



ACCOUNTING MATTERS @UCT

COLLEGE OF ACCOUNTING



Newsletter

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Editor's Note

Welcome to the final issue of
Accounting Matters @UCT for 2023

W

elcome to the last newsletter of the year! My first year as an academic, although challenging, made me realise three things. First, I work with people who

are committed to the success of the students at UCT. Second, being an academic is truly a labour of love. Third, I am blessed to be a part of it.

As the year winds down, although it is important to reflect on the year and identify areas of improvement, it is equally important to acknowledge and celebrate our accomplishments.

My goal remains the same with every issue - To inform, educate, entertain and inspire readers 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 continue to get to know and celebrate our multitalented people who make up the college, their achievements, their contribution and their dedication to education and transformation in more ways than one.

We learn that UCT ranks 50th in the world for sustainability, we learn about the social and transformational contributions UCT has made in 2023 and the achievements of our students. There are also research hacks and teaching tips and so much more. I hope you enjoy this issue!

Have a happy end to 2023 and a blessed start to 2024. All my best,

Zeenat Woermald

Editor-in-Chief

Message from the Head of Department



As we approach the end of another academic year, it is with great pride and gratitude that I reflect on the whirlwind of activity that has defined the College over the past months. The 2023 academic year has been remarkable for the College, marked by challenges met with resilience, innovation and a collective commitment to academic excellence. This required resilience and dedication from each staff member, and I thank you.

Teaching and Learning Excellence

Amidst continuous course and curriculum changes, we ensured that the students remained our focus. Know that your creativity, innovation, and student-centred approaches support the learning experiences of our students. Whether in-person or online, your dedication to fostering a positive and engaging educational environment has not gone unnoticed.

Collaboration and Teamwork

Despite a busy schedule, collaboration remained a cornerstone of our success. The support and camaraderie among colleagues have created a vibrant and nurturing community; this was visible within a course, across cohorts, within a programme, and between academic and administrative staff. I am grateful for the teamwork that has enabled us to overcome challenges and work towards our shared goals.

Research and scholarship

We continue to produce research and scholarship output, although this is only one of our primary focuses. Congratulations to every person who drafted, prepared, submitted or presented a research paper this year. From

publishing in esteemed journals to presenting at conferences, your intellectual pursuits have enriched our academic community and positioned us as leaders in our respective disciplines.

Leadership and social responsiveness

Our initiatives have fostered a dynamic and socially responsible environment, whether through demonstrating that money matters, servicing non-profit organisations, or encouraging school children to reach for the stars. This was done with a deep sense of commitment and care.

Looking Ahead

As we conclude this academic year, let us take a moment to celebrate our achievements and express gratitude for the collective effort that has brought us to this point. Yet, much work is still ahead. Thank you for your hard work, dedication, and passion for education. I am wishing you a restful and rejuvenating break.

Warm wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ilse Lubbe".

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.



UCT ranks 50th in the world for sustainability

Article By UCT staff writer
Published: 12 December 2023
Source: <https://www.news.uct.ac.za/>

EXTRACT FROM ARTICLE:

"The key to the SDGs' sustainability and success lies in their adoption and implementation by local stakeholders. The focus and emphasis of UCT's Vision 2030 is to become an institution that serves Africa and its unique needs while contributing new knowledge with global reach.

"We have a strong commitment to 'walk our talk' both at home on our campus, in our communities, and abroad. This integrated vision, intentionally, embodies both the frameworks of the SDGs and the African Union's Agenda 2063, the latter of which provides continent-specific goals. Overall, our performance in this ranking demonstrates our commitment to building a sustainable global future, using these frameworks as a guiding tool in our actions towards tackling global challenges," Harrison added.

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

→ ACCA SA's new pathway to audit specialisation

Article By: Katja Hamilton
Published: 19 July 2023
Source: <https://www.bizcommunity.com/>

Extract from article:
"Initial feedback from stakeholder engagement around the process has been positive, acknowledging the need for multiple professional bodies to broaden the pipeline for students and trainees to enter the audit profession." [CLICK HERE](#) to read the full article.



→ Transformation, not the World Cup, may be Rassie's greatest legacy

Article By Brenden Nel
Published: 12 October 2023
Source: <https://supersport.com/>

Extract from article:
"If you talk about transformation in any other country in the world, in any other place, it means change."

These words have been key for Erasmus, who despite the complex nature of the South African landscape, recognised the need for change.." [CLICK HERE](#) for the full article.

→ Call for compulsory government service for chartered accountants in South Africa

Article By Staff Write
Published: 12 July 2023

Extract from article:
"BDO South Africa, a group providing audit and assurance services, has urged the government to bring more skilled accountants to the public sector to tackle the country's structural issues". [CLICK HERE](#) to read the full article.

BE inspired

SAICA

ACCREDITED UCT'S
ACCOUNTING
PROGRAMMES



SAPHO GWADISO
SAAA AWARD BEST FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING
& REPORTING PAPER IN THE REFEREED TRACK



ILSE LUBBE
SAAA AWARD FOR THE BEST NON-REFEREED
PAPER & PROMOTED TO FULL PROFESSOR

APT

BOARD COURSE
ACCREDITED BY SAICA



SHELLY HERBERT
SAAA AWARD BEST ACCOUNTING
EDUCATION SHOW & TELL PRESENTATION



JACQUELINE KEW
SAAA AWARD BEST ACCOUNTING
EDUCATION SHOW & TELL PRESENTATION

2

UCT COLLEGE OF
ACCOUNTING 2023
MCOM GRADUATES



MALILIMALO PHASWANA
PROMOTED TO SENIOR LECTURER



ANTHEA OSBORNE
PROMOTED TO ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

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



TONIELLE PRINCE
2023 MCOM FRAG GRADUATE



PHILANI THUSINI
2023 MCOM FRAG GRADUATE

STUDENT Achievements

JSE

INVESTMENT CHALLENGE



CATHERINE DUNN, COURTNEY
BAARD, SHANA DONSON &
NATALIE LANGEVELD

JSE celebrated 50 years of its annual investment challenge, in which students from schools and universities across the country participate.

