

Author biographies

Katherine Bain is a clinical psychologist and associate professor in the psychology department of the School of Human and Community Development at the University of the Witwatersrand. She teaches the clinical psychology master's and the psychoanalytic PhD by publications programmes. Her research areas include attachment theory and psychoanalytic understandings of human development and mental health, with a specific interest in the interfacing of cultural models in parenting and infant mental health.

Nabeelah Bemath is a registered research psychologist with the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA), and currently works as an academic coordinator and sessional lecturer at the University of Witwatersrand's Faculty of Health Sciences and Department of Psychology, respectively. Her research interests are primarily focused on public mental health, cognitive neuropsychology, and psychological assessment in the South African context. She is also engaged in research within other health science disciplines. Visit Nabeelah's ORCID profile for details on her prior work.

† **Prof. Elmarie Costandius** was an associate professor in Visual Arts at Stellenbosch University until her untimely death in January 2024. She was a visionary academic who pioneered the field of visual redress and was committed to arts-based engagements, critical citizenship, and social impact. Costandius held an extensive publication record, managed various research projects, secured substantial financial funding, and received multiple teaching awards, including the 2023 TAU Fellows Award.

Prof. Victor de Andrade is an audiologist and associate professor in the Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology at the University of the Witwatersrand and assistant dean (research) for the Faculty of Humanities. Victor consults on deafness and assistive technology for the WHO and UNICEF. His research interests include, socio-cultural and contextual aspects of deafness, noise in learning environments, disability, sexuality, professional matters, ethics and bioethics, research methodologies, gerontological audiology, vestibular audiology, and assistive technologies.

Dr Gera de Villiers holds a doctorate in Visual Arts from Stellenbosch University, where she is currently project coordinator of the Visual Redress Project. In addition to authoring book chapters and academic journal articles, she co-edited the book *Visual redress in Africa from indigenous and new materialist perspectives* (2023) with Elmarie Costandius. Her interest lies in the role of arts and culture in the production of space and social justice.

Tasneem Hassem is a registered research psychologist and a lecturer in the psychology department at the School of Human and Community Development at the University

of the Witwatersrand. Her research focuses on mental health with a specific focus on access to mental health care in low-to-middle income countries.

Prof. Mpho P. Jama is a research fellow and an emeritus associate professor at the University of the Free State (UFS). She is also a Fulbright research fellow and exchange alumna, USA. Prior to this she was an HoD in the Division: Student Learning and Development in the Faculty of Health Sciences and a residence head in Student Affairs, UFS. Her research niche and scholarship has always been on student development and support, with a focus on programmes/strategies that promote a humanistic approach. Her current main project is writing a book titled 'Towards a humanistic pedagogy: Teaching students in complex and demanding academic environments'.

Prof. Jade Jansen is an associate professor in financial reporting at the University of the Western Cape. He has an MCom (Accounting Sciences) from the University of Pretoria where he is currently pursuing his PhD (Accounting Sciences). Jade's research interests include both accounting education and IFRS related topics.

Dr Bernadette Judith Johnson is the director of the Transformation and Employment Equity Office and a research associate at the Wits School of Education at the University of the Witwatersrand. Bernadette is passionate about contributing to the support and healing of our society. She has worked as the director of higher education planning in the South African government, for non-governmental organizations in areas such as sexual harassment, rural development, gender equity and research management in South and Southern Africa, and as an academic, and as an executive and senior manager at various universities in South Africa. She has taught executive leadership programmes in Burundi, South Sudan and Rwanda. She continues to supervise master's and doctoral students, guest lectures and offers capacity development in transformation, coaching, mentoring and leadership development. Her intellectual interests are related to social justice, higher education management, leadership, governance and change. She has served on three university councils and has also been the chair of the University Forum at Wits University.

Lucy Kibe is a tutorial fellow in the Department of Information and Knowledge Management at The Technical University of Kenya. Prior to this, she worked at the American Reference Centre, Nairobi, where she oversaw processing information materials. As an academic, she has authored journal articles, book chapters, and conference papers. Her current research interests include big data analytics, cloud computing, health informatics, bibliometrics, records management, indigenous knowledge, and knowledge sharing.

Angella Kogos is an assistant lecturer at The Technical University of Kenya where she teaches and researches in the wider field of information sciences as well as in publishing

and media studies. Her current area of research focus is the adoption and use of new technologies in the publishing industry and its impact on information access and use. Her other areas of research interest include knowledge management, information ethics, information security, internet of things, and social media. She is also involved in the publishing industry as an editor and author.

Prof. Tom Kwanya is a professor in the Department of Information and Knowledge Management at The Technical University of Kenya. He is currently also serving as the director of the School of Information and Communication Studies. Prior to joining academics full-time in 2013, he worked as a consultant on public information and knowledge management. He is an author of several peer-reviewed journal articles and book chapters, two university-level books, several conference papers and four edited books. He has also supervised and examined several postgraduate theses. He sits on the Information Science Services Technical Committee of the Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS).

Prof. Sumaya Laher is a psychologist and academic, specializing in psychometrics, cultural psychology, and mental health. Based at the University of the Witwatersrand in South Africa, Prof. Laher's research focuses on the intersection of culture and psychological assessment, advocating for culturally relevant psychometric practices. She is the editor of the *African Journal of Psychological Assessment*.

Azmatullah Latief is a development and assessment manager at the South African Institute of Professional Accountants and holds a postgraduate diploma in Accounting and BCom (Honours) (Accounting). He has extensive experience in teaching at the university and professional levels. Azmatullah's research interests include accounting education and curriculum development.

Prof. Thierry M. Luescher, PhD, is the Strategic Lead: Equitable Education in the Equitable Education and Economies research division of the Human Sciences Research Council, Cape Town, South Africa. He is also adjunct professor of critical studies in higher education transformation at Nelson Mandela University, Gqeberha, and a research fellow in higher education at the University of the Free State, South Africa. Prof. Luescher has been awarded international excellence awards for his research on student affairs by NASPA (2023) and ACPA (2021). He is an NRF-rated researcher and a founding member of the JSAA Editorial Executive. Thierry's recent books include *#FeesMustFall and its aftermath: Violence, wellbeing and the student movement in South Africa* (HSRC Press, 2022, with Angelina Wilson-Fadiji, Keamogetse Morwe et al.).

Pulane Malefane is the head of Residence Life and College Communities at the University of the Free State (UFS). Overseeing student development programmes for on-campus and off-campus students and managing the residence heads team. She has been in

higher education since 2003, working in different student service and student support departments; financial aid at the Central University of Technology and UFS students finance in 2006 and joined student affairs in 2008. Pulane holds a Master of Science in Education: Student Affairs and Administration from the University of Wisconsin in the US. She also holds qualifications in finance, management, and leadership. She has presented different papers at conferences and published in the *Journal of Student Affairs in Africa*. She serves in the ACUHO-I SAC executive committee, first as the deputy secretary and now as secretary-general for the current term (2020–2024). She is passionate about the student housing profession and the development of student affairs in South Africa. She was part of the Student Housing Training Institute group in 2013 for the Basic and Advanced, as a participant in 2014 and she has been faculty member since 2017. She has since got an opportunity to be a Global Faculty member at the first Global Student Housing Training Institute in Australia. It has been an excellent platform to engage with other student affairs and housing professionals globally. She completed the ACUHO-I Professional Standard Institute programme in Canada which allows her to be a professional student housing reviewer.

Dr Linda Meyer is the managing director at IIE Rosebank College. She holds a Doctor of Philosophy (RSA), Doctor of Business Administration (USA), Master of Business Administration (UK), Post Graduate Diploma in Management Studies (UK), BCom (Law), BBA and several other diplomas, higher certificates and professional certifications; and a serving member of the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA) Board and Audit and Risk Committee, the QCTO-Occupational Qualifications, Assessment and Certification Committee (OQACC), and the CHE Community of Practice on Leadership and Governance. Dr Meyer has served on various governance structures (past and present), including the South African Magistrates Commission, South African Qualifications Authority, Higher-Health, Commission for Conciliation, Mediation and Arbitration (CCMA), Department of Justice and Constitutional Development, Services SET A, SA SMME Foundation, South African Private Higher Education (SAPHE), DHET, ETDP SETA. Some of the former positions she has held include head of operations at Universities South Africa (USAf), head of Justice College (DoJ&CD), chief operating officer (COO), executive dean, dean, academic executive, acting deputy director general, chief director, CCMA commissioner, and various other senior executive management and consulting positions. Dr Meyer is also a published author, thought leader, regular media guest, and speaker at industry conferences.

Prof. Teboho Moja is clinical professor of Higher Education at New York University, USA. She is also a visiting research fellow at the Centre for the Advancement of Scholarship, University of Pretoria, South Africa, and an extraordinary professor at the Institute of Post School Studies, University of the Western Cape, South Africa. Prof. Moja is a recipient of the Lifetime Achiever Award of the National Research Foundation of South Africa. She is JSAA's Editor-in-chief.

Prof. Ntombifikile G. Mtshali is a distinguished individual in nursing, renowned for her leadership, academic contributions, and research expertise, with a PhD from the University of KwaZulu-Natal. She is currently an adjunct professor in the School of Nursing and Public Health at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, after having left this institution to take another leadership role. She has supervised numerous postgraduate students and her list of publications is very long. Her research interests are aimed at strengthening the nursing and midwifery workforce in the AFRO region.

David Newman is the executive director: Student Experience at the University of Toronto. Previously, he has held other roles at U of T, including as Director: Student Life; Director: Centre for Community Partnerships; Director: Office of the Vice-Provost, Students; and as Assistant Director: Student Life. Prior to his time at U of T, David worked for several years at the University of Alberta in various capacities. David holds both a Bachelor of Arts (Anthropology/French) and Master of Education (Adult Education). In addition to his current role at U of T, David serves as vice-president for the International Association for Student Affairs and Services (IASAS) and was previously regional director for North America, Central America, and the Caribbean. David has also held several leadership roles nationally in Canada, including previously serving as president of the Canadian Association of College and University Student Services (CACUSS).

Prof. Sandiso Ngcobo is an associate professor and head of the Department of Communication at the Mangosuthu University of Technology (MUT). He holds a PhD in Linguistics from the University of KwaZulu-Natal which he obtained in 2011. He is a recipient of the MUT 2023 Research Silver Award, the MUT 2019 Best Established Gold Teacher Award, and the 2016 Teaching Advancement at University (TAU) Award. Sandiso has throughout the years supervised postgraduate students and published several journal articles, chapters in books, and conference proceedings.

Erick Ogolla is an assistant lecturer at The Technical University of Kenya. He is also a researcher in the field of information sciences. He is currently pursuing a PhD in Information and Knowledge Management at The Technical University of Kenya. He holds an MA in Communication Studies from the University of Nairobi and a BSc in Information Sciences from Moi University, Kenya. He has taught in several academic institutions in Kenya. Previously, he worked as an editor for Pearson International, East African Educational Publishers and Oxford University Press Nairobi.

Claudia Onsare is a tutorial fellow in the Department of Language and Literary Studies at The Technical University of Kenya. She is also a doctoral student at University of Nairobi's School of Journalism. Her research interests include media, journalism and communication, digital media, literature, dance and indigenous knowledge. Before joining academia, she worked in media and corporate communications. When she is not in class, she is home, where she can be found on hiking trails and at literary festivals.

Dr Rishen Roopchund joined UJ in 2020 as a lecturer in the New Generation of Academics Program (nGAP). He holds a doctoral degree from UKZN (2021) and a postgraduate diploma in higher education from UJ (2023 – with distinction) and Professional Engineering (Pr. Eng) status with the Engineering Council of South Africa (ECSA). Teaching transfer processes and process design in chemical engineering, he integrates mediated learning theory to foster cognitive growth. With a background in engineering consulting and completing Eskom’s graduate training programme, he values each student’s potential. His research focuses on green construction materials using cellulose nanocrystals, reflected in journal articles and conference papers. He also presented innovative online teaching approaches through Blackboard at the WEEF GEDC conference in 2022. Dr Roopchund is dedicated to enhancing engineering education via action research for a better student experience. Some of Dr Roopchund’s notable achievements include being selected among the 2023 cohort of the *Mail & Guardian’s* 200 Young South Africans, and as winner in the ‘Education’ category. Dr Roopchund was also nominated as the best second-year lecturer by the students in his department, which he attributes to his desire to innovate his teaching practices to ensure optimal learning.

Nina Rossouw is a senior lecturer: Teaching and Learning in the School of Management Studies, Faculty of Commerce at the Independent Institute of Education, Varsity College, Cape Town. She holds qualifications in accounting and law (Stellenbosch University), a PGDip in Higher Education (IIE) and a MPhil in Higher Education (Stellenbosch University). She is passionate about teaching and learning, reflecting on teaching practices and exploring more effective ways to teach students. She is an undergraduate lecturer in the field of accounting and business ethics, and a research lecturer and postgraduate supervisor. Her specific research interests are in curriculum design, pedagogical approaches (specifically in the fields of accounting and ethics education), the philosophy of education, and the hidden curriculum in higher education.

Prof. Birgit Schreiber is a consulting expert for the international higher education sector, has served in senior leadership positions, with expertise in sub-Saharan Africa and Europe higher education, with a focus on student success, leadership, digitalisation, DEI and gender. Birgit has worked with a range of national and trans-national bodies, notably Universities South Africa (USAf), DAAD and ERASMUS, teaches, does research and supervision, programme design and policy development. She is appointed as extraordinary professor at her alma mater, UWC, in Cape Town. Her PhD is in psychology, and she is registered as psychotherapist with the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA). Birgit has over 90 articles, chapters and books, on various themes around social justice, student affairs, student engagement and higher education leadership, gender and SDGs. She was the founding editor and is a member of the editorial executive of the *Journal for Student Affairs in Africa* (JSAA). She is on the board of the *Journal of College Student Development* (JCSJ) and is a column editor for the *Journal of College*

and Character (JCC). After being the Africa chair, she serves as the vice-president for the International Association of Student Affairs and Services (IASAS). She has received numerous awards, most recently the Noam Chomsky Award for international research and the NASPA Award for international practice. She is a member of the Africa Centre at the Albert Ludwig University Freiburg, Germany, a research associate at the University of Pretoria, Germany Director for the STAR Scholars Network and sits on the board of the South African National Research Centre at the University of Johannesburg and the CASHEF at the University of Pretoria.

Dr Naadhira Seedat joined the University of Johannesburg as a New Generation of Academics Program (nGAP) lecturer in 2019. She previously held a position as a lecturer at the University of South Africa and worked as a project engineer in the gas manufacturing industry before entering the tertiary education sector. She holds PhD, MSc and BSc degrees from the University of the Witwatersrand. She obtained several awards in her undergraduate studies, which she completed with distinction. She is currently enrolled in the postgraduate diploma in higher education at UJ. Her passion lies in engineering education, and she is currently involved in education research based on the pedagogy of care, facilitation and authentic learning and the inclusion of gamification to enhance teaching and learning methods in her classroom. Her focus is on establishing a student-centred environment in the classroom. Hence, she encourages an authentic and optimal learning environment for her students. Her core engineering research focuses on distillation design, biomass conversion, and waste valorisation, which have resulted in the publication of peer-reviewed articles. She has a passion for community service and has used her expertise to educate the youth of South Africa. She has been involved in numerous outreach programmes, such as the STEM MentHER programme and UJ-FoS-SCC Take a Child to Work Day, to inspire young people and women and promote the importance of STEM in society. She has a firm commitment to shaping a better future for South Africa and has shown that her academic skills and knowledge can be used to contribute to the country's development in various ways, from implementing sustainable technologies to educating the next generation of engineers.

Thembekile P. Skakane is a doctoral student registered at the University of KwaZulu-Natal. At the commencement of the study, she was the principal at a nursing college in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa, but has since taken employment in the Department of Health in Mpumalanga province. She has co-authored several research papers and hopes to do more as a single author in the future.

Dr Leslie van Rooi has a PhD in Church Law and Church History, Stellenbosch University (SU), and completed the advanced management programme at INSEAD Business School in Fontainebleau, France. He has published numerous academic articles and book chapters, which focus on church polity, church history, social impact, transformation,

and visual redress in the higher education context. He is currently SU's senior director for social impact and transformation (since 2018).

Dr Jessica Versfeld is an HPCSA-registered counselling psychologist with a master's in Counselling Psychology and a doctorate in Educational Psychology from the University of Pretoria. She practices part-time and serves as an academic advisor in the engineering department at the same university. Her work focuses on tailoring effective interventions for engineering students. Dr Versfeld has authored numerous papers and presented at various conferences on student success in the Global South context.

Caitlin Vinson is an HPCSA-registered counselling psychologist with a master's degree in Counselling Psychology from the University of Pretoria. She works part-time in private practice and as an academic advisor in the university's engineering department. Caitlin Vinson specializes in creating tailored interventions for engineering students, applying her expertise to enhance their academic and personal development.

Badrunessa Williams is a senior lecturer in financial reporting at the University of the Western Cape. She has an MCom (Accounting) from the University of the Western Cape, where she is currently pursuing her PhD. Badrunessa's research interests include accounting education with a focus on student success.

Dr Jia Zheng is an assistant professor in social justice at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Prior to this, she was a clinical assistant professor and program coordinator of the On-Campus Student Personnel in Higher Education at the University of Florida. Jia's scholarship focuses on using critical theories and methodologies to interrogate inequitable power systems in higher education by examining Asian American and Asian international students and race, academic partnerships at transnational programmes and institutions in the Global South, and college and graduate students' socialisation to principles of diversity, equity, inclusion, and social justice during politically challenging times. Jia's work has appeared in the *Journal of Diversity in Higher Education*, *Research in Higher Education*, *Qualitative Inquiry*, *Journal of Women and Minorities in Science and Engineering*, *Change: The Magazine of Higher Learning*, and *Inside Higher Ed*. Prior to her role at the University of Florida, Jia served as an instructor for the undergraduate Leadership Studies Program at the University of Maryland College Park and has worked in various capacities as a student affairs practitioner, including housing and residential education at Duke Kunshan University in China and student conduct at the University of Maryland College Park. Jia received her PhD in the Higher Education, Student Affairs, and International Education Policy program at the University of Maryland, College Park, Master in Educational Policy at the University of Washington, and Bachelor of Education in English Education at the Education University of Hong Kong.