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ANNUAL REPORT

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STELLENBOSCH INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
STELLENBOSSE INSTITUUT VIR GEVORDERDE NAVORSING





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STIAS

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Chairperson's Foreword

The year 2020 will go down in history as a year of great uncertainty in many respects.

The global COVID-19 pandemic hit unexpectedly and forced all of humanity to rethink everyday life. Fortunately, with a positive mindset, uncertainty brings about innovation.

Innovation and adaptation at strategic and operational levels were key drivers of STIAS at a time when human life, movement and interaction were greatly affected. For an Institute that primarily organises physical residency periods for some of the most renowned global scholars, going into a lockdown was not an insurmountable challenge for STIAS and the programme did wonderfully well.

I previously reported on a significant initiative by the Nobel Foundation, The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, Knut & Alice Wallenberg Foundation, STIAS and Stellenbosch University to host a series of Nobel Symposia starting in 2020. I am happy to report that this initiative is still in the pipeline but had to be postponed due to travel restrictions and global health protocols.

Nobel Symposia are a series of 3–5-day scientific gatherings of a select number of acclaimed scientists. Each symposium has a specific theme related to scholarly disciplines in line with the Nobel Prize. STIAS has been hailed as a distinguished institute for advanced study to, for the first time in the history of the Nobel Symposia, host such events outside Scandinavia. During 2020, we established a sub-committee of the STIAS Board of Directors which will oversee the strategic direction of the initiative, and a STIAS Local Organising Committee which will be responsible for operations.

On internal STIAS governance matters, Dr Morné du Plessis stepped down as Chairperson of the Academic Advisory Board and Professor Francis Nyamnjoh was elected as new Chairperson. Professor Shireen Hassim stepped down due to relocation and Professor Geoffrey Harpham ended his term after the March 2020 meeting. Two new members were formally invited to join the Academic Advisory Board, namely Professor Nina Jablonski and Professor Mamadou Diawara.

Professor Danie Visser formally joined the Extended Fellowship and Research Programme Committee in 2020 as a substantive member. My appreciation goes to the outgoing members for their tireless contribution to the success of the STIAS programme this year.

Thank you to all the funders, partners and supporters of STIAS, without whom this Institute would not be where it is.

Lastly, I wish to thank STIAS Director Edward K Kirumira and the STIAS staff for showing resilience and for successfully weathering the storm that was 2020.

Desmond Smith
Chairperson of the Board

Director's Overview

Edward K Kirumira
Director of STIAS

T If there is one lesson to take away from 2020, it would be agility of response. When the year started, we had great plans of various gatherings with local and international audiences. In March, when COVID-19 hit hard and South Africa went on a hard lockdown with restrictions on travel and gatherings, we had to rethink many of those plans.

Fellows who were in residence were repatriated to ensure their safety and peace of mind, as some countries were also fast closing their borders. A few Fellows however, opted to stay in Stellenbosch until it was possible to travel again, and we took care of them. You will see this in the various reports in the Fellows' section of the Report.

The lockdown situation taught us to see STIAS not only as a physical but as a hybrid 'creative space for the mind' where interaction went beyond the walls of the Wallenberg Research Centre and the serene historic Mostertsdraif property that dates back to 1691, into the virtual arena with no limits. We had to adapt and adapt fast!

With the benefit of technology, we were able to introduce webinars into our programme. Weekly seminars which previously took place in our seminar room became webinars allowing for Fellows to participate physically and via the web from anywhere in the world. This move ensured the disrupted first semester cohort remained in touch and continued to share their research even when physically apart. In addition to the weekly webinars, two virtual Public Lectures by STIAS Fellows were presented during the second semester. These



provided an opportunity for all STIAS Fellows, colleagues at Stellenbosch University and other South African universities as well as the general public to participate. See the Lectures & Seminars section of the Report.

STIAS staff also had to work remotely while we prepared all our buildings to be COVID-19 compliant. The lunch venue, for example had to adjust from a buffet to a plated seating arrangement. Hand sanitising and temperature reading stations had to be installed. We were fortunate that, with all these meticulous precautions we sailed through the year without incident.

You will notice our list of Fellows features a significantly larger number of Visiting Scholars this year than in previous years. The pandemic provided an opportunity to place STIAS in the South African research scene in a big way. Instead of not being able to welcome Fellows from outside the continent, we put out an Extra-ordinary Call on 1 July 2020 for proposals from scholars in South Africa and other African countries that would not be constrained by travel restrictions, to take up team residencies as Visiting Scholars.

- Director's Overview (continues)

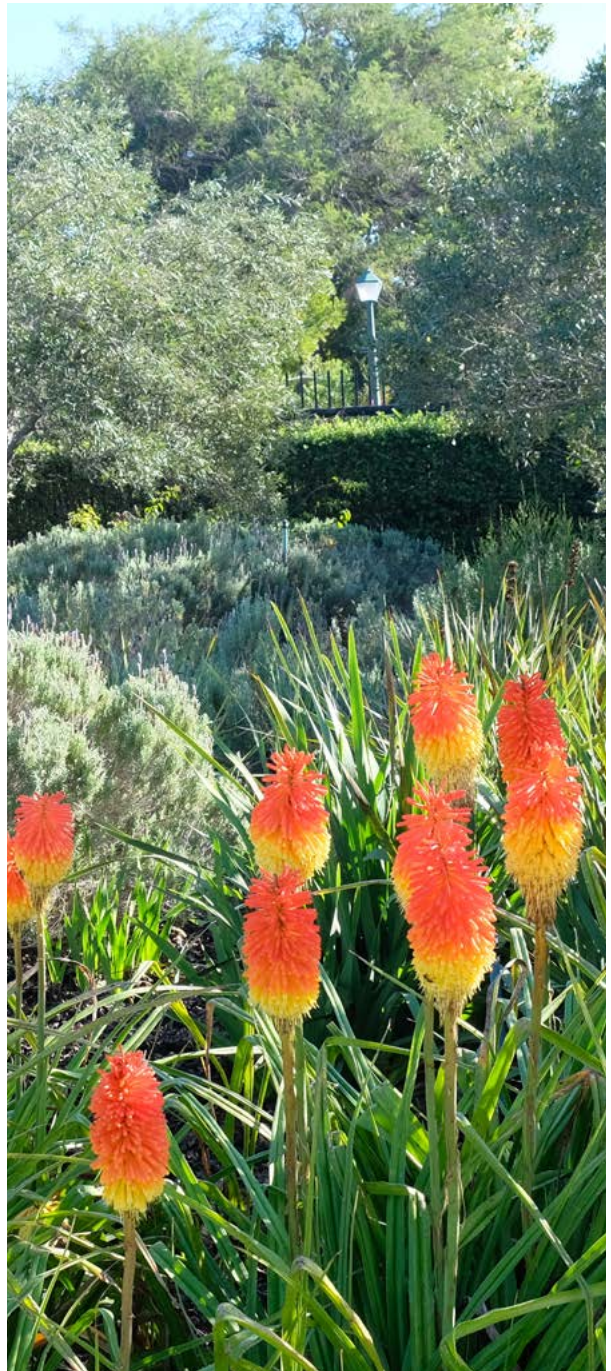
We received 40 applications involving 115 applicants from 25 different South African universities and research organisations. Of these, 14 group projects were selected.

The seven longer-term theme projects that were conceptualised over the period 2013-2018 are at various stages of development. See the culmination of the Effects of Race Project in the Team Fellowship section of the report. The themes will remain a feature of the STIAS programme in the form of exploring potential new projects and initiatives. However, applicants may now also apply as teams of collaborating scholars who propose to spend an overlapping period of residency at STIAS.

Naturally, a significant portion of our 2020 programme was impacted by the COVID-19 lockdown restrictions. All events that were scheduled from mid-March onwards had to be cancelled or rescheduled including:

- The STIAS 2020 Public Lecture Series
- Transforming Agriculture in Southern Africa book launch
- Iso Lomso Fellows workshops
- The DOHaD Summer School with the African Academy of Sciences
- The eighth Stellenbosch Annual Seminar on Constitutionalism in Africa (SASCA)
- The first Nobel Symposium at STIAS

As reported in the Chairperson's Forward to the Report, we are delighted and honoured to be part of the Nobel Symposia initiative which ties in strongly with STIAS's commitment to encouraging collaborative academic interaction and dialogue between African and global scholars. While the first Symposium could not take place in October, the planning is ongoing to host this and subsequent Nobel Symposia as soon as international travel stabilises.



Torch Lily (*Kniphofia uvaria*) flowering in the STIAS gardens.



STIAS Fellows before the Covid-19 lockdown in March 2020.

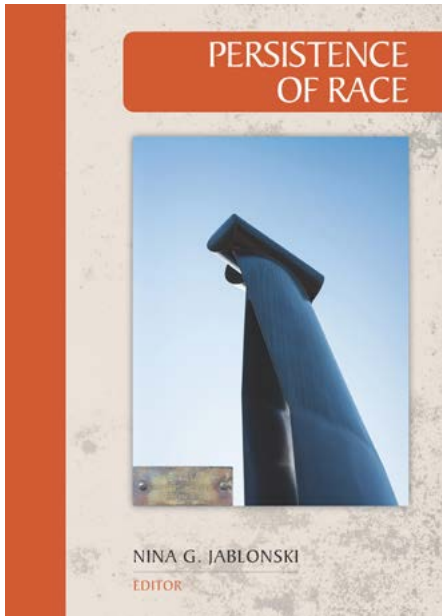
STIAS was scheduled to host the Some Institutes for Advanced Study (SIAS) annual meeting in Stellenbosch this year. This meeting was cancelled and two virtual meetings of SIAS Directors and programme heads were held in June and November, respectively. These served to share good practices with regards to the members' responses to COVID-19 and other general matters.

Several SIAS member institutions have committed to hosting Iso Lomso Fellows in their current cycles including two first-time hosts, the Centre for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences (CASBS) at Stanford University and the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin (WiKo). During 2020, Gibson Ncube was hosted by the National Humanities Center in North Carolina, USA. Due to the pandemic and associated travel restrictions, some SIAS institutions have opted to host their Fellows virtually. Debra Shepherd, who was meant to travel to the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, ended up being hosted by STIAS and virtually participating in the Radcliffe programme.

2020 marks the end of the three-year programme support for the first cohort of Iso Lomso Fellows. The Iso Lomso alumni are actively playing leadership and advancement roles on the African continent that the programme seeks to enhance over the long term. The programme continues to provide breakthrough opportunities in the career paths of early to mid-career African scholars and is setting a benchmark model for the advancement of young scholars in Africa. Several of the first and second cohort Fellows have recently been promoted to Associate Professor positions in their institutions, motivated in part by the quality of their research during the Iso Lomso Fellowship periods.

As we move into 2021 and beyond, STIAS, as the first institute of its kind in Africa looks to an expanded footprint on the African continent and to consolidating the hybridised 'creative space for the mind' that facilitates cutting-edge research for achieving breakthroughs in many fields, catering for all disciplines and encouraging the cross-pollination of ideas between scholars and artists-in-residence from all over the world.

MARCH



Volume 15 in the STIAS Series titled, *Persistence of Race* edited by Nina Jablonski is published.

MARCH



The STIAS Gardens are for the first time included in the official Stellenbosch *Woordfees* programme for guided tours for festival guests.

AUGUST



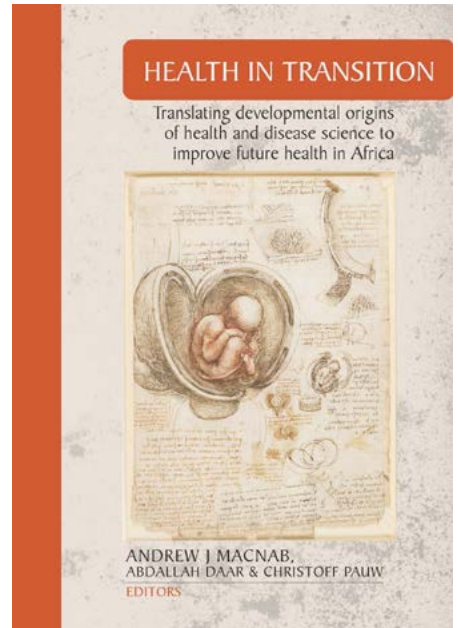
The third STIAS Newsletter is published featuring an interview with STIAS Permanent Visiting Fellow, Njabulo Ndebele. The Newsletter is primarily aimed at the STIAS Fellowship community (now counting more than 750). It summarises and informs them of recent events and developments at STIAS

SEPTEMBER



- STIAS Fellow, Daniel Brooks and colleague Salvatore Agosta present the first STIAS Public webinar titled, *The Evolutionary Commons: Putting Darwinism to Work for Humanity in a Time of Existential Crisis*.
- STIAS Permanent Visiting Fellow, Ian Goldin presents the second STIAS Public webinar titled, *The Pandemic that Changed the World*.

NOVEMBER



Volume 16 in the STIAS Series titled, *Health in Transition: Translating developmental origins of health and disease science to improve future health in Africa* is published. The book is edited by Andrew J Macnab, Abdallah Daar and Christoff Pauw and is dedicated to the memory of STIAS Fellow Peter Byass.

STIAS in numbers

The STIAS programme continues to reflect an emphasis on projects which draw on an interdisciplinary basis, are considered reflective of the African context, and often address topical issues of the day. In numbers, this is how the STIAS programme looked like in 2020.