This year a group of UCT students, sponsored through a partnership with InvestSoc and the JSE, participated in the virtual investing challenge. The team placed second in the country in the ETF/ETN portfolio competition and attended the JSE awards ceremony in Johannesburg.

Nedbank

BAG PRESENTATION



IFEOMA DINKA AND TAARIQ
MOOLA MEMBERS OF THE INTEL
GROUP

Business Analysis and Governance affectionately regarded as BAG culminates in a final presentation to the sponsors of this year's prize, Nedbank.

The presentation is based on their final submission of who their given company has merged with. By completing this last assignment and engaging in Mergers and Acquisition deals, the student team named Intel emerged triumphant!

Kopano

BURSARY AWARD WINNER



LIRON DAVID FREEMAN
(RECIPIENT OF KOPANO BURSARY)
AND SURE MATARAMVURA
(KOPANO RESIDENCE WARDEN)

The A2A Kopano Bursary, established by a Kopano Alumni from the Class of 1967, aims to support students pursuing a career in Chartered Accountancy.

The inaugural recipient of this bursary is Liron David Freedman, a second year BCom student specializing in the Chartered Accounting stream at the College of Accounting, currently residing at Kopano Residence. Bursaries provided through this programme typically range from R25,000 to R40,000 per student annually.

IN THE EXTRA-ORDINARY

course of business



APC Board Course:

BY SHAUN PARSONS

APC BOARD COURSE ACCREDITATION

In October, the College hosted the SAICA accreditation team for their review of our APC Professional Programme. Over the last 10 years, the programme has established itself as a provider of choice, and applications consistently exceed the programme's capacity. Our interactions were positive and provided a welcome opportunity to reflect on the College's contribution to preparing trainees for their professional careers. The APPSC concluded that the programme continues to meet SAICA's educational and accreditation requirements.



Accounting Programmes

BY GOOLAM MODACK

ACCREDITED ACCOUNTING PROGRAMMES

In June this year, SAICA completed a limited follow-up monitoring visit of the College in an online format. This exercise assessed the quality of a number of indicators including:

- Academic leadership
- Academic staffing
- Curriculum changes
- Throughput rates
- UCT students performance in the Initial Test of Competence and
- The College's transformation efforts.

Following the visit, SAICA confirmed the continued accreditation of the UCT accounting programmes.

IN THE EXTRA-ORDINARY *course of business*



UCT COLLABORATES WITH OTHER UNIVERSITIES

BY ILSE LUBBE

The College was engaged in several collaboration initiatives with other universities this year, sharing aspects of our **teaching and learning, curriculum development and pedagogical practices** with colleagues at other universities.

In June this year, colleagues from the **University of Pretoria** and the **University of Western Cape** visited the College, resulting in a diverse yet fruitful discussion of the different initiatives introduced by the respective universities towards the CA of the Future project. This initiative was repeated in October when colleagues from the **University of the Free State, Stellenbosch University** and the University of the Western Cape visited the College.

The themes discussed during both visits included the competencies required for the CA of the Future and how to include these in the curriculum, pedagogy and assessments. We shared our approaches regarding the newly developed Business Acumen course, the College's tutorial system and other curriculum changes completed this year. In return, we received input from our colleagues regarding their projects that focus on competencies such as critical thinking, ethical decision-making and responsible citizenship.

Shared concerns include making the business and accounting concepts understandable and accessible for students, language and communication challenges, and workload management within the overloaded curriculum. We appreciated the collegiality and collaboration among accounting educators nationally in participating in the care of sharing initiatives and content.



IN THE EXTRA-ORDINARY *course of business*



UCT TEACHING AND LEARNING CONFERENCE

BY ILSE LUBBE

The **2023 Teaching and Learning Conference** (TLC) was hosted in the Neville Alexander Building on Lower Campus on 21 & 22 November 2023. With the theme of **"Reimagining assessment amid the global digital revolution"**, the TLC aimed to explore innovative and inclusive assessment practices aligned with the UCT Vision 2030's pillars of excellence, transformation, and sustainability.

The keynote speaker, Dr Jan McArthur (Lancaster University, UK) discussed how and why student assessment methods must be built on values and principles, arguing that universities must **shift from a fixation on marks to more meaningful assessment methods**. [CLICK HERE](#) for the link to the presentation.

Prof Ilse Lubbe presented a current study, Co-creating knowing for learning: **"What is the educational value of ChatGPT?"**, which explores the performance of ChatGPT in explaining concepts in business combinations and consolidations. The **preliminary findings** are that ChatGPT is relatively accurate in describing the concepts and may be an effective tool to help students with descriptions of theoretical knowledge ('knowing that'), i.e. providing information on the meaning of a concept.

However, the current version of ChatGPT is not as effective in explaining the application of concepts, although it can identify some basic steps in the consolidation process. The output produced by ChatGPT, when prompted to apply the consolidation process ('knowing how') contains several fundamental errors.

The incorrect output produced by ChatGPT provides a valuable pedagogical opportunity to identify errors and critically analyse why the response produced is false. [CLICK HERE](#) for the link to the presentation.

