep track of your To-Do list?

Save your To-Do list on the home screen of your phone!

[CLICK HERE](#) for Android
[CLICK HERE](#) for Apple



By Riyaan Davids



COMMERCE IT

How do I log a support request?

- You can either email the Commerce IT Helpdesk at commercehelpdesk@uct.ac.za

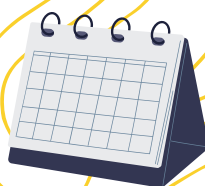
1



Or you can log an online call through the [UCT Service Portal](#) by following the steps below:

1. Navigate to <https://uct.service-now.com/sp>
2. Log on using your UCT username and password.

2



Commerce student support

- Commerce student support helpdesks.
- Hardware and software support (Windows, Apple, and Android devices).
- Student account management and network connectivity support.

3



Commerce staff support

- Hardware and software support (Windows, Apple, and Android devices).
- Staff account management and network connectivity support.
- Telephone Services (VoIP) support.

4

Commerce IT Office Hours

Support: Monday to Friday, 08h00 to 16h00

Email:

commercehelpdesk@uct.ac.za

Tel: +27 (0)21 650 3858

(Commerce IT Helpdesk)

5



TEACHING *Tips*



By Goolam Modack

Overall we aim to:

- Create a culture of care through a supportive and nurturing learning environment where students feel free to make mistakes and not feel like it is the end of the world.
- Be consistent.
- Make the links and relationships between concepts and topics more explicit.
- Adopt a more unencumbered teaching approach for example being more flexible to speed up or slow down depending on where the students are at rather than focused solely on getting through the content.

By Jacqueline Dean



Knowledge checks during the lecture or at the end of the lecture has been valuable. It gives students the opportunity to test their understanding through their ability to rephrase principles learnt in their own words. It is a great tool for lecturers to get an idea of where students are struggling or if they understand the concept.



A BIG *Thank You*

to all the CoA staff for your contributions to this newsletter! We could not have done it without you!

From, your small but mighty *Editorial team*



Zeenat



Tumi



Kate



Mpilo

Give us feedback

**Please complete a quick 3
minute survey to help us make
the next issue better.**

[CLICK HERE](#)