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**Fellows based in
South Africa**

26

Books published

13

Book chapters published

63

Journal articles published



45

Visiting scholars

48

Fellows participated in
the 2020 programme



163

Fellowship months

17

Fellows from African
countries



FELLOWS

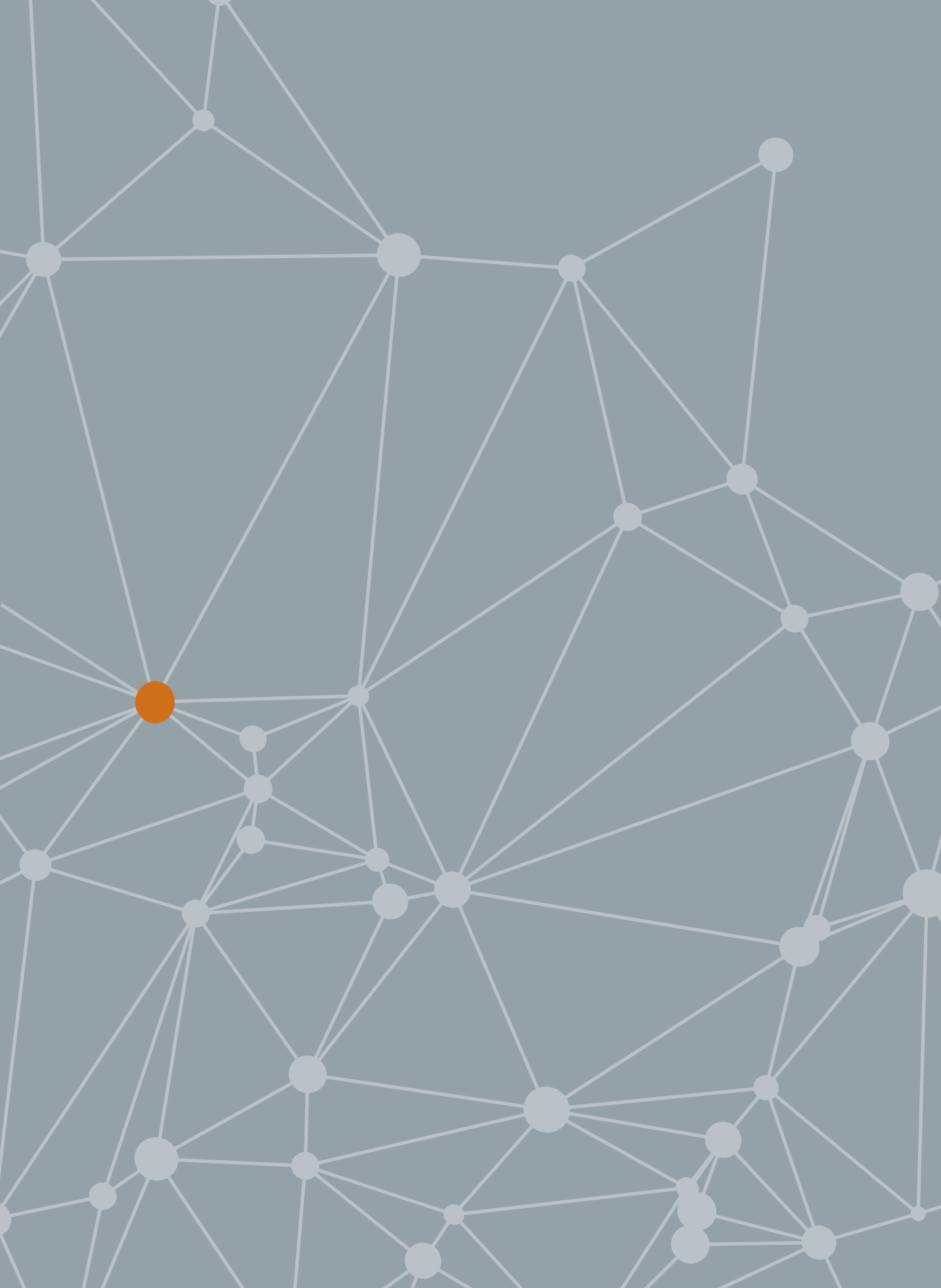
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About Iso Lomso

The Iso Lomso Fellowship Programme for early career support to researchers from Africa remains one of the major success stories for STIAS. Although travel restrictions during 2020 hampered plans of several Iso Lomso Fellows to take up residencies at STIAS or abroad, eight Iso Lomso Fellows and visiting scholars participated in the STIAS programme, while a further three Fellows were supported to take up residencies at STIAS partners.

Iso Lomso means 'eye of tomorrow' in isiXhosa. It connotes seeing into the future, working towards the future, preparing for the future, and laying foundations for tomorrow. The Iso Lomso Fellowship seeks to address the gap that exists between completion of the Ph.D. and becoming an established scholar in Africa. More information about the fellowship can be found on our website: <https://stias.ac.za/fellowships/iso-lomso/>



Deciphering the biological consequences of geometrical isomerisation of natural compounds

Ntakadzeni Edwin Madala is in his first year of the 3-year *Iso Lomso Fellowship Programme*. His research seeks to showcase the photo-catalytic properties of UV-light as a feasible approach to generate photo-switchable drugs with enhanced pharmacological activities.

Ntakadzeni Edwin Madala, Iso Lomso Fellow

Department of Biochemistry
University of Venda

We have known for centuries about the nutritional and healing properties of plants but how exactly do these work and what effects are environmental and climate changes having on plants and their interactions with humans? These are the questions Ntakadzeni Edwin Madala is putting under the spotlight.

Plants produce various phytochemicals which allow them to survive in the environment. These chemicals can also be used to kill pathogens in humans and have been shown to have pharmacological and nutritional properties. They have been used in treatments for conditions ranging from infectious diseases such as HIV and Malaria to cancers, arthritis and pain relief.

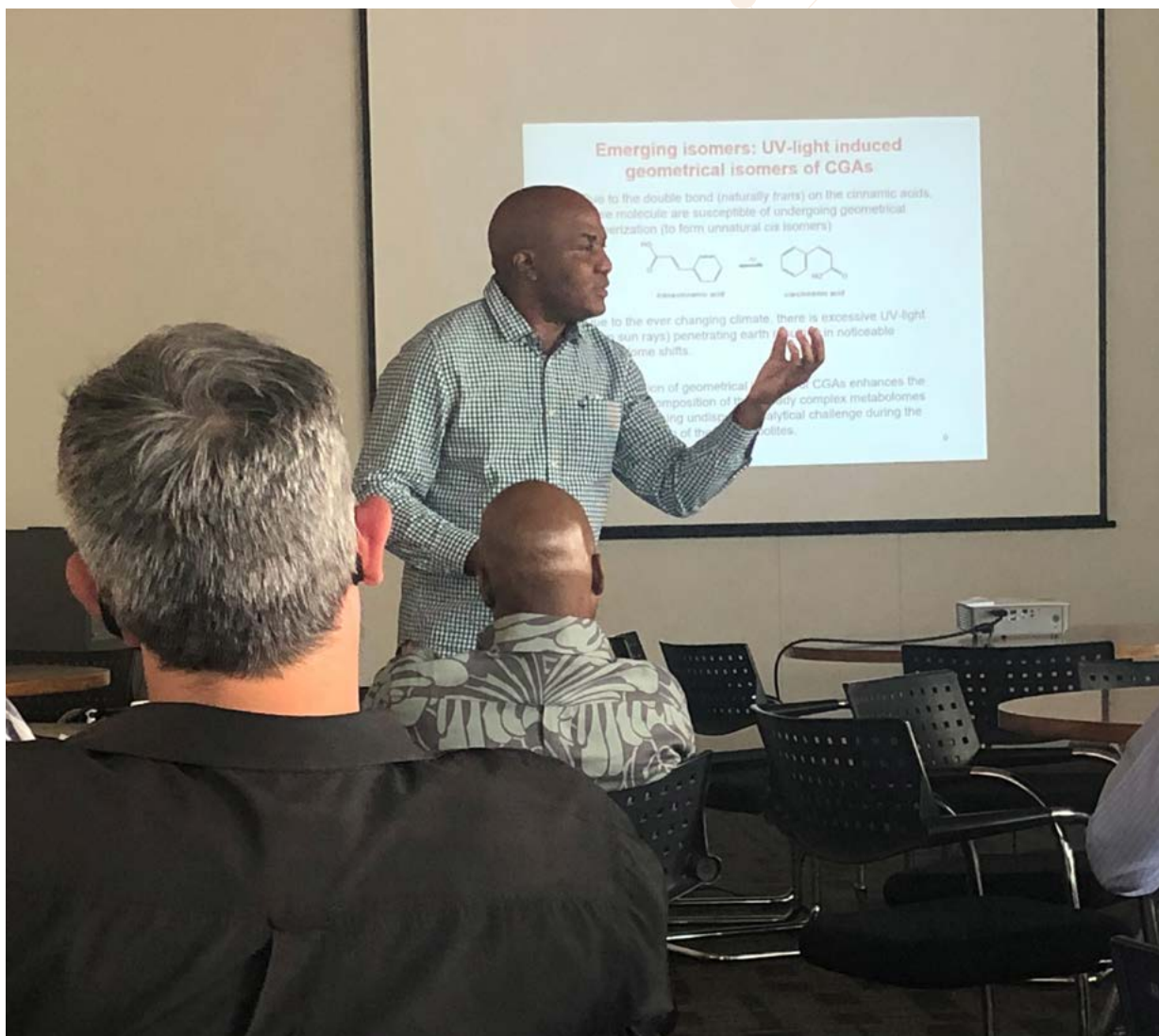
Increased sunlight exposure due to ozone depletion associated with global warming and climatic change has been shown to affect the metabolite composition of plants. This sunlight exposure causes compounds to isomerise forming different geometrical structures and creating additional metabolites which may be associated with unknown pharmacological consequences. However, there is evidence showing the positive effect of activities on the positive side.

Ntakadzeni and his colleagues are looking at exposing plant extracts to UV-light of different intensities. These extracts are then analysed using liquid chromatography mass spectrometry and

further scrutinised through various statistical models to unearth the effect of the UV-light on the chemistry of these metabolites. These extracts will then be evaluated for their biological activities to establish their pharmacological relevance. The work is expected to showcase the photo-catalytic properties of UV-light as a feasible approach to generate photo-switchable drugs with enhanced pharmacological activities.

“Climate change is generally associated with environmental catastrophes,” he says. “However, we are showing that climate change associated geometrical isomers may have beneficial pharmacological properties. These findings have important consequences because nothing has been shown so far on the effect of climate change on the chemistry/pharmacology of plants,” says Ntakadzeni.

During his residency, Ntakadzeni worked on deciphering the biological and chemical properties of isomers isolated from various green leafy vegetables collected in and around the Venda region of South Africa. He also interrogated the literature to unearth various hypotheses to enable future studies aimed at establishing the consequences associated with the presence of these molecules. Ntakadzeni also made contact with the Mass Spectrometry Centre at Lund University in Sweden with the aim of initiating collaborative work and spending part of his fellowship there.



Ntakadzeni Edwin Madala during his seminar at STIAS in December 2020

“Climate change is generally associated with environmental catastrophes,”

- Ntakadzeni Edwin Madala.

INTERACTION AND FEEDBACK

“The feedback I received after my presentation at STIAS has allowed me to come up with other approaches to further substantiate the mechanism of action of these molecules. For instance, it was suggested that I develop an assay to look at the inhibitory mechanism of these geometrical isomers against different enzymes associated with various diseases.”

- Iso Lomso Fellowship

Citizenship, International Justice, and the View from the South

Christine Hobden is in her second year of the 3-year Iso Lomso Fellowship Programme. Her book project aims to develop a political theory of citizenship for a globalised, but inter-national world.

Christine Hobden, Iso Lomso Fellow

Department of Philosophy
University of Fort Hare

Christine Hobden's book project begins from the current reality of a world divided into separate but deeply interconnected states and explores how we can best understand citizenship within this context. She proceeds from the starting point of an increasing responsibility gap between citizens and the state and a world where citizens feel increasingly detached from decisions made on their behalf by states. In this void, she argues for a framework or normative ideal to guide us. "Something to orientate us in the difficult questions of how to be citizens in our complex world; an orientation from which to approach the many challenges of our unjust world," she says.

"Ultimately, I argue for a citizenship that is state-based but globally oriented. Citizenship, so conceived, grounds duties for citizens as a collective to hold their states accountable to act justly on the global stage," says Christine. Unfortunately, Christine's residency was cut short when South Africa went on a nationwide COVID-19 lockdown in March 2020. She re-joined us when travel was possible in the second semester of the year.

"During the first weeks of my residency, I did the bulk of the writing on a chapter for an edited volume on *Sovereignty and Value*. This piece, titled: 'There is no Sovereignty without Citizens: Citizen Responsibility, Sovereign States, and our Globalized World' is closely related to my book project but has a slightly different framing", Christine says. She also worked on an article on political consumerism which she presented as a STIAS

seminar in which she argued for consumer activism as an important arena in which citizens can play an active role in holding states accountable for their actions.

Although her residency period was interrupted, she made significant progress on her book manuscript, *Citizenship in a Globalised World* and managed to send a draft for comment. She also wrote a piece for *The Conversation* on the new Refugee Amendment Act and did a radio interview on the subject with Africa Melane on Cape Talk.

Other writing work she did during her two-part residency includes a piece on collective responsibility and the COVID-19 pandemic for the National Institute of the Humanities and Social Sciences. In her role as the South African expert for Global Citizenship Observatory (GLOBALCIT), she wrote another piece on a recent citizenship case before the South African Constitutional Court.

There were some losses, however. An international workshop for her book manuscript and related themes of citizenship due to happen in April 2020 in Stellenbosch had to be put on hold and so were presentations in Philosophy Departments at the Stellenbosch and UCT campuses.

Christine also became involved in laying the groundwork for a potential community engagement project to facilitate political consumerism in the wine industry with Iso Lomso and Stellenbosch colleagues.

"This increased public engagement on issues of citizenship and migration law has been a conscious choice of the last year, and the STIAS environment has really assisted with this goal," she says.



Christine Hobden speaking during her seminar in February 2020.

**“Ultimately, I argue
for a citizenship that
is state based but
globally oriented,”
- Christine Hobden.**

INTERACTION AND FEEDBACK

“It was a productive time for me, especially so because of the academic community after a long period of working from home. I appreciate all that the STIAS team did to make it possible to enable us to be physically present at STIAS again.

I particularly valued the sense of community and the ability to have meaningful conversations about the vision and aims of STIAS – something I care very deeply about. I look forward to hopefully returning in the not too-distant future,” says Christine.

- Iso Lomso Fellowship

Writing on Water: Experiments with historical forms through Daniel Morolong and Joseph Denfield's photographs of the East London coast

Phindezwa Mnyaka was in residence as an Iso Lomso Visiting Scholar. Her project explains the multiple ways that photographs depicting the sea can be utilised for formal experimentation and disruption in history writing.

Phindezwa Mnyaka, Iso Lomso Visiting Scholar

History Department

University of the Western Cape

Phindezwa's residency was initially planned for six weeks but when the nationwide COVID-19 lockdown was announced in South Africa and movement between towns was restricted, she opted to remain in Stellenbosch and virtually connect with her cohort until physical activities resumed.

Her research is looking at how the examination of material objects like photographs can be used to draw attention to how historical knowledge is produced, rather than found, allowing for formal disruptions and novel modes of writing history.

She is specifically unpacking the ways that photographs depicting the sea can be utilised for experimentation in history writing. To do this, she is engaging with the photographic collections produced by local photographer, Daniel Morolong and British immigrant, Joseph Denfield in the port city of East London, South Africa, in the 1960s.

In both collections the East London coastline figures prominently as both setting and photographic subject. Denfield, put out a request via *The Daily Dispatch* newspaper for readers to send in photos from the 1870s to 1910 and then undertook the task of cleaning and re-photographing the negatives once received. Morolong on the other hand, was a photographer, born in East London, went to school in Zastron in the Free State, and began his photography career in the early 1950s.

Although the men never met and came from different backgrounds with very different motivations, both produced extensive photographic collections in a time and context of intensified racial segregation and restructuring of the city in accordance with apartheid policies.

"Morolong's photos were mostly of people who procured the photos themselves – they wanted to be photographed. Whereas Denfield's collection was related to historical events, the marking of occasions – and, of course, were taken by different photographers which would have shaped the experience," she says.



East London Coastline featured on website
<https://www.eastlondon.org.za/>



Phindezwa Mnyaka explaining her project in February 2020.

Drawing from scholarship that argues for photography as a mode of performing history and of history writing; and in turn, as a way of constituting a spectacle, the project aims to generate experimental texts attentive to the discipline of history.

Parts of Phindezwa's collaborative work were placed on hold due to the lockdown, but she managed to complete a paper for a special issue on water for the journal *Wasafiri*, titled: 'Land and Sea Acts: Performances in and out of photography on a South African beach'.

An invitation from literary scholars who work on water, the ocean and fiction allowed her step out of her comfort zone to find a southern African novel and write a paper on how water functions in the book. This is titled 'Twice heard and newly told: Tales of transfiguration in Claire Robertson's *The Spiral House*' and has been submitted to *English Studies in Africa*.

"It's a paper that is not only a direct result of my stay in Stellenbosch but draws extensively from aspects that have marked my surroundings, and my own experiences of an extended winter," she says.

INTERACTION AND FEEDBACK

"What I imagined would be a brief sojourn through the Winelands, literally a passing through over six weeks, turned out to be an unexpected six months stay. My experience of STIAS and Stellenbosch, as a result, is intimately tied to global events that have unfolded. STIAS heroically saved me by generously extending my fellowship. What appeared at first to be an unfortunate shipwreck, turned out to be precisely what my mind, body and soul needed," says Phindezwa.

- Iso Lomso Fellowship

Adaptation of Mosquito Vectors to Insecticides: Implications for Vector Control

Fara Nantenaina Raharimalala is in her second year of the 3-year Iso Lomso Fellowship Programme. She spent time in residence at the Laboratoire d'Ecologie Alpine, in Grenoble, France.

Fara Nantenaina Raharimalala, Iso Lomso Fellow

Medical Entomology Unit
Institut Pasteur de Madagascar

Mortality caused by mosquito vectors is higher in African countries. In the last decade, an increase in vector-borne diseases was reported in Africa, the Indian Ocean region and Asia, along with the spread of the Zika virus in South America. Vector control contributes to reducing malaria and arboviral diseases, however, despite the use of insecticides and their effectiveness, over-use of these chemicals generates the development of resistance in mosquito vectors.

"I am looking at insecticidal resistance in two mosquito species: *Aedes Albopictus*, the main arboviruses vector and *Anopheles arabiensis*, which is the main malaria vector, on five islands – Comoros, Madagascar, Mauritius, Reunion and the Seychelles," says Fara.

It is crucial to preserve the efficacy of currently available insecticides. This requires surveillance and management strategies.

During 2020 Fara was in residence at the Laboratoire d'Ecologie Alpine in Grenoble, France to explore new tools to detect and characterise insecticidal resistance.

The standard method recommended by the World Health Organization detects the presence of phenotype resistance using bio-assays. However, this only identifies already established resistance and availability of effective markers representative of the phenotypes in mosquito populations is lacking.

The development of new tools is therefore crucial. Fara's residency focused on next-generation sequencing to allow detection and characterisation of specific biomarkers related to insecticide resistance associated with *Ae. Albopictus* - the mosquito responsible for transmitting most arboviruses in Madagascar.

Results achieved have demonstrated the presence of 10 candidate genes among over-expressed genes and four among underexpressed genes. These biomarkers will now be validated by linking resistance markers with the resistance phenotype in individual mosquitoes after which high throughput molecular assays will be developed to track them in natural populations.

INTERACTION AND FEEDBACK

"This residency allowed me to set up an international collaboration and to benefit from high-level training. The results give hope for the future," says Fara.

"The work will continue. I thank Laboratoire d'Ecologie Alpine for their support. I am grateful to STIAS for conceiving the Iso Lomso Programme and their unconditional support for researchers to provide the best-available knowledge," she says.



Fara Raharimalala.

“I am looking at insecticidal resistance in two mosquito species: *Aedes Albopictus*, the main arboviruses vector and *Anopheles arabiensis*, which is the main malaria vector, on five islands – Comoros, Madagascar, Mauritius, Reunion and the Seychelles,” - **Fara Nantenaina Raharimalala.**



A photograph of a mosquito on skin.

Bodies and/as Texts: Representing Queer on Screen in Contemporary Africa

Gibson Ncube is in his second year of the 3-year Iso Lomso Fellowship Programme. During 2020 he spent time in residence at the National Humanities Center in North Carolina, USA.

Gibson Ncube, Iso Lomso Fellow

Department of Foreign Languages and Literature
University of Zimbabwe

Gibson's book project examines how queer African bodies projected on screen articulate the intersection between atypical temporalities race, gender, and sexuality. He argues that queer bodies on screens have the potential to reconstruct not just media and filmic forms, but, more importantly, how non-normative sexualities and gender identities are constructed and come into discursive being.

Gibson sees the body as an accumulation of not only the physical and the material but also as text embedded with codes and meanings. His research tries to understand both the actual projection onto the screen as well as the selection issues inherent in the bodies projected.

Most scholarship to date has sought to make sense of queer subjectivities. This study sets out to go beyond the analysis of screen texts by focusing on the screened queer bodies as living texts that have the potential to articulate narratives normally sidelined by mainstream literary, artistic and media discourses. Gibson is undertaking this work by an analysis of diverse screen documents (including films, short-films, music videos and documentaries),

As part of his fellowship, Gibson spent time in residence at the National Humanities Center in North Carolina USA during 2020.

The residency included attending several seminars focusing on topics ranging from copyright issues in publishing, to drafting book proposals for academic presses and also pitching ideas to non-academic outlets such as newspapers and academic magazines. He also had the opportunity to present his project to other Fellows in residence.

"Most of the time in residence was spent in writing. I was able to complete 5 out of 6 chapters of my book project. I was also able to revise each of the 5 drafts to ensure logical coherence between the chapters," he says.

"I was also able to write and submit for publication four research papers which have all been accepted for publication and these are:

- Eternal mothers, whores or witches: The oddities of being a woman in politics in Zimbabwe. *Agenda: Empowering women for gender equity.*
- Coronavirus, the great equaliser? Bodies, borders and mobility during the global coronavirus pandemic. *Administrative Theory and Praxis.*
- Skin and space-making in selected Maghrebian queer films. *Journal of African Cultural Studies.*
- Circuits of homophobia and queer assertions in Africa: Trengove's Inxeba and Kahui's Rafiki. *English Studies in Africa.*



Gibson Ncube.



The National Humanities Center in North Carolina, USA.

INTERACTION AND FEEDBACK

"The collegial atmosphere was conducive for discussing my work with Fellows from different fields and from different parts of the world. I was able to share my draft chapters with fellow Fellows who were able to give constructive feedback," Gibson says.

"The library at the NHC was also extremely helpful in finding many documents, written and visual, which I had previously been unable to access. However, the closure of the NHC and imposition of lockdown and isolation (due to the COVID-19 pandemic) did prove challenging both physically and from a mental health aspect.

"I am eternally grateful for the overseas residence at the NHC. The experience has been academically and personally enriching and has allowed me to make considerable progress on my project,"
- Gibson Ncube.

Individual Fellowship

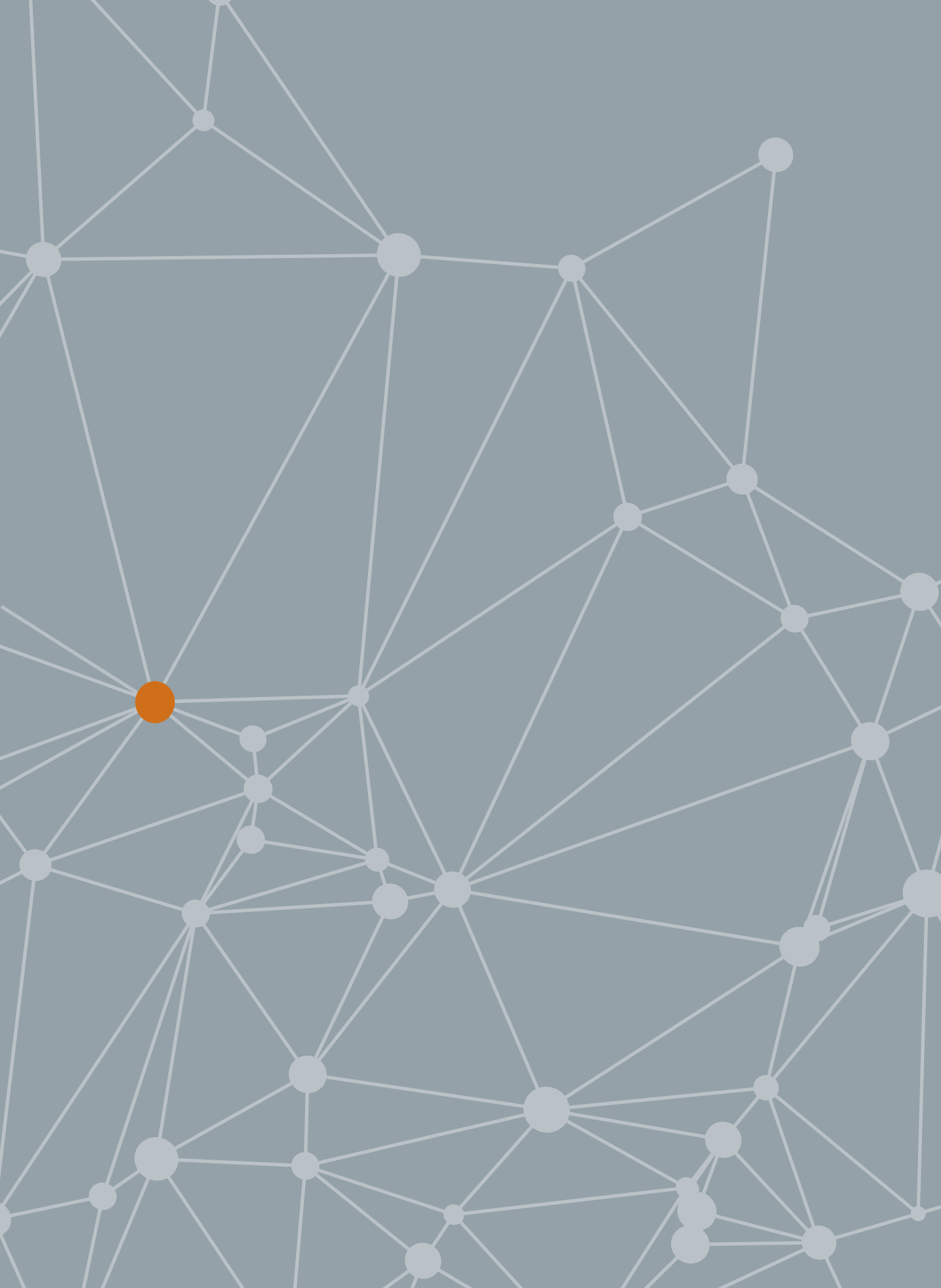
The COVID-19 pandemic impacted the number of Fellows taking part in the STIAS programme in 2020.

A total of 48 Fellows and 45 Visiting Scholars were in residence.

During the first semester STIAS hosted 6 South African and a further three Fellows from other African countries.

Thirty Fellows originally invited for the second semester of 2020 cancelled their fellowships due to COVID-19 related travel restrictions.

In the second semester, a total of 55 Fellows and Visiting Scholars represented African countries, the majority (41) of which were selected following the extraordinary call for team proposals. More about the extraordinary call in the Team Fellowship section of this report.



- Individual Fellowship

The Theoretical Alignment of Bayesian Statistics and Cumulative Prospect Theory

Using Bayesian statistics for decision making in software engineering and computer science.

Richard Torkar

University of Gothenburg

Computer science and software engineering research focuses on traditional frequentist approaches from statistics, to point at the improvements a certain technique or method offers compared to a baseline.

Decision making is often presented as a binary, yes or no, when in reality it is rarely this simple. Richard's Wallenberg Foundation-funded research looks at combining Bayesian statistics with utility theory, in particular cumulative prospect theory - to give decision makers a better understanding of where the borders between yes and no are, and how they may affect processes and organisations. The project therefore combines two scientific areas: applied statistics (Bayesian) and decision-making under risk and uncertainty. Richard believes that by aligning Bayesian data analysis with cumulative prospect theory the field of computer science and software engineering will be able to convincingly argue practical significance when introducing new methods, tools, or techniques.

The project relies on four concepts to establish a better understanding of practical significance: Bayes' theorem, multilevel models, Markov chain Monte Carlo sampling, and cumulative prospect theory. Statistics is one of the principal tools researchers in software engineering and computer science have at their disposal to build an argument that guides them towards the ultimate objectives of practical significance and impact. This has not been done much to date. Richard believes this is because the statistical maturity of empirical software engineering research is not developed and research has been hampered by small sample sizes, a lack of data and detailed comparative analyses. He therefore

encourages more openness regarding data, and solutions based on data collection and improved statistical analysis.

During his residency, Richard aimed to continue his research concerning the development of Bayesian decision-making in empirical software engineering; conclude four studies that he had been working on for more than a year; and assist STIAS researchers with their data analysis.

"I've taken decisive steps towards a unification of utility theory within my research field," he says.

Richard also completed two journal publications - including one looking at how COVID-19 affects software developers - and a conference presentation. He also commenced two new research collaborations with STIAS fellows one of which resulted in a journal publication.

INTERACTION AND FEEDBACK

"To summarize my stay at STIAS is not easy, because much has taken place. It's been a tremendously productive stay," he says.

"I've had great assistance from the staff and the interactions with fellows has provided me with insights into other disciplines (and many great laughs!) Having the time to sit and talk with fellows from many different disciplines allows interesting things to happen."

"As a division head, with all the responsibilities that entails, allowing oneself to spend time on one's research is a blessing. To do so in a place like STIAS is one of the best things that has happened to me," says Richard.



Richard Torkar.

**“I’ve taken decisive steps
towards a unification of
utility theory within my
research field,”
- Richard Torkar.**

- Individual Fellowship

Gender, Sufi Ethics and Gender Justice in Islam

The project draws on two intellectual traditions, feminist ethics of care and Sufi ethics of relationality. The convergence of these two systems of knowledge generates a productive space for developing Muslim ethics focused on social justice and human flourishing.

Sa'diyya Shaikh

University of Cape Town

Sa'diyya Shaikh is working on a book entitled 'Gender, Sufi Ethics and Social Justice in Islam', to be published by Oneworld as part of their series *Islam in the 21st Century*.

Her research presents a constructive theological project on Muslim ethics, Sufism (Islamic Mysticism) and feminism. By exploring the ideas of a number of premodern and contemporary Muslim Sufis, she focuses on the ways that mystical language and method provide a dynamic model to engage human nature and gender within the Muslim tradition.

The book draws on two intellectual traditions: feminist ethics of care and Sufi ethics of relationality, which Sa'diyya believes generates a space for developing Muslim ethics focused on social justice and human flourishing.

"The book focuses on three contemporary ethical challenges: firstly, rethinking the nature of the human being religiously in ways that inform justice-based gender ethics; secondly, replacing pervasive underlying paradigms of domination with those of reciprocity and mutuality between human beings; and thirdly, mapping of an ethics that integrates justice and compassion in ways responsive to current Muslim realities," she says.

Overall Sa'diyya's research aims to critique and deconstruct patriarchal approaches, recognise marginalised egalitarian readings and practices, and understand and respond to issues of gender justice in contemporary Muslim contexts.

During her stay, Sa'diyya also co-edited with Fatima Seedat, a volume entitled '*The Women's Khutbah Book: Contemporary Sermons on Spirituality and Justice from around the World*' for Yale University Press. This is the first-ever global collection of sermons by Muslim women coming from countries ranging from South Africa to Senegal, Egypt, Mexico, Sweden, Germany, UK, USA, Indonesia, Malaysia, and Pakistan. "This volume was an enormous amount of editorial

labour given that there were 22 international contributors, many for whom English was a second language," she says.

In this volume, in addition to curating the contributions, the pair authored a conceptual framing of the historical and intellectual debates on women's presence in the mosque, gendered contestations and religious authority, as well as a chapter analysing the theoretical and theological impact of the sermons in the book.

INTERACTION AND FEEDBACK

"Given the unusual, demanding constraints of 2020, STIAS provided a much-needed reprieve and intellectual space. The anxiety, constriction and loss associated with COVID-19 impacted me deeply and coming to STIAS created a 'space to exhale', which, in turn, opened up a capacity to turn to my intellectual projects meaningfully," says Sa'diyya.

"I found the STIAS intellectual community vibrant and stimulating. Given my disciplinary location, some of philosophy and gender studies Fellows were rich interlocutors for my thinking. The selection committee did an excellent job in bringing together scholars with parallel and overlapping intellectual interests.

"Being introduced to unfamiliar research projects, the sheer value of newness expanded my horizons of thought. The balance of overlap and newness of the various researchers worked well. I found the scholars and STIAS staff lovely to engage with intellectually and personally. It was a most enriching environment," she says.



A Muslim woman by Aziz Acharki.

“I found the STIAS intellectual community vibrant and stimulating. Given my disciplinary location, some of philosophy and gender studies Fellows were rich interlocutors for my thinking,”

- Sa'diyya Shaikh.

- Individual Fellowship

Open Air Discourse: Romances of Resistance in the Somali Women's Struggle for Independence

Novelist and poet Ubah Christina Ali Farah is STIAS artist-in-residence. Born to a Somali father and Italian mother, Ubah grew up in Mogadishu, emigrating to Italy during the civil war in 1991.

Ubah Cristina Ali Farah

Artist-in-residence

At STIAS Ubah worked on a novel set in the 1950s in Mogadishu, Somalia, during the struggle for independence from Italy. The novel combines historical record, myth and fiction and is particularly concerned with the participation of women in the liberation movement. The working title is *The stations of the moon* and the book is expected to be published during 2021.

Her other published works include *Ai confini del verso: Poesia della migrazione in italiano* (2006); *A New Map: The poetry of Migrant Writers in Italy*, (2007) and *Madre piccola* (2007).

Like other STIAS Fellows who were in residence during the first semester of 2020, Ubah had to decide whether to repatriate or stay in Stellenbosch during South Africa's lockdown in response to the spread of COVID-19. She stayed.

"I had my research materials, but I had been thinking about this novel for 10 years and, suddenly, thanks to STIAS' amazing support, I was able to complete the first draft in under four months," she says.

"For most of the time I have been at STIAS I have been caught up in the COVID-19 emergency, so I did not have the chance to fully enjoy the wonderful environment. Nevertheless, the deliberated decision not to repatriate was strongly connected with what I had previously experienced," she says.

"During lockdown, despite the seclusion, I received the practical and emotional support I needed and never felt alone. Experiencing an event of such historical magnitude here helped me to reflect on some concepts (such as repatriation and maternity) which are central in my writing," says Ubah.

She hopes her latest work will shed light on the tensions, ambivalences and contradictions that led to a civil war lasting decades and contribute to the global debate on migration, human rights, peace and reconciliation.

Not only did she finish the first draft of her novel, during her residency Ubah also worked on a short story to be published in a bilingual (Italian and French) anthology by Saint-Nazaire's *Meet Edition of La Maison des Écrivains Étrangers et des Traducteurs*. She had been in residence in Saint-Nazaire in 2018 and researched the history of the town, especially its reconstruction after the Second World War. This story deals with French resistance and everyday life in the town where people live off fishing and the shipyards.

Also during her STIAS residency, Ubah worked on an essay on her own relationship with the Italian language for *Meet Review* released towards the end of 2020, and a commemorative article on Saada Cali, a Somali singer, poet and actress who was killed in Mogadishu in 2014 by al-Shabaab.



Ubah Christina Ali Farah.

**“During lockdown,
despite the seclusion,
I received the practical
and emotional support I
needed and never
felt alone,”
- Ubah Cristina Ali Farah.**

INTERACTION AND FEEDBACK

“When I received the STIAS invitation I was thrilled and amazed. I knew it would be a life and career-changing experience,” she says. “It was the first time I had participated in an institute of advanced study programme. Previously, I had only experienced residencies for writers. After two decades in Europe, the opportunity to be back on the continent was in itself inspiring. What I found on my arrival was more than I expected,” says Ubah.

- Individual Fellowship

Single Polarised-Photon Emitters

based on III-Nitride Pyramidal Quantum Dots for Quantum Cryptography

Efficient white LEDs are not only predicted to save about 50 % of global lighting in the near future, but also have the potential to realise improved technologies for modern lighting design.

Per Olof Holtz

Department of Physics, Chemistry and Biology (IFM)
Linköping University

Generating more efficient white light-emitting diodes (LEDs) is the goal for Per Olof Holtz and his colleagues.

Although LEDs have been around since the 1960s and have contributed to more resource-efficient and environmentally friendly light sources, they are still not as efficient as required. Current LEDs suffer from shortcomings such as limited efficiency of light generated at longer wavelengths within the visible range.

More efficient white-light sources in particular are still needed. White is a combination of blue, red and green. Blue has a high efficiency – up to 90%, but the efficiency for the green or red LEDs is considerably lower. Currently, therefore white LEDs are based on a blue LED combined with a phosphor, with an energy efficiency of about 30 to 40%. Although over five times better than traditional light bulbs, they are still not optimum.

Per Olof's work is focused broadly on developing novel semiconductor-based quantum structures with a potential for various applications, from secure optical communication by means of quantum cryptography to brighter white-LEDs.

His work at STIAS focused specifically towards developing multi-colour LEDs for white-light emission. The aim is to develop a new type of multi-colour LEDs, based on the same nitride material, InGaN, as blue diodes. If green and red LEDs can be developed with the same efficiency as blue diodes, the colours could be mixed into a more efficient white-light source. This could save about 50% of global lighting energy in coming decades and would result in a reduction in CO₂ emissions.

Efficient white LEDs also have the potential to result in improved technologies overall for modern lighting design. This includes approaches such as circadian

lighting, i.e. lighting which mimics the sunlight spectrum, which offers health benefits, improved life quality and working ability.

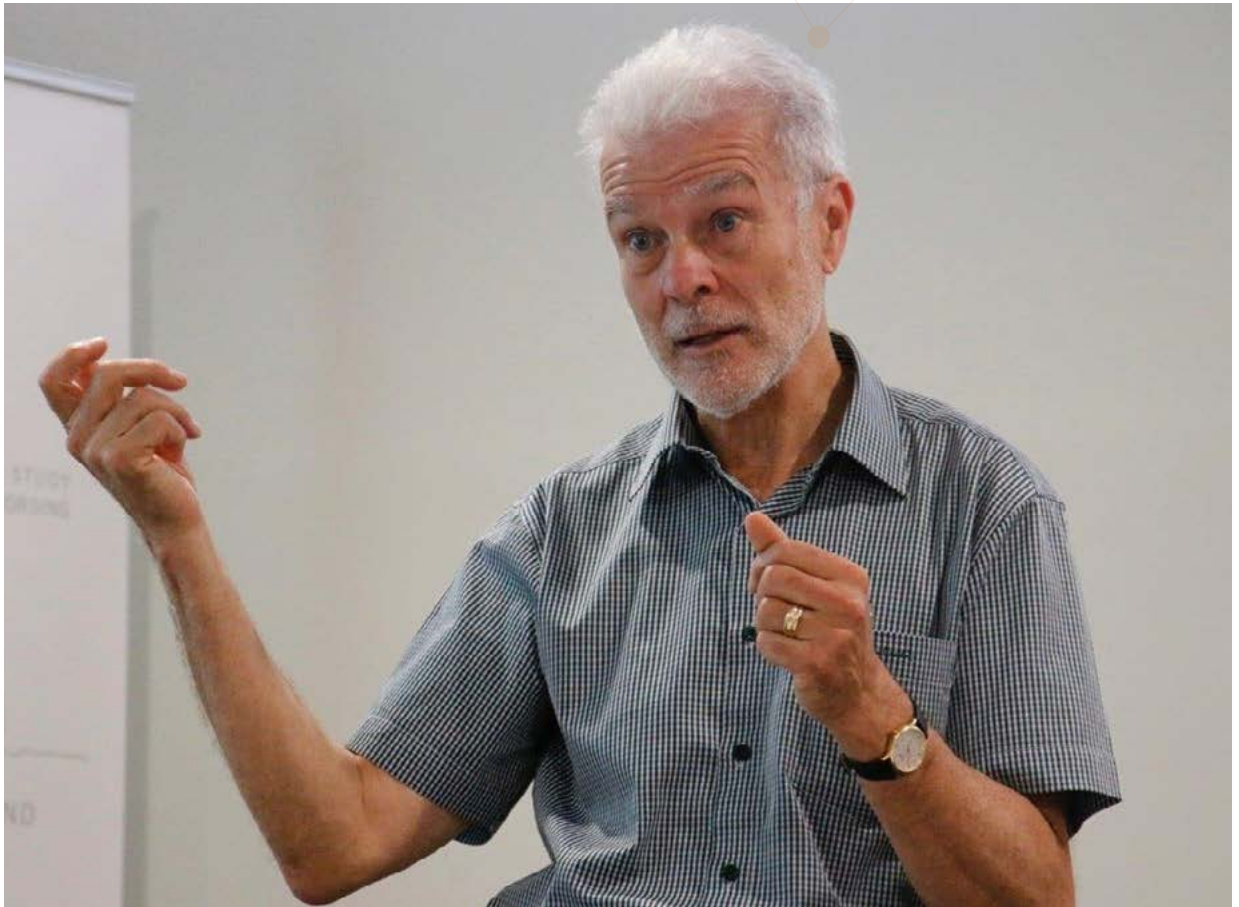
Per Olof used his residency to probe deeper into the literature, to write three novel applications for project funding and to prepare, finalise and submit journal articles. He also visited his South African partner at Nelson Mandela University with whom he has long-running exchange programmes. The opportunity to interact with fellows from other disciplines encouraged novel thinking.

"I encountered novel angles for my project while at STIAS in discussing the more medically oriented aspects such as the effect of light of different wavelengths on humans in terms of melatonin production and risks for different diseases," he says.

INTERACTION AND FEEDBACK

"There were also numerous discussions on energy and environment: How energy is generated in Africa and elsewhere, novel innovative methods for energy generation, energy savings, and the relationship between energy generation and environmental consequences. These will serve as essential input for my future research directions," says Per Olof.

"This points to the value of the cross-fertilisation of thoughts and ideas in a broad research realm. It was truly stimulating to be surrounded by such brilliant researchers from different disciplines. This environment was exciting for creative and innovative thinking," he says.



Per Olof Holtz during his seminar at STIAS.

“Although LEDs have been around since the 1960s and have contributed to more resource-efficient and environmentally friendly light sources, they are still not as efficient as required,” - Per Olof Holtz.

- Individual Fellowship

Embodied Human Freedom

Lucy Allais is the holder of the Henry E. Allison Chair in the History of Philosophy at the University of California, San Diego, and Professor of Philosophy at Wits University.

Lucy Allais

University of the Witwatersrand
University of California San Diego

Lucy used her time at STIAS to devote attention to her book project which will unpack a philosophical account of the concept of human freedom. The working title is *Human Freedom: Metaphysical, Moral, Political* and it is conceived in three parts, with part I on the metaphysics of free will (how free will can be reconciled with causation as it is understood in science - the traditional free will problem); part II on the nature of autonomous action and practical reason; and part III on political freedom/unfreedom as well as the consequences for our moral selves and our agency of living in injustice.

The book is partly a history of philosophy, and Allais will approach these topics through the lens of the enlightenment philosopher Immanuel Kant. She described having uninterrupted time to get into a new, large and difficult area of thought as invaluable and was able to do a significant amount of reading on contemporary philosophical literature on autonomy and the relation between rational capacities, freedom and moral responsibility, to re-read all Kant's primary texts on these topics, to read some secondary commentaries on Kant's texts, and to start the writing.

"This is the kind of basic research that is so hard to do while busy with teaching and administration: one never has the time to go back to the primary texts and re-read them carefully," she says.

"This was extremely fruitful, and I feel I have learned, made connections and plotted out a large amount of this part of the book. I aim to write a paper on Freedom and Autonomy in Kant, as the initial process of development."

In addition, while at STIAS Allais completed a paper critiquing Thad Metz's work on a moral theory based on ubuntu, which will be published in an edited volume, presented a paper on emotion-based accounts of forgiveness at a philosophy seminar in Zurich (via zoom), and wrote a paper on this which will appear in the *Routledge Handbook of Forgiveness*. She also made progress towards completing a paper on Forgiveness and the Meaning of Life, which will appear in the *Handbook of the Meaning of Life* and investigating what conception of free markets would follow from Kant's freedom-based political philosophy which was presented to the philosophy department at the City University of New York via zoom.



Lucy Allais during her seminar at STIAS.

“This was extremely fruitful, and I feel I have learned, made connections and plotted out a large amount of this part of the book. I aim to write a paper on Freedom and Autonomy in Kant, as the initial process of development,” - Lucy Allais.

INTERACTION AND FEEDBACK

“I enjoyed the collaborative discussions and seminars. Hearing varied, high-quality research in so many areas creates such a stimulating research environment. The sociability of the set-up is the perfect amount for constructive writing, and the beauty of the surrounding natural environment made it the perfect writing space,” says Lucy.

“I am extremely grateful for my fellowship which has been the best research time of my career. I am sad about the time lost due to COVID-19, but incredibly grateful for the opportunity,” she says.

- Team Fellowship

Team Fellowship

In the second semester of 2020 STIAS put out an extraordinary call for proposals to support new and existing collaborative research projects from South African and African applicants.

The call sought to create a platform for collaboration by turning the international travel restrictions into an opportunity for local researchers to either develop new proposals or to further existing collaborative work.

More than 40 submissions involving 115 applicants from 25 different South African universities and research organisations, were received. The STIAS Research and Fellowships Programme Committee evaluated all applications and 14 team projects were selected.



Cartographies of Hospitality:

The Gendered, Racialised and Classed Politics of Hosting

This team project consists of three scholars and aims to investigate ideas about the political, philosophical and cultural aspects of hospitality through empirical research in Sweden, Great Britain and Turkey, in order to generate comparative data.

Hospitality is an important theme in the contemporary discourse of migration. Yet, despite growing academic interest, empirical research on the subject is underdeveloped. This study aims to investigate ideas about the political, philosophical and cultural aspects of hospitality through generating comparative data from Sweden, Great Britain and Turkey. The research examines boundaries as well as borders, and forms part of the STIAS *Crossing Borders* theme.

Rather than focusing on individual experiences, attention is on the channels and infrastructures that regulate migrant transitions. In situations of human tragedy, hospitality is often seen initially as an ethical responsibility, however, over time and as numbers increase, it may take on a conditional aspect with questions asked about why people need help? Who is behind the conflicts causing the displacement? Who belongs and on what terms and conditions? How many people are enough? Who are the most desirable and deserving, and who are undesirable and should be disqualified?

The team members, Fataneh Farahani, Suruchi Thapar-Björkert and Yasmin Gunaratnam had been working together on the project remotely and through digital means for the last three years. For the first time, during their team residency they had the opportunity to work for an extended time without having a screen between them.

The work is examining the practices and policies of hospitality and hostility towards migrants, refugees and exiles and is particularly interested in how the dynamics play out in the relationships between state and civil society.

The focus on the practices of civil society organisations that support asylum seekers, is looking at how the class, ethnicity, age, gender and religious beliefs of volunteers informs such work as well as how organisational practices relate to national discourses, government policies, and media and popular culture.

The study will provide a focus for understanding everyday meanings and negotiations of national citizenship, inclusion and exclusion as well as having wider implications for public and policy debates on immigration, integration and multiculturalism. This includes practical concerns such as border controls, national security, personal safety, identity checks, rights to citizenship and also economic considerations.

Other areas that the project covers include the coloniality of power, knowledge and being, as well as feminist aspects of hospitality as, in most cases, it is women who take responsibility for migrant care and are involved in refugee organisations.

During their residence at STIAS in the first semester of 2020, the team was able to discuss and consolidate progress, revisit the foundational literature on hospitality, as well as hone the theoretical framing and methodologies. They used the collaborative time to consolidate and analyse research findings from the different study sites and to identify similarities with migration and hospitality dynamics in South Africa.

The team was able to further develop themes and ideas for two collections in the *Journal of Sociology on Hospitality and Hostility: The Intimate Life of Borders and Migration* and in *Discover Society on Reimagining Artistic and Intellectual Hospitality* in



Members of the hospitality team project are Suruchi Thapar-Björkert from Uppsala University, Fataneh Farahani from Stockholm University and Yasmin Gunaratnam from Goldsmiths, University of London.

Times of Hostility. This included providing feedback on draft papers, finding reviewers, and working on individual and collaborative contributions. Despite the cancellation of some activities due to the COVID-19 lockdown and being forced to cut their fellowship period, the team was able to participate in and to achieve the following:

- A seminar on feminist methodologies for the Women and Gender Studies Department at the University of the Western Cape (UWC).
- A public lecture on feminist and anti-colonial presencing at UWC for the Mellon-funded project 'Governing Intimacies'.
- Participation in a panel on feminist methods at the African Gender Institute at the University of Cape Town (UCT).
- A public lecture on the Political Economy of Fear and Gendered Violence on South African Women's Day (SARCHI Chair in Gender and Politics and SU Women's Forum), Stellenbosch University
- Submitted a grant proposal to the Swedish Research Council for the development of a five-year international programme on Decolonial Feminism with the aim to connect scholars working in this field in South Africa and Sweden

INTERACTION AND FEEDBACK

"My time at STIAS has been characterised by engaging interdisciplinary seminars, and challenging and fruitful discussions," says Fataneh. "The challenge of presenting our work to a group of excellent scholars from different disciplines was not only thought-provoking but also very educational, enabling us to see our research questions and results from other perspectives," she says.

"While a list of outputs is important in terms of productivity, my experience at STIAS exceeds this itemisation with regard to the care and intellectual community that STIAS has offered," says Yasmin. "The interdisciplinary dialogue has led to many fruitful conversations and a generous exchange of ideas that has enabled me to see my research from different perspectives and traditions, and to learn from the knowledge and experience of others," she says.

"Thank you for this opportunity and for providing a nurturing and an enabling environment," says Suruchi. "I had a productive time, interacting and sharing engaging conversations with people from different disciplines which was endearing, stimulating and unparalleled," she says.

- Team Fellowship

The Disorder of Things: The Book as Artwork

This project involves two artists-in-residence, Christine Dixie from Rhodes University and Heléne van Aswegen from Stellenbosch University.

Christine and Heléne used their stay at STIAS to do the groundwork for their artist's book *Blueprint for The Disorder of Things*, progression towards the artist's book *Ghostprint for The Disorder of Things* and the completion of the print series, *Under the Crux*. This involved processes from printmaking to manual draughting, airbrush work, stitching and *chine-collé*. The project is in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and was conceived and partially executed in Christine's living room during lockdown. The overarching framework is informed by a post-colonial reinterpretation of the painting *Las Meninas* by Diego Velasquez and the essay *Las Meninas* written by French philosopher Michel Foucault in 1966 which became the first chapter of his seminal work *The Order of Things*.

Las Meninas was painted in 1656 depicting a scene in the Court of Phillip IV during the Spanish Golden Age. It was seen as revolutionary due to its complex depiction of reality and illusion and is one of the most widely analysed works in Western painting. The conceptual point of departure is that language in a disordered world cannot be read as logical and that vision becomes fragmented as we traverse the space between image and text. Book arts as a medium aligns with this exploration of 'unreading' traditional text and introducing a new way of reading though emphasis on visual, tactile and sensory responses.

"The aim is to provide a sense of disorder and disruption. Things falling apart, a particular order that is thrown out. The questioning and disruption of language in complicated times. Things which are there but hidden beneath overlaid fragments. A depiction of life at the moment within the pandemic," explains Christine.

An artist's book is a medium through which to examine the spaces between vision and language; image, and text; and the two- and three-dimensional. They are artworks in the form of a book usually published as one-off or small editions and generally interactive and portable.

Christine and Heléne believe this genre has the ability to transgress the boundaries between academic research and art making. Such works are becoming a revered medium with institutions such as MoMA, the Smithsonian and the New York Library. Stellenbosch University is the only institution in South Africa with a dedicated studio for the production of artists' books. This was established by Heléne and Keith Dietrich.

INTERACTION AND FEEDBACK

Christine and Heléne described their residency at STIAS as invaluable, granting them time to explore the research together.

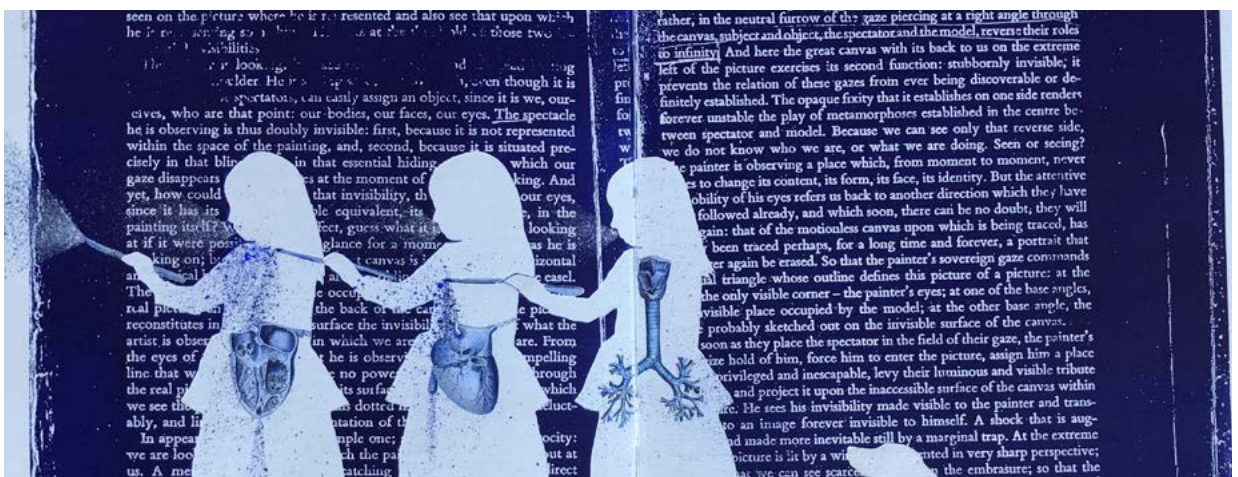
"This kind of practical research only reaches its full potential when we collaborate in person. This experience has been especially rewarding after working in isolation," says the duo.

"The series generated has responded to a sense of chaos, or disorder that our world has experienced. The opportunity to work through this experience in a supportive environment and through a creative process has allowed us to be constructive during a difficult, anxious time.

We were very pleased with the level of engagement, receiving feedback that offered new perspectives. It was an honour to be the first visual artists to be accepted at this residency to produce a work of art," the pair says.



The Disorder of Things team members, Christine Dixie from Rhodes University and Helène van Aswegen from Stellenbosch University during their seminar at STIAS.



Some of the images featured in the *Blueprint for the Disorder of Things*.

Text, Human Rights and Pandemics: Being Human in Times of Contagion

This project comprising Thabisani Ndlovu of the Walter Sisulu University, Cheryl Stobie of the University of KwaZulu-Natal, Irikidzayi Manase of the University of the Free State and Robert Muponde of the University of the Witwatersrand, responds to COVID-19 and situates the pandemic in the humanities.

The project takes a long-shot view of text, contagion and ideas of the rights-bearing human over time. It focuses on contagion not only for its topicality but also its endurance in the Humanities as it continues to pose difficult questions about being human in situations where widespread physical contagion of bodies becomes a more virulent pandemic of fear and anxiety, prompting a proliferation of texts that attempt to comprehend human interconnectedness and the desire to affirm, deny, suspend or end it. The project uses a rights-reading framework to examine wide-ranging texts from personal narratives, newspaper articles and government documents to literature and social media, including community WhatsApp groups formed during the pandemic. “We argue that contagion is both literal and metaphoric, as indicated by the realisation that the virality of texts outstrips the virology of SARS-Cov-2 to create an info-demic that attempts to make sense of precarity and trauma,” explains team leader, Thabisani Ndlovu.

“We use biological contagion as an additional lens to complicate and rethink humanness under the far-reaching and evolving effects of attempts to contain COVID-19. Through this prism, we also investigate how new forms of cultural life are emerging, while old ones are being discarded or modified,” Thabisani says.

The human rights reading approach accepts that we have rights because we are human but also highlights that humanness has always been and

continues to be contested with some having to fight for it. This makes it important for academics to ask pertinent questions especially during moments of contagion such as, who has been accorded humanness, when, how and why, and whose humanity has been suspended or denied, what and whose rights are impacted, and what rights are left and for whom?

Cheryl Stobie’s focus is on examining the role of fiction in a world of changing perspectives and how humans use fiction to understand societies in times of crisis and to hold up mirrors to make sense of the world in which we find ourselves. In particular she is looking at the changing depiction of at-risk groups like LGBTQ people to understand the role of fiction in either reinforcing the *status quo* or reconfiguring it in a more progressive direction.

Irikidzayi Manase is approaching this work through an analysis of government texts – specifically the Disaster Management Act as published in the *Government Gazette*, as well as media articles to try and understand the changing spatial divisions in Cape Town during COVID-19. He is particularly interested in understanding how people react when their rights are taken away such as in a period of restrictions and lockdown.

Robert Muponde is examining the language of lockdown and practices adopted as resistance to enduring forms of repression in Zimbabwe where the COVID-19 lockdown has been about the continuation of a cycle of violence from colonial



Irikidzayi Manase, Cheryl Stobie, and Thabisani Ndlovu.

times to the present day. This includes physical and social media responses as well as responses in the literary sphere.

The team's period of residency at STIAS allowed for in-depth individual and collective research and reading on the rights reading framework and the history of contagion, as well as group discussions on the links between individual focus areas and the overall project theme and objectives. The group also undertook detailed discussions to map the way forward for the project and made decisions on which publishers to approach regarding a possible book contract.

INTERACTION AND FEEDBACK

"We express our most sincere gratitude to STIAS for this residency which made it possible for us to meet face to face and devote time to reading and discussions to expand our knowledge on the commonalities between our theme and the project focus," says Thabisani. "The diversity amongst the fellows, the camaraderie and respect for others created an atmosphere I enjoyed a lot at STIAS. There are also possible collaborations to follow after talking to some fellows," he says.

The Effects of Race: The Culmination of a Landmark Project

2020 marked the culmination of one of STIAS' long-term projects, *The Effects of Race*. The team comprises team leaders Nina Jablonski of Penn State University and Gerhard Maré of the University of KwaZulu-Natal; with members Mikael Hjerm of Umeå University, Chabani Manganyi of the University of Pretoria, Njabulo Ndebele, Chair of both the Nelson Mandela and Mandela Rhodes Foundations, Barney Pityana of the Thabo Mbeki Foundation, Crain Soudien of the Human Sciences Research Council, Göran Therborn of Cambridge and Linnaeus Universities, George Chaplin of Penn State University and Zimitri Erasmus of the University of the Witwatersrand.

An undoubted and major highlight of the first semester of 2020 at STIAS was the publication and launch of the book *Persistence of Race* produced by the STIAS Effects of Race project and published by African Sun Media. This is the third and final set of essays, the two previous books, *Race in Education* and *The Effects of Race* were published in 2019 and 2018, respectively. The event also marked the culmination of this landmark STIAS project. Conceived in 2012 as a part of the STIAS theme 'Being Human Today', the Effects of Race Project aimed to inform social change by challenging and undermining existing notions of racial difference. The goal was to address gaps in our knowledge on race thinking and racialism, and to reflect on the future especially in the South African context. 'Being Human Today' is one of seven long-term STIAS research projects on selected themes funded by the Knut and Alice Wallenberg Foundation.

The project was informed by the need for further research and reflection on race, especially in the context of contesting visions for a democratic South Africa. The project acknowledged that race is the frame through which we see modern South Africa and that it is impossible to look at South Africa without considering the legacy of apartheid. The project looks at what is needed to change this and allow South Africa to re-invent itself and re-imagine its future beyond the legacy of years of social deformation.

The research conducted includes individual and group projects undertaken by Fellows and by scholars who successfully proposed projects for support. Over its existence the project attracted sociologists,

philosophers, writers, lawyers, theologians, psychologists, anthropologists and educators.

The project has produced extensive outputs in both scholarly and academic media as well as more lay and publicly accessible formats. The three STIAS Series volumes represented a major highlight consolidating many of the thoughts and ideas generated by this comprehensive project. The third volume in the series considers how new information from biological and social sciences is changing our perspective on the nature of the human condition, including the association of biological and social phenomena with race. The essays also look at global events or movements which influence these processes in South Africa and the costs of a racialised world order to humans and humanity. Phenomena are examined through the lenses of many disciplines including sociology, history, geography, anthropology and writing.

The public event included a moderated discussion, followed by an audience Q&A and the book launch, and was led and moderated by Barney Pityana. Speaking at the launch, members of the core group highlighted the need to see the project and the published works as a start of deeper engagement with issues that confront South Africa and the world. "I'm confident that the public space is ready to engage with this type of work with comprehension and understanding," says Njabulo Ndebele.

"These works were developed by a panel of deeply thoughtful people who interrogated the knowledge space and will continue to do so. Without challenge and engagement there is no future," adds Nina Jablonski.



The Effects of Race project team came together early 2020 to mark the close of the project and to launch three publications of essays from the research. The project members are Nina Jablonski of Penn State University, Njabulo Ndebele Chair of the Nelson Mandela and Mandela Rhodes Foundations, Göran Therborn of Cambridge, and Linnaeus Universities, (photographed). Not in the photo are Gerhard Maré of the University of KwaZulu-Natal, Mikael Hjerm of Umeå University, Chabani Manganyi of the University of Pretoria, Njabulo Ndebele, Barney Pityana of the Thabo Mbeki Foundation, Crain Soudien of the Human Sciences Research Council, George Chaplin of Penn State University and Zimitri Erasmus of the University of the Witwatersrand.

“The texts explain what is currently going on in the country. This is always going to be controversial. We are saying there is a lot we do not understand and are asking us all to stop and think. It’s a commitment to cause discomfort. We need to get to the deep ways in which we come to be human and understand patterns of thinking. We will get it wrong lots of times but we are happy to engage. It’s a time for thinking deeply, the conventional wisdoms are not sufficient,” says Crain Soudien.

The volumes are available via Google Books, with contributions indexed by Google Scholar, on Amazon and in various electronic formats. African Sun Media also makes all STIAS publications available as open-access PDFs 18 months after original publication.

The launch followed two days of intense discussion on the project and its achievements which included both the core project group as well as the contributing scholars. This resulted in both articles for the general media including a series of articles in the Race Series published in *The Conversation* (Africa), as well as the development of a scholarly review article for publication in a peer-reviewed journal.

Project members Nina and George will now be developing a comprehensive Effects of Race Project Archive which will reside electronically at STIAS and at the American Philosophical Society. They will work with professional archivists to develop an archive that meets the highest ethical standards while

ensuring that future scholars have access to the full breadth of the discussions over seven years and to all the publications. A bibliography will be created including all papers, lectures, blogs, interviews and other disseminated materials completed by project members.

INTERACTION AND FEEDBACK

“I am grateful to many, many people at STIAS for contributing to the enormous success of the Effects of Race Project since its inception in late 2012,” says Nina.

“Firstly, to former STIAS director Hendrik Geyer, who first invited me to STIAS back in 2010 and asked us to make a proposal for “a project on race within the ‘Being Human Today’ long-term project at STIAS. The current director, Edward Kirumira, has been a superb supporter of the EoR Project since taking over the directorship and a visionary leader for imagining next steps for ours and similar projects. I feel extremely privileged to have been able to work with him this year, and to have had his support for the ‘finale’ of the EoR Project,” she says.

1. Iso Lomso Fellows



Christine Hobden

Department of
Philosophy
University of Fort Hare

Project: *Citizenship,
International Justice,
and the View from the
South*



Ntakadzeni Edwin Madala

Department of
Biochemistry
University of Venda

Project: *Deciphering
the biological
consequences
of geometrical
isomerization of natural
compounds.*



Nkatha Kabira

Faculty of Law, Private
Law Department
University of Nairobi

Project: *The Law
of Commissions: a
comparative study
of the place of
commissions in law and
governance in Africa*



Etienne Wamba

African Institute for
Mathematical Science
(AIMS)

Project: *Splitting
Dynamics
and Quantum
Hydrodynamics
of Bose-Einstein
condensates*



Ifeyinwa Okolo

Department of English
and Literary Studies
Federal University
Lokoja

Project: *Sexualities
and (Dis)Abilities: (Re)
Valuing Being Sexual
Humans through Body
Narratives*



Bernard Dubbeld
Visiting Scholar

Department of
Sociology and Social
Anthropology
Stellenbosch University

Project: *Unsettled
Futures: Precarity and
the Project of Post-
Apartheid in the
Countryside*



Phindezwa Mnyaka
Visiting Scholar

History Department
University of the
Western Cape

Project: *Writing on
Water: experiments with
historical forms through
Daniel Morolong and
Joseph Denfield's
photographs of the East
London coast*

2. Visiting Scholars



Christine Dixie

Department of
Fine Arts
Rhodes University

Project: *The Disorder
Project*



Stephen Boshoff

Built Environment
Partnership

Project: *Restructuring
settlements towards a
healed future: The case
of the Adam Tas
Corridor initiative in
Stellenbosch*



**Helene van
Aswegen**

Visual Arts Department
Stellenbosch University

Project: *The Disorder
Project*



Eugene Terry

TransFarm Africa

Project: *Impact
of sustainable
intensification of
food production on
environment and
human well-being*



Renier Steyn

Graduate School of
Business Leadership
UNISA - University of
South Africa

Project: *Using a
projectivized approach
towards advanced
studies in mental
health research
and developing
graduateness among
mental health students*



Jurgen Becker

Department of
Industrial Psychology
University of the
Western Cape

Project: *Using a
projectivized approach
towards advanced
studies in mental
health
research and
developing
graduateness among
mental health students*



Chrissie Boughey

Centre for Higher
Education Research,
Teaching and Learning
Rhodes University

Project: *Making Sense
of Postgraduate
Education in Context*



Erhabor Idemudia

Faculty of Humanities
North-West University

Project: *Using a
projectivized approach
towards advanced
studies in mental
health
research and
developing
graduateness among
mental health students*



Sioux McKenna

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Education Research,
Teaching and Learning
Rhodes University

Project: *Making Sense
of Postgraduate
Education in Context*



Ugasvaree Subramaney

Department of
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Clinical Medicine
University of the
Witwatersrand

Project: *Using a
projectivized approach
towards advanced
studies in mental health
research and developing
graduateness among
mental health students*



Lillian Omondi

Department of
Sociology and
Anthropology
Maseno University

Project: *Making
Sense of Postgraduate
Education in Context*

- List of Fellows



Langutani Masehela

Centre for Higher Education Teaching and Learning
University of Venda

Project: *Making Sense of Postgraduate Education in Context*



Azille Coetzee

Department of Political Science
Stellenbosch University

Project: *White Women Engaging Black Lives Matter: Problematizing Solidarity in a Time of Identity Politics*



Amanda Gouws

Department of Political Science
Stellenbosch University

Project: *White Women Engaging Black Lives Matter: Problematizing Solidarity in a Time of Identity Politics*



Stephanie Plön

Bayworld Centre for Research and Education (BCRE)

Project: *Assessing marine mammal health to monitor impacts of 'Operation Phakisa'- the South African Ocean Health Network (OHN)*



Louise du Toit

Department of Philosophy
Stellenbosch University

Project: *White Women Engaging Black Lives Matter: Problematizing Solidarity in a Time of Identity Politics*



Cecile Reed

Department of Biological Sciences
University of Cape Town

Project: *Assessing marine mammal health to monitor impacts of 'Operation Phakisa'- the South African Ocean Health Network (OHN)*



Wolfgang Preiser

Faculty of Medicine
and Health Sciences
Stellenbosch University

Project: *Assessing
marine mammal health
to monitor impacts of
'Operation Phakisa'- the
South African Ocean
Health Network (OHN)*



Thembisa Waetjen

Department of History
University of
Johannesburg

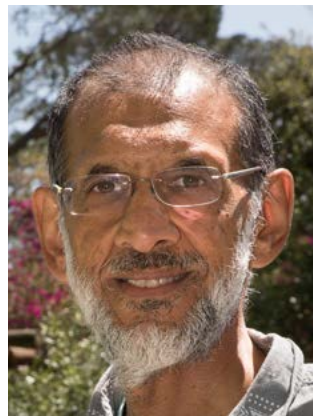
Project: *Small Ocean
History*



Rob Ingle

Department of
Molecular and Cell
Biology
University of Cape Town

Project: *Assessing
marine mammal health
to monitor impacts of
'Operation Phakisa'- the
South African Ocean
Health Network (OHN)*



Goolam Vahed

Department of History
University of KwaZulu-
Natal

Project: *Small Ocean
History*



Dirk Lang

Faculty of Health
Sciences
University of Cape Town

Project: *Assessing
marine mammal health
to monitor impacts of
'Operation Phakisa'- the
South African Ocean
Health Network (OHN)*



Anton du Plessis

Research group
3DInnovation
Stellenbosch University

Project: *Fundamentals
of laser powder bed
fusion of metals*

- List of Fellows



Ina Yadroitsava

Department of
Mechanical and
Mechatronic
Engineering
Central University of
Technology

Project: *Fundamentals
of laser powder bed
fusion of metals*



Catherine du Toit

Department of Modern
Foreign Languages
Stellenbosch University

Project: *The politics
and poetics of old age:
Drawing on Law and
Literature to assess the
(cultural) legitimacy of
African Union norms on
the rights of older persons*



Igor Yadroitsev

Department of
Mechanical and
Mechatronics
Engineering
Central University of
Technology

Project: *Fundamentals
of laser powder bed
fusion of metals*



Marietjie Pauw

Africa Open Institute
for Music, Research
and Innovation
Stellenbosch
University

Project: *Xnau-Xnau
GE@MP*



Frans Viljoen

Centre for Human
Rights
University of Pretoria

Project: *The politics
and poetics of old age:
Drawing on Law and
Literature to assess the
(cultural) legitimacy of
African Union norms
on the rights of older
persons*



Garth Erasmus

Africa Open Institute
for Music, Research
and Innovation
Stellenbosch
University

Project: *Xnau-Xnau GE@MP*



Megan Bruwer

Faculty of Engineering
Stellenbosch University

Project: *Mobility solutions as a South African urban integrator: the Adam Tas Corridor test-bed case*



Cheryl Stobie

School of Arts
University of KwaZulu-Natal

Project: *Text, Human Rights and pandemics: Being human in times of contagion*



Johann Andersen

Department of Civil Engineering
Stellenbosch University

Project: *Mobility solutions as a South African urban integrator: the Adam Tas Corridor test-bed case*



Irikidzayi Manase

Department of English
University of the Free State

Project: *Text, Human Rights and pandemics: Being human in times of contagion*



Thabisani Ndlovu

Department of Arts
Walter Sisulu University

Project: *Text, Human Rights and pandemics: Being human in times of contagion*



Robert Muponde

University of
Witwatersrand

Project: *Text, Human Rights and pandemics: Being human in times of contagion*

- List of Fellows



Khwezi Mkhize

Department of African Literature
University of the Witwatersrand

Project: *Black Archives and Intellectual Histories*



Bridget Rennie-Salonen

Music Department
Stellenbosch University

Project: *Occupational Health and Well-being in the Performing Arts in South Africa: The formation of an interdisciplinary Performing Arts Health network led by the universities of Stellenbosch and Pretoria*



Christopher Ouma

Department of English Language and Literature
University of Cape Town

Project: *Black Archives and Intellectual Histories*



Clorinda Panebianco

Music Department
University of Pretoria

Project: *Occupational Health and Well-being in the Performing Arts in South Africa: The formation of an interdisciplinary Performing Arts Health network led by the universities of Stellenbosch and Pretoria*



Mandisa Haarhoff

Department of English Language and Literature
University of Cape Town

Project: *Black Archives and Intellectual Histories*



Tina Steiner

Department of English
Stellenbosch University

Project: *Urban Connections in African Popular Imaginaries*



Lynda Spencer

Department of English
Rhodes University

Project: *Urban
Connections in African
Popular Imaginaries*



Nedine Moonsamy

Department of English
University of Pretoria

Project: *Urban
Connections in African
Popular Imaginaries*



Corinne Sandwith

Department of English
University of Pretoria

Project: *Urban
Connections in African
Popular Imaginaries*



Danai Mupotsa

Department of African
Literature
University of the
Witwatersrand

Project: *Urban
Connections in African
Popular Imaginaries*

3. Fellows



Reiner Klingholz

Berlin Institute for
Population and
Development

Project: *Think Big: How
Africa Could Profit from
Leapfrogging*



Elleke Boehmer

English Faculty
Oxford University

Project: *Southern ima-
ginaries, or, thinking
from the South*



**Ubah Cristina Ali
Farah**

Artist-in-residence

Project: *Open air
discourse: romances of
resistance in the Somali
women's struggle for
independence*



Menan Du Plessis

Department of General
Linguistics
Stellenbosch University

Project: *A dictionary and
reference grammar for
Xam – a lost Khoisan
language of the !Ui sub-
family, formerly spoken
by San communities in
the early Cape and the
interior of South Africa.*



Catherine Besteman

Department of
Anthropology
Colby College

Project: *Militarized
Global Apartheid*



Marion Edmunds

Documentary
filmmaker, producer,
journalist

Project: *The story of
Jabu Vilakazi – the
Robin Hood of Soweto*



Fataneh Farahani

Department of
Ethnology, History of
Religions and Gender
Studies
Stockholm University

Project: *Cartographies
of Hospitality: The
Gendered, Racialised,
and Classed Politics of
Hosting*



Nils-Göran Larsson

Department of Medical
Biochemistry and
Biophysics
Karolinska Institutet

Project: *Cancer
treatment by
manipulation of
mitochondria*



Tony Hopkins

Faculty of History
University of Cambridge

Project: *Imitators and
Innovators: African
Merchants in Lagos,
1851-1921*



Stephanie Rudwick

University of Hradec
Králové

Project: *The ambiguity
of English as an
academic lingua
franca: Perspectives
from South Africa*



Nina Jablonski

Department of
Anthropology
Pennsylvania State
University

Project: *Hair: The
Natural and Unnatural
History of a Human
Obsession*

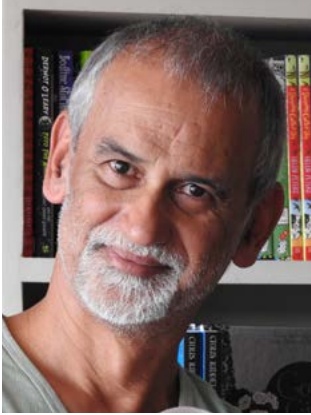


Richard Torkar

Computer Science and
Engineering University
of Gothenburg

Project: *The theoretical
alignment of Bayesian
statistics and cumula-
tive prospect theory*

- List of Fellows



Mike van Graan

Artist-in-residence
University of Cape Town

Project: *Working title:
Elusive Spring*



John Noyes

Department of
Germanic Languages
and Literatures
University of Toronto

Project: *Global
Humanities*



Beata Stawarska

Department of
Philosophy
University of Oregon

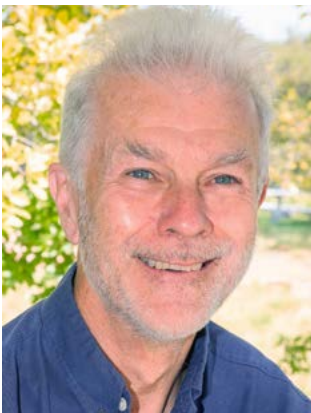
Project: *The Morality of
Martiality: Beyond Good
and Evil in Liberation
Struggles*



Bo Stråth

Department of World
Cultures / Centre of
Nordic Studies (CENS)
University of Helsinki

Project: *Global
Humanities*



Per Olof Holtz

Department of Physics,
Chemistry and Biology
(IFM)
Linköping University

Project: *Single polarized-
photon emitters based
on III-nitride pyramidal
quantum dots for
quantum cryptography*



**Suruchi
Thapar-Björkert**

Department of
Government
University of Uppsala

Project: *Cartographies
of Hospitality The
Gendered, Racialised,
and Classed Politics of
Hosting*



**Eghosa Emmanuel
Osaghae**

Department of Political
Science
University of Ibadan

Project: *Federalism in
Africa in Comparative
Perspective*



Yasmin Gunaratnam

Centre for Feminist
Research
Goldsmiths, University
of London

Project: *Cartographies
of Hospitality - The
Gendered, Racialised,
and Classed Politics of
Hosting*



Cătălin Avramescu

Faculty of Political
Science
University of Bucharest

Project: *Directorial
Authority and the
Formation of the
Modern Executive. The
Governance of the
African Chartered
Companies*



Ian Goldin

Oxford Martin School

Project: *The impact of
technological change
on developing countries*



David Malone

United Nations
University

Project: *The UN and its
Discontents*



Kirsti Niskanen

Department of History
Stockholm University

Project: *Scientific persona
and internalization of
research – the role of the
Rockefeller
Foundation in creating
scientific and scholarly
identities and promoting
academic careers
in early twentieth century
Sweden*



Johannes Jäger

Centre de Recherches Interdisciplinaires (CRI)

Project: *Beyond Networks: An Organismic Systems Biology for the 21st Century*



Paul Vlek

University of Bonn

Project: *Impact of sustainable intensification of food production on environment and human well-being*



Louis Herns Marcelin

Department of Anthropology
University of Miami

Project: *Generation, Democratization and Gang Violence in the Shanties: Haiti and South Africa*



JP Smit

Department of Philosophy
Stellenbosch University

Project: *Is Somaliland a Country? The Status of Institutional Objects in the Social Sciences*



Richard Sikora

University of Bonn

Project: *Impact of sustainable intensification of food production on environment and human well-being*



Albert Grundlingh

History Department
Stellenbosch University

Project: *Consumerism and its dissidents: a social history of white South Africa, c 1950s - 1970s*



Sa'diyya Shaikh

Department of
Religious Studies
University of Cape Town

Project: *Gender, Sufi
Ethics and Social
justice in Islam*



Matthias Von Bismarck-Osten

Investitionsbank Berlin

Project: *ICT-Based
Platforms as a Driver of
the Transformation of
Africa's Smallholder
Agriculture*



Rob Turrell

Project: *Stellenbosch
innovation district*



Andrea Cassatella

Al-Quds Bard College
for Arts and Sciences
Al-Quds University

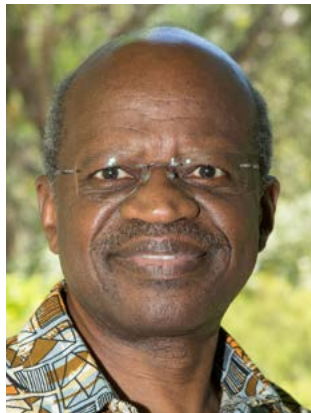
Project: *Beyond the
Secular: Jacques
Derrida and the
Theological-Political
Complex*



Lucy Allais

Philosophy Department
University of the
Witwatersrand
University of California
San Diego

Project: *Embodied
Human Freedom*



Mamadou Diawara

Department of
Social and Cultural
Anthropology
Goethe University
Frankfurt

Project: *Local media:
Western media in a
context of orality in
Africa*



Mehita Iqani

Media Studies
University of the
Witwatersrand

Project: *Gender,
Luxury, Waste: New
Intersections in
Southern Consumption
Theory*



***Brian Arthur**

Santa Fe Institute

Project: *Complexity
and the shift in modern
science*

*Brian Arthur was in residence in 2019 but was erroneously left out of the 2019 Annual Report. The error is regretted.



The Wallenberg Research Centre at STIAS.

Lectures and Seminars

STIAS PUBLIC LECTURE SERIES


None of the scheduled public lectures could be presented due to COVID-19 restrictions. However, a new Webinar Series was announced in July and launched in September. In excess of 200 participants jointly attended the two sessions, which were announced to the entire STIAS Fellow database, STIAS Friends database and the Stellenbosch University research list.

2 Sept	Daniel Brooks and Salvatore Agosta The Evolutionary Commons: Putting Darwinism to Work for Humanity in a Time of Existential Crisis (Webinar)
29 Sept	Ian Goldin The Pandemic that Changed the World (Webinar)

STIAS SEMINAR SERIES

A total of 44 seminars were conducted in 2020. During lock-down (April - June) seminars were presented online.

23 Jan	Nina Jablonski A Hairy Tale: An Introduction to the Evolution and Meanings of Human Hair
28 Jan	Cătălin Avramescu Directorial Authority and the Formation of the Modern Executive. The Governance of the African Chartered Companies
30 Jan	Marion Edmunds The Trouble with Truth – stories that emerge from the history of events and the memory of emotions
4 Feb	Christine Hobden Democratic citizenship and its outward-looking responsibilities
6 Feb	Nils-Goran Larsson Mitochondria - the power plants inside our cells
18 Feb	Phindezwa Mnyaka Beaches of the mind: an early meditation on Daniel Morolong and Joseph Denfield's photographs of the East London coastline
25 Feb	Fataneh Farahani, Yasmin Gunaratnam and Suruchi Thapar-Bjorkert Cartographies of Hospitality: The Gendered, Racialised, and Classed Politics of Hosting



27 Feb	David Malone The Historical lead-up to the UN's Millennium and Sustainable Development Goals, their Significance and some challenges they face.
6 Mar	Reiner Klingholz and Sabine Sutterlin Sustainable Transformation in Health, Education and Agriculture: How Africa Could Profit from Leapfrogging
10 Mar	John Noyes and Bo Strath Global Humanities Knowledge: Potentials and Alternative Channels
2 Apr	Menan Du Plessis (online) A toolkit for reading lXam
9 Apr	Catherine Besteman (online) Militarized Global Apartheid and Security Empires
16 Apr	Mike Van Graan (online) On the intersections of Art, Culture and Activism: A reflection
23 Apr	Eghosa Emmanuel Osaghae (online) State-Building and Federal Solutions in Africa
7 May	Stephanie Rudwick (online) Ambiguities of English as a Lingua Franca in South Africa: Cultural Politics of Race and Belonging
14 May	Kirsti Niskanen (online) Follow the Money – Research Funding, Persona and Gender, 1920-1950
28 May	Beata Stawarska (online) The Morality of Violence
4 Jun	Johannes Jager (online) No Newton of a Blade of Grass: Organisms Beyond Mechanisms
11 Jun	Stephen Boshoff (online) Restructuring settlements towards a healed future: The Adam Tas Corridor project in Stellenbosch
13 Aug	Christine Dixie and Helene van Aswegen Unpacking 'Blueprint for the Disorder of Things'
20 Aug	Erhabor Idemudia, Jurgen Becker and Renier Steyn Covid-19 as psychological trauma and managing the consequences.
27 Aug	Rob Turrell The private office
10 Sept	Chrissie Boughey and Sioux McKenna Doctoral education in context

- Lectures and Seminars

17 Sept	Azille Coetzee, Louise du Toit and Amanda Gouws White Women Engaging Black Lives Matter: Problematizing Solidarity in a Time of Identity Politics
22 Sept	Stephanie Plön Why Ocean Health? What whales and dolphins can tell us about the health of our oceans and why it matters.
1 Oct	Christine Hobden #GrabYourWallet: The Politics of Consumption
8 Oct	Thembisa Waetjen and Goolam Vahed Between Porbandar and Durban: In search of parochial Empire and its “navigator subjects”
13 Oct	Catherine du Toit and Frans Viljoen The Politics and Poetics of Old Age (a preliminary presentation on a project in progress)
15 Oct	JP Smit The Nature of Money
22 Oct	Anton du Plessis, Ina Yadroitsava and Igor Yadroitsev 3D printing of metals
27 Oct	Lucy Allais Human Freedom: Metaphysical, Moral, Political
29 Oct	Marietjie Pauw and Garth Erasmus Xnau-Xnau GE@MP
3 Nov	Andrea Cassatella Beyond the Secular: Jacques Derrida and the Theologico-Political Complex
5 Nov	Albert Grundlingh The riddle of Rosalind Ballingall: Poster girl for hippie counterculture in Cape Town in the late 1960s
10 Nov	Matthias von Bismarck-Osten ICT-Based Platforms as a Driver of the Transformation of Africa’s Smallholder Agriculture
12 Nov	Johann Andersen and Megan Bruwer Mobility solutions as a South African urban integrator: the Adam Tas Corridor test-bed case
17 Nov	Irikidzayi Manase, Robert Muponde and Thabisani Ndlovu and Cheryl Stobie Text, Human Rights and pandemics: Being human in times of contagion
19 Nov	Sa’diyya Shaikh Whirling with Gender: Mysticism, Fluidity and Islamic Feminism
24 Nov	Mandisa Haarhoff, Khwezi Mkhize and Christopher Ouma Black Archives and Intellectual Histories



26 Nov

Mehita Iqani
Necessity, Surface, Statement: The Gender Politics of the Face Mask

1 Dec

Clorinda Panebianco and Bridget Rennie-Salonen
Artists' health and well-being in South Africa: An interdisciplinary initiative considering health promotion, optimal artistry, innovative arts education, and sustainable livelihoods

3 Dec

Edwin Madala
Plant metabolites under the spotlight

8 Dec

Bernard Dubbeld
Unsettled Futures: Precarity and the Paradoxes of the Post-Apartheid Project in the countryside

10 Dec

Danai Mupotsa, Corinne Sandwith, Lynda Spencer, Tina Steiner and Nedine Moonsamy
Sites in Contestation: Reading Contemporary Popular Culture in Africa

14 May
2019

Brian Arthur *
Combinatorial Evolution
*Information left out of the 2019 Annual Report

Fellows' Events



Nina Jablonski speaking during the Effects of Race panel discussion. Looking on are project team members Barney Pityana and Njabulo Ndebele.



George Chaplin speaks during the Effects of Race panel discussion.



Andreas Freytag and members of his team during the workshop at STIAS in March.

In addition to participating in the weekly Seminar Series and the Public Lecture Series, STIAS Fellows were supported to host workshops, colloquia and public events over the reporting period.

March

- STIAS Fellows and members of the Effects of Race Project hold a panel discussion and book launch under the topic, *When the Rainbow Melts, Celebrate the Thoughts that Tried to Find Out Why*.
- STIAS Fellow Andreas Freytag convenes a workshop under the topic, *Is the European Union a Role Model for Africa? Lessons from 60 Years of European Integration for Africa*.

September

- STIAS Visiting Scholar Stephanie Ploon convenes a mini-symposium titled: *Assessing marine mammal health to monitor impacts of 'Operation Phakisa'- the South African Ocean Health Network (OHN)*

The project seeks to establish a bilateral research programme between South Africa and Germany that sets up baselines for various contributing factors impacting marine mammal health in South Africa using historical samples and to build capacity in this underdeveloped research field not only in South Africa, but also on the African continent.

Fellows' Publications

PUBLICATIONS

Twenty- six books were published in 2020 related to work carried out at STIAS. Two of these appeared in the STIAS Series (volumes 15 and 16) published by African SUN MeDIA. Seven book chapters and 62 journal articles appeared with the STIAS affiliation.

Books

STIAS Series

Jablonski, Nina G. (Ed.). 2020. *Persistence of Race*. African Sun Media.
<https://doi.org/10.18820/9781928480457>

Macnab, Andrew J., Abdallah Daar and Christoff Pauw. (Eds.). 2020. *Health in Transition: Translating developmental origins of health and disease science to improve future health in Africa*. African Sun Media.
<https://doi.org/10.18820/9781928357759>

Other books:

Ali Farah, Cristina Ubah. 2020. *Un sambouk traverse la mer*. Maison des Écrivains Étrangers et Traducteurs (MEET).

Agosta, Salvatore J and Daniel R. Brooks. 2020. *The Major Metaphors of Evolution: Darwinism Then and Now*. Springer. <https://www.springer.com/gp/book/9783030520854>

Bachmann, Klaus and Christian Garuka (Eds.). 2020. *Criminalizing History: Legal Restrictions on Statements and Interpretations of the Past in Germany, Poland, Rwanda, Turkey and Ukraine* (Vol.14). Peter Lang.
<https://doi.org/10.3726/b16640>

Bachmann, Klaus. 2020. *Politik in Polen*. Verlag W. Kohlhammer. <https://www.kohlhammer.de/wms/instances/KOB/appDE/Sozialwissenschaften/Politikwissenschaft/Politik-in-Polen>

Beilharz, Peter. 2020. *Intimacy in postmodern times: A friendship with Zygmunt Bauman*. Manchester University Press. <https://www.manchesterhive.com/view/9781526132161/9781526132161.xml>

Botha, Rudie. 2020. *Neanderthal Language*. Cambridge University Press. <https://doi.org/10.1017/9781108868167>

Brown, Duncan. 2020. *Finding My Way: Reflections on South African Literature*. University of Kwa-Zulu Natal Press. https://books.google.co.za/books/about/Finding_My_Way.html?id=FJB1zQEACAAJ&

De Wet, Erika. 2020. *Military Assistance on Request and the Use of Force*. Oxford University Press.
<https://global.oup.com/academic/product/military-assistance-on-request-and-the-use-of-force-9780198784401?cc=za&lang=en&>



Dlamini, Jacob S. T. 2020. *Safari Nation: A Social History of the Kruger National Park*. Ohio University Press. <https://www.scribd.com/book/458171994/Safari-Nation-A-Social-History-of-the-Kruger-National-Park>

Fombad, Charles and Nico Steytler. (Eds.). 2020. *Corruption and Constitutionalism in Africa*. Oxford University Press. <https://global.oup.com/academic/product/corruption-and-constitutionalism-in-africa-9780198855590?cc=za&lang=en&#>

Goldin, Ian and Robert Muggah. 2020. *Terra Incognita: 100 Maps to Survive the Next 100 Years*. Penguin Random House. <https://www.penguin.co.uk/books/111/1118230/terra-incognita/9781529124194.html>

Heald, Paul J. 2020. *COPY THIS BOOK! What data Tells Us about Copyright and the Public Good*. Stanford University Press. <https://www.sup.org/books/title/?id=32708>

Hemer, Oscar, Maja Povrzanović Frykman and Per-Markku Ristilampi. (Eds.). 2020. *Conviviality at the Crossroads*. Springer International Publishing. <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-28979-9>

Hemer, Oscar. 2020. *Contaminations and Ethnographic Fictions*. Springer International Publishing. <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-34925-7>

Heymann, Jody, Aleta Sprague and Amy Raub. 2020. *Advancing Equality: How Constitutional Rights Can Make a Difference Worldwide*. University of California Press. <https://doi.org/10.1525/luminos.81>

Hirsch, Marianne and Leo Spitzer. 2020. *School Photos in Liquid Time*. University of Washington Press. <https://uwapress.uw.edu/book/9780295746548/school-photos-in-liquid-time/>

Klingholz, Reiner, Sabine Sütterlin, Alisa Kaps and Catherina Hinz. 2020. *Leapfrogging Africa: Sustainable Innovation in Health, Education and Agriculture*. African Sun Media <https://doi.org/10.18820/9781928314745>

Levine, Herbert, Mohit Jolly, Prakash Kulkarni and Vidyanand Nanjundiah. 2020. *Phenotypic Switching. Implications in Biology and Medicine*. Academic Press <https://www.elsevier.com/books/phenotypic-switching/levine/978-0-12-817996-3>

Murray, Martin J. 2020. *Panic City: Crime and the Fear Industries in Johannesburg*. Stanford University Press. <https://www.sup.org/books/title/?id=30559>

Oliver, Marius P., Letlhokwa G. Mpedi, and Evance Kalula. (Eds.). 2020. *Liber Amicorum: Essays in honour of Professor Edwell Kaseke and Dr Mathias Nyenti*. African Sun Media. <https://africansunmedia.store.it.si/za/book/liber-amicorum-essays-in-honour-of-professor-edwell-kaseke-and-dr-mathias-nyenti/1136352>

Phiri, Aretha. (Ed.). 2020. *African Philosophical and Literary Possibilities: Re-reading the Canon*. Lexington Books. <https://rowman.com/ISBN/9781498571241/African-Philosophical-and-Literary-Possibilities-Re-reading-the-Canon>

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- Fellows' Publications

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The STIAS Fellows Library is a collection of publications written by STIAS Fellows many of which are based on work conducted at STIAS.



ORGANISATION

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Governance & Funding

STIAS operates as a section 21 company (since May 2007; registration no 2007/014516/08) with public benefit organisation status (PBO no 930051203). Its Articles of Association and accompanying Memorandum of Incorporation have been brought in line with the Companies Act, no 71 of 2008 and consolidated into a single Memorandum of Incorporation. STIAS now has the status of a non-profit company without members.

Board of Directors

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Göran Sandberg, Executive Director: Knut and Alice Wallenberg Foundation
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Wim de Villiers, Rector and Vice-Chancellor, Stellenbosch University
Christof Heyns, Professor of Human Rights Law, University of Pretoria and Member of the United Nations Human Rights Committee
Bernard Lategan, STIAS Founding Director
Mosibudi Mangena, Former South African Minister of Science and Technology
Hendrik Geyer, STIAS Coordinator: Special Projects
Edward K Kirumira, STIAS Director

* The Chair and the Director have initiated the process of identifying possible candidates from the South African research and private sector environment to fill up vacant positions on the Board.

STIAS Academic Advisory Board

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Louise Viljoen, Department of Afrikaans and Dutch, Stellenbosch University
Edward K Kirumira, STIAS Director

*STIAS Programme Manager, **Christoff Pauw** provides Secretariat.

***Shireen Hassim** stepped down due to relocation and **Geoffrey Harpham** ended his term after the March 2020 meeting.

*Two new members were formally invited to join the Academic Advisory Board, namely **Nina Jablonski** and **Mamadou Diawara**.



STIAS Fellowship and Research Programme Committee

Edward K Kirumira, STIAS Director

Hendrik Geyer, STIAS Coordinator: Special Projects

Jan-Hendrik Hofmeyr, Department of Biochemistry (Emeritus), Stellenbosch University

Louis Jonker, Department of Old and New Testament, Stellenbosch University

Francis Nyamnjoh, Department of Social Anthropology, University of Cape Town

Louise Viljoen, Department of Afrikaans & Dutch, Stellenbosch University

*Assisted by STIAS Programme Manager, **Christoff Pauw** and STIAS Senior Programme Administrator, **Gudrun Schirge**.

STIAS Extended Fellowship and Research Programme Committee

The following members join the Fellowship and Research Programme Committee members to select semester cohorts of STIAS Fellows, Visiting Scholars and Artists-in-Residence:

Bernard Lategan, STIAS Founding Director

Grace Musila, Department of English, University of the Witwatersrand

Bill Nasson, History Department, Stellenbosch University

Maxi Schoeman, Department of Political Science, University of Pretoria

Danie Visser, Faculty of Law (Emeritus), University of Cape Town

***Danie Visser** formally joined the Extended Fellowship and Research Programme Committee in 2020 as a substantive member.

Financial Report

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

for the year ended 31 December 2020

	2020 (R)	2019 (R)
Conference income	2 883 923	10 318 287
Other income	24 850 196	24 303 643
Total income	27 734 119	34 621 930
Operating expenses	(30 279 550)	(37 627 774)
Operating loss	(2 545 431)	(3 005 844)
Finance income	8 219 774	13 438 174
Finance expense: Lease liability	(480 016)	(412 615)
Surplus for the year	5 194 327	10 019 715

Other comprehensive income

Fair value adjustment on short-term investments	(67 511)	106 474
Total comprehensive income for the year	5 126 816	10 126 189



Ms R Uys
Director: Financial Services - Stellenbosch University



STIAS 2020 donors

Thank You

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Coordinator: General Logistics & PA to STIAS Director

Makwande Nkathazo
Garden Assistant

Yanga Nkathazo
Gardener

Leonard Katsokore
Senior Assistant

Michelle Galloway
Media Officer (Part-time)

Nel-Mari Loock
Coordinator: Information Management, Fellows' and IT support, and office arrangements

Johann Groenewald
Coordinator: Strategic Initiatives (Part-time)

Gudrun Schirge
Senior Programme Administrator (Part-time)

Christoff Pauw
Programme Manager

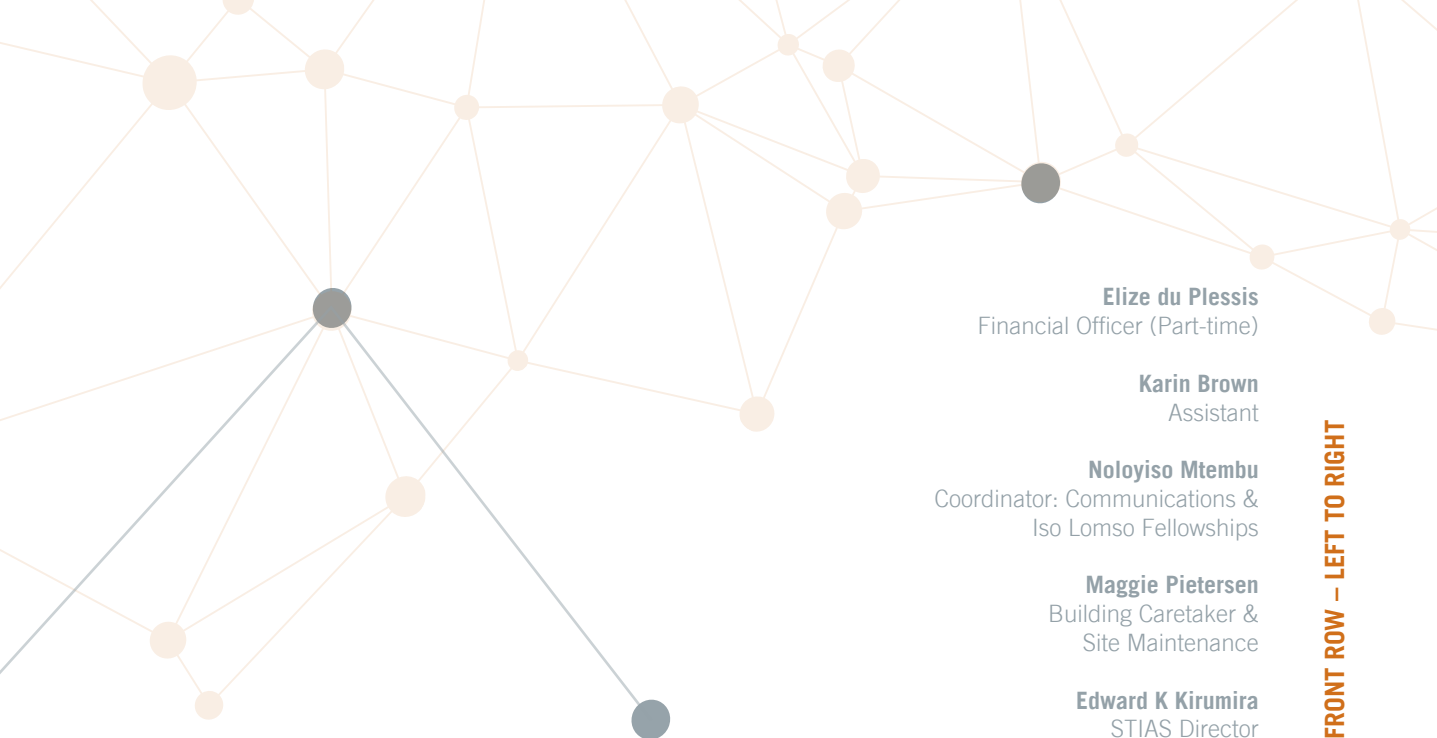
Hendrik Geyer
Coordinator: Special Projects

Christopher Ngxediana

Bernard Lategan
Advisor to STIAS

BACK ROW – LEFT TO RIGHT





Elize du Plessis
Financial Officer (Part-time)

Karin Brown
Assistant

Noloyiso Mtembu
Coordinator: Communications &
Iso Lomso Fellowships

Maggie Pietersen
Building Caretaker &
Site Maintenance

Edward K Kirumira
STIAS Director

Adri Becker
Administrative Officer

***Not in photo:**
Grace Mandah - Cleaner

FRONT ROW – LEFT TO RIGHT



Facilities

Wallenberg Research Centre

The conference and workshop facilities at the Wallenberg Research Centre have been established as a prime venue associated with quality service. Conferences and workshops are managed by Catering Unlimited on a contract basis. The COVID-19 lockdown led to cancellation of all events from mid-March to May during 2020, and only limited use from June onwards.

Mostertsdrift Gardens

The Mostertsdrift gardens formed part of the *Woordfees* 2020 programme which offered festival guests guided tours to explore the various plant species and relaxing spaces the gardens have to offer. STIAS wishes to thank Maria Mouton, assisted by Maggie Peterson, René Slee and the gardening team for their efforts in this important task. This is in line with the historical significance of Mostertsdrift and ensures attractive opportunity for walks and spaces of reflection, which have become a stand-out element for many Fellows and visitors of STIAS.

Perold Vineyard

The Perold vineyard is registered as a single vineyard within the Jonkershoek Valley ward. The contract with Lanzerac to manage the vineyard and produce and bottle the wine remains in place, whereby an agreed number of bottles are made available to STIAS under the Aliquid Novi label, which was launched in November 2018. The wine can be purchased at STIAS or via the online store of Lanzerac. Part of the proceeds of sales will support an early career Protégé-programme for young winemakers and viticulturalists, to be managed jointly with the Pinotage Association of South Africa



Poinsettias are some of the flower species present in the Mostertsdrift Gardens

The new STIAS website contains a dedicated page on the history of the vineyard and the story of the wine, with details on how the wine can be purchased.

Several aspects of the Vineyard project reflect the same spirit of experimentation and innovation which characterises STIAS. STIAS acknowledges Bernard Lategan's continued support and enthusiasm on the upkeep of the vineyard.

Acknowledgements

“I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff at STIAS for creating a research-enabling environment. Spending time and exchanging views with the Fellows has allowed me to think outside my comfort zone”.

Ntakadzeni Edwin Madala

“I particularly valued the sense of community and the ability to have meaningful conversations about the vision and aims of STIAS – something I care very deeply about. I look forward to hopefully returning in the not too-distant future”.

Christine Hobden

“I can admit that I was a bit hesitant to the wideness of the research fields of the STIAS fellows before I arrived in Stellenbosch, but this example justifies the value of the cross-fertilization of thoughts and ideas in a broad research realm. It was truly stimulating to be surrounded by such brilliant researchers in manifold different disciplines. This environment was indeed exciting for creative and innovative thinking”.

Per Olof Holtz

Thank you to all STIAS staff, Fellows and Visiting Scholars who contributed to this publication.

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