A/Prof Jimmy Winfield participated in the panel discussion **"What's your blend?"** Making use of blended learning strategies for more effective student learning.

In case you missed the conference, [CLICK HERE](#) for the link to the Book Abstracts

Social & Transformation Report

INNOVATIVE TEACHING AND CURRICULUM PRACTICES

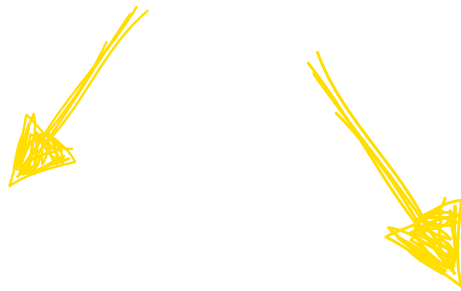
Accounting academics are navigating disruption in the education of professional accountants relating to a call for more business-orientated skills, including aspects associated with sustainability and professional competencies.



The College of Accounting initiated the development of two innovative new first-year courses. In both these instances, the new developments aim to navigate the disruption associated with curriculum changes and a call for accounting graduates with more business-oriented knowledge and competencies.

"Business Acumen for Accountants" course

Introduced to first-year accounting students in 2023 to improve their general business understanding and sustainable business decision-making, to allow an understanding of key business risks such as climate change, and to assist students to become familiar with ecological and social justice. Students learn primarily through lectures, interactive tutorials, reflective learning journals, and a significant team project throughout the semester.



Business Analysis and Governance course

This is a final year undergraduate capstone course. Case studies were developed that included start-up business entities specialising in re-engineering old machinery to utilise waste. Knowledge relating to artificial intelligence, with a particular focus on the most detrimental aspect, 'deep fake', was also introduced, requiring students to research deep fake technology.



Social & Transformation Responsive Report

SERVICE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

➔ Workshop to Grade 11 learners

Golden Key UCT, in collaboration with Ikamva Youth, organised a Roundtable University Workshop for grade 11 learners from Ikamva Youth. The mission of Ikamva Youth is to **empower previously disadvantaged students** from under-resourced secondary schools with essential skills and knowledge to navigate high school and qualify for higher education, enabling them to reach their aspirations. The workshop occurred on Saturday, 30 September 2023, at the Kramer Building, Middle Campus. Approximately 75 students attended the workshop, where they had the **opportunity to engage with a panel of speakers from diverse academic backgrounds**. The panellists, including academics and students from various faculties, delivered insightful 15-minute presentations about their respective departments.

During the event, **Tumi Diale and Mpilo Vilakazi, representing the College of Accounting**, shared information about what it offers, its entrance requirements, job prospects, and available bursaries. Their presentations focused on sharing experiences and lessons learned on their academic journeys rather than duplicating the university's prospectus.

Overall, the workshop aimed to equip students with the knowledge and tools necessary to navigate them in **making informed decisions about their educational goals** in a disruptive and challenging higher education landscape.

➔ Service and support for non-profit organisations and societies

Academics in the College of Accounting serve as board members or in other roles for **non-profit organisations**, including:

- Cape Town Child Welfare Society
- African Scholars Fund
- SADRA Conflict Transformation
- Fun Learning for Youth (FLY)
- Afrika Burns Creative Projects

These organisations adopt socially responsive initiatives in disruptive societies to navigate and **support vulnerable citizens**. Our colleagues aim to represent their voices.



Social & Transformation Responsive Report

RESEARCH OUTPUT ADDRESSING SOCIAL RESPONSIVENESS

The teaching and learning space was significantly disrupted during COVID-19 when educators and students were challenged to navigate how they taught and how learning happened.

Some challenges included educators needing more preparation for the sudden shift to online assessment. Of further concern was the sense of loss of academic integrity when assessments moved online. This study investigated how accounting educators navigated these disruptions at the time.

Lubbe, I & Terblanche, A. (2023). Reflections of the Impact of Covid-19 on Academic Integrity in the Accounting Sciences, Chapter 3, Covid-19 Management and Responses: Lessons Learnt for the Future, WCED, 29-54.

Equally, during the COVID-19 period, when teaching and learning were forced into the e-learning space, many students were 'left behind' due to a lack of access, inequity, challenges related to diversity, and the inability to participate in learning. This study analyses **students' perceptions and experiences with using e-learning applications**, how they experienced these disruptions and navigated the challenges using the lens of social justice.

Papageorgiou, E., Terblanche, W., Lubbe, I., & van der Merwe, N. (2023). Perceptions of using e-learning applications in accounting at residential universities in South Africa: A social justice lens. South African Journal of Higher Education. (accepted 31 July 2023, forthcoming).



RESEARCH *in the College*



SAAA

JUNE 2023 CONFERENCE SUN CITY

The Southern African Accounting Association (SAAA) held their **biennial conference** at Sun City in June 2023. This was the **first in-person SAAA conference since 2019** and was well supported by over 200 delegates from across the country. The College of Accounting had 8 staff members attending the conference, and 7 of the presentations included College academics. **UCT won awards for:**

- SAAA Best Financial Accounting & Reporting paper in the refereed track (Sapho Gwadiso)
- SAAA Best non-refereed paper (Ilse Lubbe)
- SAAA Best Accounting Education show & tell presentation (Jacqueline Kew and Shelly Herbert)

Well done to UCT on their great achievement!



SAPHO GWADISO

SAAA AWARD BEST
FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING
& REPORTING PAPER IN
THE REFEREED TRACK



ILSE LUBBE

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FULL PROFESSOR



JACQUELINE KEW

SAAA AWARD BEST
ACCOUNTING
EDUCATION SHOW &
TELL PRESENTATION



SHELLEY HERBERT

SAAA AWARD BEST
ACCOUNTING
EDUCATION SHOW &
TELL PRESENTATION

RESEARCH *in the College*



HOW TO MASTER YOUR MASTERS: TURNING YOUR DISSERTATION INTO A PUBLISHED ARTICLE

BY SHELLY HERBERT

An important step in your academic career is having a higher degree that includes research. But to be taken seriously as a researcher and academic, you need to take the next step of publishing your research.

What are my options to publish?

A publication normally takes the form of a journal article or conference paper. You could also present your research at a conference to get feedback (and not have the paper included in the conference proceedings) and then use that feedback to convert your dissertation into a journal article(s).

Whichever option you decide to go for, you'll need to significantly rework your dissertation to be in the format needed for publication. You can try and split your work into two or more separate publications or aim for a single publication. The decision will be guided by the dissertation itself and how many significant arguments you made. If your work is best understood as a single body of work, then you should aim for one publication. But if you can find a logical way to split up your dissertation so that each separate publication will have a significant argument and be able to stand on its own, then you can aim for more. Speak to your supervisor or an experienced academic to get their views on this.

What is the next step after choosing what portion of your dissertation to publish?

The next step is to choose where and how to publish. Conference proceedings have the advantage of generally having a quicker turnaround time, and it's often easier to be accepted. On the

other hand, a journal article attracts a higher subsidy, more prestige and a wider audience but will take longer to get published, and you will have more hoops to jump through. Whichever form you go for, look at a few options.

What is your advice for selecting a journal or conference?

Look at your reference list to see what journals you cited, or ask colleagues who publish in the same field. When you've identified some potential targets, take some time to look at what the aims and scope of the journal or conference are and make sure that your research is aligned. Also, have a look at some articles published in previous editions to see how the articles are compiled – you will want to match your article to their style. Especially for a journal, it's also a good idea to try to cite some of the articles from the journal and even articles written by the editors themselves.

What do I do after I have identified my target journal or conference?

You need to check their author guidelines and start converting your dissertation to match what they are looking for.

The biggest job here is reworking the dissertation so that it is an appropriate length but still feels like a coherent body of work. Check the word count for each section of a few articles previously published in the journal or conference (copy the text into MSWord for a quick count). This will be your guide as to what your target length is for each section. In all

RESEARCH *in the College*



CONTINUED...

BY SHELLY HERBERT

likelihood, you will need to rewrite significant portions of your introduction, literature review and conclusion so that they are shorter and are all relevant to the argument that you are trying to bring forward for this particular paper. Your method will need to be shortened as well.

What is one of the key things to remember?

Remember that for a dissertation, your audience is your examiners, and you need to demonstrate to them that you know how to do research. But for a publication, you can assume that your audience knows the basics of research and you are just explaining how you did your particular research project. Your results will probably need to be shortened, but you need to make sure that you include what is important to support your argument. Throughout the entire article, make sure that you pay attention to each sentence and paragraph. Read the preceding and following sentences/paragraphs and make sure that what you have written flows logically. You don't want your work to feel like a cut and paste from a longer work. It needs to stand on its own.

The final checks and balances

After you have finished reworking the text, and you have met the word limits and have the appropriate headings and layout, you need to go back to the author guidelines and make sure that you follow them to the tee. After all of the work you've put in, you don't want to have your paper desk rejected because you didn't follow the guidelines. Get your supervisor or another

experienced academic to do a final read, and after incorporating any feedback from them and doing your own final read-through, you're ready to submit! It doesn't mean the work is over.

Keep your chin up!

There will be many delays and review comments along the way, and probably some rejected papers. Ask any experienced researcher – there are many rejections and difficult review comments on this road. But the sooner you do your first submission, the closer you will be getting closer to your first successful publication!

Sabbatical stories

We asked academics who have been on sabbatical these three questions:

1. What do you suggest academics have in place when planning their sabbatical?
2. What was your biggest adjustment going on sabbatical?
3. What is the biggest lesson in research that you have learnt so far?

BY NABEELA DANIELS
FINANCIAL REPORTING



1. A plan is a good starting point 😊 But also, I think academics should have some groundwork in place. Six months pass by so quickly and each review process takes time, so I think one should **plan to submit to a journal early** on in their sabbatical so that there is sufficient time to address any minor or major revisions received. Having something to work on during the review period is also a good idea!
2. For me - it was **finding a routine**. Being a mom of 3 young kids, it was difficult to get into a routine while being at home. My sabbatical also began immediately after my maternity leave so getting back into 'work mode' was an adjustment. But, I eventually found my feet and things became a lot easier to juggle 😊
3. **Patience and perseverance!** It took time and perseverance to get my paper accepted for publication. There were two rounds of major revisions on my paper. I really wanted to give up but I am so happy that I pushed through.



BY RIYAAN DAVIDS
MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTING

1. I think obviously having a **clear plan with objectives** is a necessity but something that is really helpful is to set yourself a timeline by when your objectives need to be met. I tried to break my sabbatical down into weeks by when things needed to be done and submitted. In between submitting and getting feedback I would plan some type of reward activity (like short holiday getaway breaks) which was a good motivation.
2. Well besides having a new baby that needed caring for, it was settling into a **new type of work routine** with regards to research. I was in the library almost every day which was really nice as I got to work in a new space. There were also very few distractions (work and home) so I actually managed to be quite productive.
3. Is that if you choose a **research area that you are genuinely interested** in it makes it a million times less painful to engage with (well for now at least).

