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## **Three UCT scientists included in Highly Cited Researchers list for 2020**

Three University of Cape Town (UCT) scientists, Emeritus Professor William Bond, Professor Dan Stein and Professor Vicki Lambert, have been included in the Highly Cited Researchers (HCR) list for 2020.

Compiled by Clarivate Analytics, the HCR list recognises scientists and social scientists who demonstrate significant and broad influence through the publication of multiple papers frequently cited by their peers over the course of a decade.

This year, the papers surveyed were those published and cited in one or more of the 21 fields included in Clarivate's Essential Sciences Indicator between 2009 and 2019. