**PLANNING WORKSHOP ON “UNIVERSITY AND SOCIETY: DISRUPTION, DISCOURSE AND NEW DIRECTIONS”**

**Venue: Library, Manor House, STIAS Wallenberg Research Centre, 10 Marais Street, Stellenbosch, 29 and 30 January 2018**

**Theme:** The Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Study (STIAS) recently launched a long-term research theme **“University and Society: Disruption, Discourse and New Directions”.** The theme focuses on four areas of enquiry, viz.

* *Understanding the colonial legacies and post-colonial realities of the university*
* *The entanglements of knowledge traditions and transitions in the university*
* *Understanding the contemporary university*
* *The university of the future*

(for more details, see <http://stias.ac.za/research/themes/university-and-society/>).

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**Day One** | 29 January 2018 | Registration open: 08h30 | Meeting 09h00 – 17h00 | Lunch: 12h30 | Breaks: 10h30 & 15h15

**Chair**: David Hornsby | Lead-in discussant: Nicholas Spaull

**Aim**: To explore the various ways that the value of the university to society can be explained through quantitative methods, by considering the following questions:

1. What are the types of research questions we need to ask or themes we need to establish in order discuss the contribution of universities to society?
2. What is currently taking place in terms of research in South Africa?
3. What are the data sets that exists that can facilitate a better understanding of the benefit of universities to society?
4. What are the types of data/information that is ideal to access? Is it currently available?
5. Who are the right people/institutes/organisations to involve?
6. What are the timeframes for research and how do we activate people in this regard?

In preparation for the day, participants are requested to consider the above questions and to identify, if possible, a maximum of three pieces of research that could be helpful in terms of data or methodologies or even act as examples of how to explore the university-society relationships in numerical terms. Two reports are included for reference [[1]](#footnote-1), [[2]](#footnote-2).

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**Day Two** | 30 January 2018 | Registration open: 08h30 | Meeting 09h00 – 16h00 | Lunch: 12h30 | Breaks: 10h30 & 15h00

**Chair**: Peter Vale

**Aim**: To explore the various ways that the value of the university to society can be explained through qualitative methods by considering the following questions:

1. What are the types of research questions we need to ask or themes we need to establish in order to discuss the contribution of universities to society?
2. What is currently taking place in terms of research in South Africa?
3. What sort of research exists more broadly that can facilitate a better understanding of the benefit of universities to society?
4. What are key ways to frame the debate of the university-society relationship?
5. Who are the right people/institutes/organisations to involve?
6. What are the timeframes for research and how do we activate people in this regard?

In preparation for the day, participants are requested to consider the above questions and to identify, if possible, a maximum of three pieces of research that could be helpful in terms of information, methodologies or even act as examples of how to explore the university-society relationships.

1. Van Broekhuizen et al: Higher Education Access and Outcomes for the 2008 National Matric Cohort (122 pp) available [here](https://www.dropbox.com/s/4y30m9ys9sdh9rv/Van%20Broekhuizen%20et%20al%202016%20Higher%20Education%20Access%20and%20Outcomes%20for%20the%202008%20Matric%20cohort%20%20%281%29.pdf?dl=0) [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. [Slides](https://www.dropbox.com/s/yee2s7mawa0hc98/Slides_%20From_Matric_into_and_through_university%28Full%29.pdf?dl=0) presentation of the above (print-out available in program folder at registration) [↑](#footnote-ref-2)