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3. What is the biggest lesson in research that you have learnt so far?

BY SAMIAH FAKIER
FINANCIAL REPORTING



1. Have a **detailed to do list** with small accomplishments for everyday. It can be overwhelming so getting to tick off at least one small thing gives you motivation.
2. Having your own time and deadlines means you need to be **disciplined**. Also learning how to **deal with the disappointments and criticism** from journal editors and keep going.
3. That article writing for publications is very different to thesis type and style of writing. And having a **topic that you and others find interesting** is very important.



BY SIHAAM SHAMSOODIEN
CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

1. It is important to have a **plan** about what you want to do that includes a mix of continuing a project that you started before your sabbatical and getting new projects started. It is also worthwhile looking at the **ERP calendar** or getting in touch with someone from the research office regarding the deadlines of various grants and opportunities so that you can plan to work on those during your sabbatical as well.
2. It was a big adjustment for me to **change my mindset** and default habit of checking my emails regularly. It was also a big relief to change the pace at which I was required to work and to be able to plan my time without having to factor in external issues (which often come up during regular course convening and teaching).
3. Knowing where and **how to access resources** that can help you with research. We are so fortunate to have access to various resources that assist at various stages of research which includes webinars, access to librarians and funding opportunities. Most academics do not make use of these resources and the sooner we learn where and how to access these resources, the better we will be set up for success in research. For instance, there are **many workshops and webinars that assist with research writing and grant applications**. UCT libraries and the digital scholars unit also have webinars throughout the year on topics such as best practices for collecting and storing data.

LINKS TO RESOURCES

[UCT LibGuides](#)

[LibCalendar](#)

[OPGS](#)

MORE THAN JUST ACADEMICS



**PET OF THE SEMESTER
MATT BROOKS' DUKE**



**MAJEFF LOVES
PHOTOGRAPHY**



**GIZELLE WILLOWS STARS IN LEGALLY BLONDE: THE MUSICAL!
[CLICK HERE TO BOOK TICKETS](#)**

**2024 BLONDE CAST PERFORMANCE DATES AT
THE ARTSCAPE THEATRE:**

**4 FEB, 18 FEB @ 5PM
7 FEB, 9 FEB, 10 FEB, 13 FEB, 15 FEB @ 7:30PM
17 FEB @ 2:30PM**

**NB: THERE ARE TWO CASTS, MAKE SURE YOU BOOK FOR ONE OF
THE DATES AND TIMES ABOVE TO WATCH GIZELLE**



PGDA FORMAL



ADRIENNE IS ENGAGED



**NAVITHA SEWPERSADH
- DIWALI**

MORE THAN JUST ACADEMICS



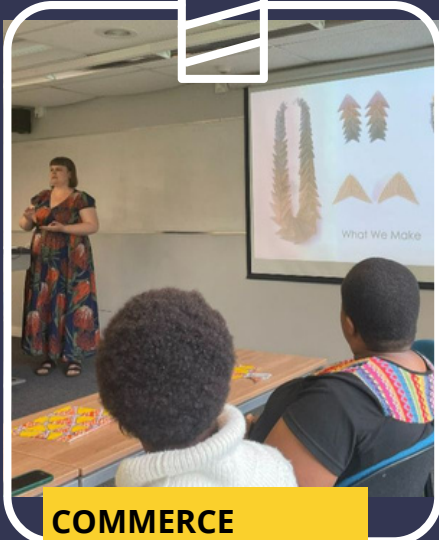
**ASK NAVITHA
ABOUT HER ART**



**KIDS CHRISTMAS PARTY,
WITH MPILO AS SANTA**



**WEDDING BELLS
FOR SAMANTHA**



**COMMERCE
ENGAGE - BEADING**



**ASK ADRIENNE
ABOUT HER ART**



LALA HAD A BABY!



**DYLAN AND ADHIR ARE ON THE TOOWAYS TO
SKIN A CA(T) PODCAST! [CLICK HERE TO LISTEN](#)**

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



Liza
SMITH
.....



1. A doctor! Really....
2. I have a Level 1 Rope Access Certification.
3. Rolling with laughter!
4. Honestly, it was *The Hangover*.
5. I would like to sit on the hood of a 4 x 4 off road vehicle in the Serengeti, watching the sun descend on the horizon...that typical African sunset!

Sharne
MARTIN
.....



1. A teacher.
2. Hmm... I did ballroom dancing.
3. A heart ❤️
4. *Night School* (Starring Kevin Hart)
5. I'd like to visit the Vatican City.



MORE THAN *just academics*

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with the newbies

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Adrienne
KNIGHT

1. An artist or children's book illustrator
2. Creating art in all different mediums
3. The laughing face emoji
4. Probably Zoolander or Austin Powers
5. Bungee jumping

Anthea
WILLIAMS

1. A Lawyer
2. Baking, a hobby that turned into a side business, any type of cakes for any occasion.
3. 🙏
4. Pitch Perfect
5. Visit Paris



MORE THAN *just academics*

YEAR END MESSAGES FROM THE AT'S



**VINOLIA
RAVELE**

What an impactful year!!! I would do it over and over again. Thank you for the opportunity to serve :)



**TOSHEEN
MAHARAJ**

Great year.



**RUVIMBO
MAPENDERE**

I will always be grateful to have worked with each and every one of you. Bon Voyage :)



**SHALOM
NGOBENI**

Changed lives, impacted nations, and transformed the world! This year was one for the books and I will forever remain grateful for this opportunity. Now onto the next one.



**ROGAN
WIGET- BEATTIE**

Working in the college has been a privilege that I will never forget! Thank you to everyone who contributed to a wonderful year.



**PRANESH
SUKHA**

This year was by far my favourite one at UCT. From interacting with students, lecturing over 300 students and getting to work with amazing people, this year had it all.



**MPIILO
VILAKAZI**

This year has been filled with lessons and I am grateful for the wonderful experiences engaging with students and assisting in the academic project.



**MATTHEW
BROOKS**

I will always be grateful to have worked with each and every one of you. Bon Voyage :)



**JUNSUB
LEE**

Was a tough year but I will miss my team and my students! Hope my presence made a positive impact on students' learning journey.



**MAJEFF
MPHAHLELE**

I enjoyed interacting with students throughout the year and helping them get to where they want to be.

MORE THAN *just academics*

YEAR END MESSAGES FROM THE AT'S



**DYLAN
NAICKER**

Great Year 😊. I got to meet the most amazing group of people this year which made the year incredible.



**LINDELA
MALAMBE**

I will always be grateful to have worked with each and every one of you. Bon Voyage :)



**KATE
SCHOLTZ**

Thank you to everyone who made this year so wonderful. I have learnt so much, and was able to meet so many lovely people.



**MARIANIE
KAPENDA**

I will always be grateful to have worked with each and every one of you. Bon Voyage :)



**EVAN
WALKER**

This year has been a dream. I will see you in 2 years :)



FATIEMA TEXEIRA

I could not have asked for a better first year to my articles! It has been amazing interacting with students and lecturers, and I am grateful to have been able to be part of the College of Accounting this year.



**BONGANI
MAKHUBU**

This has been a wonderful year of facilitating the success of others and giving back all the helpful experiences that helped my academic journey be a success. I had the pleasure of working with wonderful seniors and ATs. Sharing the MAF office was a gift that kept on giving! I wish everyone a rewarding development in their careers. Till we meet again.



KAREN WU

I will always be grateful to have worked with each and every one of you. Bon Voyage :)



ADHIR SINGH

I am grateful for the opportunity to work with the GAA team. I will cherish the memories and the friendships I have made here.

FRIENDS of the College

We caught up with a few people who made great contributions to many students in their time at UCT. Here is a message from them to you!



Kim Hendrickse

LECTURER MILPARK EDUCATION

To my treasured colleagues, a heartfelt hello,
In this note, my sentiments freely flow.
As I reflect on memories we hold dear,
Thoughts of you bring warmth, ever so near.

Embarking on a new teaching quest,
Learning and evolving, giving my best.
But amidst this journey, I truly miss,
The bond we shared, moments of pure happiness.

I find myself thinking of the children dear,
Hoping they're well, and free from any fear.
Sameenah and Aunty Patiwe, in my thoughts they
reside,
May they be nurtured and cared for, side by side.

In this fresh chapter, embracing the unknown,
You're always present, even when I'm on my own.
Sending my warmest wishes to you,
May love and peace surround you too.



Keagan Johnson

UCT STUDENT SYSTEM SUPPORT

What are you doing now for work?

"I work at the Student-System-Support department. This is where we analyse systems and make improvements to them for the benefit of all the faculties at UCT."

What do you miss about the college?

"100% the people and the canteen chats."

What is your message to the people at the CoA to close out 2023?

"I wish them a blessed festive and they get all the rest that they need to tackle 2024."



Richard Mefon

CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER
GROUNDFLR

Greetings College of Accounting

Full disclosure - Zeenat played the family card in her attempt to woo me into writing for the COA newsletter. (Yes, you heard right... Family... We both have Irish roots and could very well be distant cousins). She also said that her 'views' would go up if I wrote, which is when I knew she was just playing a good sales strategy.

Alas, I actually didn't need much of a push to write for the newsletter because it just gave me an opportunity to reminisce about such wonderful humans.

I miss the chats in the corridors, the laughs, the high fives, the beautiful campus, the students and the flexibility. But with that, I have also loved embracing a new world and new challenges. So much is different, namely small vs large; for profit vs non-profit; academic purist vs educational experience; etc. My onboarding experience felt a bit like THIS.

But conversely, it's still comparable to the College. It's a team of people, fighting for the best learner/user experience, using mind blowing innovation and excellence. If you are interested, here is a taste of what we are up to at Groundflr: www.groundflr.co (will be revamped soon) www.thetraverse.co

I'm heading up the operations of the group, which means I have had to significantly up skill in the array of tools available for project management and digital educational innovation. It's certainly has sobered me up to the pace that the world is changing, and reiterated that we are living in a time where being a 'lifelong learner' is not optional. (SAICA didn't ask me to say that, I promise).

Wishing you all my best over the exam period ahead.
Yoh, I DO NOT miss the marking. Don't be strangers.

All my best, Rich



Having spent 38 years in the College of Accounting and now having been retired for almost 6 years, it was interesting to reflect back on my time at UCT. My first 20 years were purely academic where my time was divided between teaching and scholarly activity while the last 18 years were more dedicated to academic leadership as a Head of Department (10 years) and Deputy Dean of Operations (8 years).

WISE WORDS

What was the best part of being an academic?

A unique aspect of being an academic which I really appreciated, is academic freedom. Academic freedom provides the freedom to choose your own research interests and largely what you teach and supervise. In short, you get to design your own job description within broad parameters.

What were you thankful for at the end of each year and what were you looking forward to at the start of each year?

The end of every year was heralded by the December graduation ceremonies where we would celebrate the achievements of our students with their families and loved ones. The gratitude of the students was always overwhelming and the joy of being included in family selfies will always be remembered. Then the new year would herald in the next cohort of students and an opportunity to work with fresh young uncomplicated talent. How special is that!

Finally, it is important to remain scholarly active to retain academic credibility. I was privileged to have twice been the recipient of the **Standard Merchant Bank annual award** for published research and to be the co-author of a text book which kept my scholarly interests alive.

My most rewarding memory about UCT is being entrusted with the academic leadership of the Department and Faculty which gave me the opportunity to interact and learn from academics from other departments and faculties.

The **biggest life lesson** was learning to attain an appropriate work life balance and allowing what happened at UCT to stay at UCT.

Retired from UCT in 2017



A reflection on more than 40 years associated with the College of Accounting. Tessa studied CTA(PGDA) part-time between 1976-1980 whilst doing her 3-year articles with Arthur Young (now EY). From 1981/82, she was a part-time tutor for PGDA auditing as the profession provided the tutors then. Between 1983 - June 2021 she was employed in the College of Accounting. In 2006, became the Deputy Dean.

The only way to do great work is to love what you do - Steve Jobs

WISE WORDS

What was the best part of being an academic?

The privilege of tangibly making a difference. Those aha moments when the students get it. Being part of an incredible College team. Watching students develop as I have watched a number of you grow from students to successful professionals to committed academics and then becoming wonderful husbands/wives and parents, not to mention seeing student's children graduate. Varsity keeps you young as you can't help feeling with the students as they face the challenges of youth, motivation, career indecision, financial and socioeconomic conditions and increasingly mental health issues and you think that their parents are so old and then you find that you taught them 😊

What were you thankful for at the end of each year and what were you looking forward to at the start of each year?

Another plus of academia is the cyclical nature of the academic year. A sense of completion after exams and the dreaded FEC and the delightful sense of renewal each January, watching students' progress through the system and you sparking off each other as you chat about how to improve and what to do differently. We are very blessed in the College by having a curriculum in which each of us and each course is inter-dependent on all the others.

Reflections on changes to the profession

Yesterday I was clever, so I wanted to change the world, today I am wise, so I am changing myself - Jalaluddin Rumi

The photo on the right was me in the late 70's, an advert in black and white in the equivalent of Accountancy SA.

Arthur Young (now EY) was fined for bringing the profession into disrepute by advertising with a picture. It was a strategic decision that they took as the allied

professions like banks, bookkeeping and tax practitioners were able to advertise freely and they wanted to shake up the CA(SA) profession.



The choice of the picture was to show that EY employed women (not many!!!) and that they were leaders in IT. I am holding a mainframe tape as there were no desk top computers then. This confirms one of the key SAICA 25 competencies of adapting to change. The College itself has diversified. When Goolam Modack was an AT he was the only person of colour on the staff and there were few women. Another big difference is that amongst staff and students in the 70's and 80's there was a common goal...to help end apartheid. In my last years at UCT I did not feel that there was a clear goal.

Tessa Minter

Retired from UCT in 2021

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. Below you'll find some apps and tools that make research a lot easier!



GRAMMARLY

- AI-powered writing assistant
- Beyond grammar and spell-check
- Offers style suggestions, tone analysis, and vocabulary enhancement
- Provides real-time feedback on grammar and punctuation
- Analyzes and suggests improvements in writing style
- Integrates with various writing platforms
- Enhances overall writing quality
- Ensures documents are grammatically correct and well-crafted



CONNECTED PAPERS

- Web-based tool for researchers
- Visual interface to explore academic literature
- Creates a network of scholarly articles
- Highlights connections based on citations and references
- Aids in identifying seminal works and related research
- Streamlines literature review process
- Saves time and facilitates informed decision-making



SOME TIPS FROM CILT

As the year ends, we also look ahead to 2024. We'd like to assist you in your prep for the new year, especially with transitioning from Vula to Amathuba. Here we've included an update from CILT about some things you may need to know and some tips to make the migration process smoother.

➔ Starting strong: the Foundation-First site build order

CILT recommends you follow the Foundation-First process when revising, refreshing or adapting your course sites. This process involves working your way from the foundational aspects of your site namely the Grades, Groups, and optionally the Rubrics tools), to the Activities tab – Assignments, Discussions, and Quizzes – before bringing it together with learning materials in the Content tool.

The process is described in more detail on the [Amathuba self-paced training site](#). Please feel free to [book a consultation](#) with a CILT Learning Designer if you'd like additional support with this process.

➔ Advanced Tools

If you are familiar with the Amathuba platform you might want to look into the following tools to improve your site:

- For larger classes or if you have tutors marking student submissions, the [Rubrics](#) tool can assist with marking.
- If you want to make resources available or send targeted communication to specific groups of students based on their performance or course activity, the [Release Conditions](#) or [Intelligent Agents tools](#) can be used.

JOB hacks



CILT Support Channels

If you ever need any support with your site, please feel free to make use of the various support channels provided by CILT:

- Live, in-person training sessions taking you step-by-step through the process of learning to use the Amathuba platform
- A self-guided Amathuba course as an alternative to the live training session
- Quick guides detailing the new Amathuba processes and tools to be used as stand-alone resources or to supplement the training
- Scheduled one-on-one consultations with Learning Designers to step you through creating content on your Amathuba course or work through a teaching and learning challenge with a learning designer
- Helpdesk services through cilt-helpdesk@uct.ac.za or 021 650 5500

A big thank you to all the course convenors and teaching teams for your engagement in the migration process, and best of luck for teaching in 2024!



UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN
IYUNIVESITHI YASEKAPA • UNIVERSITEIT VAN KAAPSTAD



amathuba
Powered by Brightspace

Emergency numbers to report any form of crime, vandalism or unauthorized access are:

Campus Protection Services

CPS 24-hour toll-free number: 080 650 2222

CPS 24-hour hotline: 021 650 2222/3

Students and staff can contact this number even if they have no airtime on their phones.



TEACHING Tips



By Magon Gajewski

"One thing I have started doing is to use Laurillard's Conversational Framework when designing my lecturing content ([CLICK HERE](#) to see this video for a short explanation):

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.).

The idea behind this framework is that students learn in six different ways (i.e. through **acquisition**, **inquiry**, **collaboration**, **production**, **discussion**, and **practice**). What this means is that when designing learning, we should try to incorporate activities that cover these six learning methods.

So perhaps a plan could look like this:

Acquisition – students will listen to the lecturer presenting on the topic.

Inquiry – students may be required to read or watch something before coming to the lecture.

Practice & Collaboration – students could work on a class example in pairs.

Discussion – use technologies like Wooclap to ask students questions and encourage participation and discussion.

Production – students apply their knowledge when working through a tutorial/additional question.

In my preparation, I find that colour coding the activities helps me visualise whether I am covering my bases! I think that most lecturers may inadvertently be doing this, but it's great to know where the theory comes from and how you can mobilise it in lesson and course design."

I hope that helps!

TEACHING *Tips*



By Jimmy Winfield

The very best teachers come in many different flavours. They can be energetic and inspiring, charismatic and funny, meticulous and engaging. Whatever the flavour, it is always strong: never feeble or inauthentic.

Great teachers are powerful. But they also understand their purpose: they know that it is not about them. Fact is, the job description “teacher” puts the emphasis in the wrong place. We aren’t teachers; we’re learning assistants.

The path to competence is the students’ to tread – and we’re there just for support. Sometimes to lead, sometimes to guide from the back, sometimes just to stand apart and watch the magic happen. When you teach, aim to be your own powerful self, undiluted. But also be humble. Remember that the students are the heroes of the story.



THE COLLEGE *Cares*

UCT'S DISABILITY UNIT

BY OLIVIA EUROPA

The Disability Service extends support, guidance, and specialized assistance to individuals with disabilities. Their **range of services** includes real-time text transcription, assistance with exam and test writing, as well as accessible transportation options. The disability services at UCT prioritizes building an inclusive atmosphere for **students and staff with disabilities at the University of Cape Town (UCT)**. It's founded on **principles** of fairness, equality, and justice, in line with both national laws and global agreements safeguarding the rights of individuals with disabilities. Its **aim** involves breaking down barriers, whether physical, social, or based on attitudes, to ensure fair access to education and job opportunities. The **policy covers various aspects** related to disabilities; Reasonable accommodations, Discrimination, Accessibility stressing the importance of an environment that caters to diverse needs. It **commits** to nurturing an inclusive environment offering fair opportunities, implementing measures to ensure fair representation among the staff and sets out criteria for course eligibility and choice with the emphasis on disability not impacting decisions where appropriate adjustments can enable students to meet course requirements.

COLLABORATION WITH SBCWC

BY OLIVIA EUROPA

To celebrate Women's Day this year, we **aim to support women in our community in a more meaningful way**. To do this, we have partnered with the Saartjie Baartman Centre for Women and Children (SBCWC) to host a discussion with our staff on August 10th (details to follow). This dialogue will help us to better understand the challenges faced by women in our community and learn more about the impactful work that the SBCWC does to assist them. We encourage anyone who can contribute material or monetary donations to do so. Your support will help the SBCWC continue their valuable work in assisting abused women and children in our community.

ICAS ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE TO STAFF

BY ANTHEA WILLIAMS

Toll free number:
080 111 3945

**Chat live with an
ICAS counsellor,
access 24/7/365
EWP info on your
health and
wellness needs
through the app**

Please call me
*134*905#

Email
uct@icas.co.za

*Take care of your
mental and emotional
well-being over the
holidays*



WOMAN'S DAY

tribute

From Desert Gold to Moringa

Beneath the shadows of death valley.
Blooming on Barren Lands.
Desert Gold brightening sparse sands.

Upon frail stems she stands.
Her essence craving the rare rains.
Hiking through rock boulders she emerges.
Petals of hope defying pain...

Trembling petals, trampled by aliens.
Seeds of hope scattered devoured by Rodents.
The life cycle of defiance,
the battle for survival.

Raided by rogue winds.
Ravaged, redefined.

She appeared defeated.
But therein was loves disguise.
When love arrived and smiled.

Cocooned within a dove's beak.
Your seeds...
Scattered upon miracles tree.
Concealed for 8 months.
Nestled in nature's womb.
Nurtured, nourished and groomed.

From Death Valley to mountain summits.
From shadows to sunlight.
From Desert Gold to Moringa flowers.
From survival to Loves eternal embrace.

Reveal yourself and bloom.
Release your reviving perfume.
Nurtured, nourish and Groom.

Zeenaat Jhaveri

2023
THAT'S A
Wrap!
#yearendfunction



A BIG *Thank You*

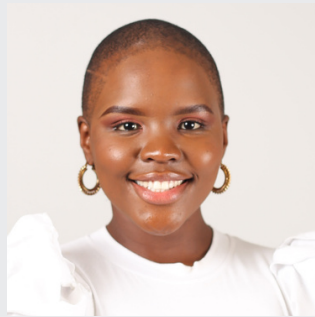
to all the CoA staff for your contributions to this newsletter! We could not have done it without you!

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](#)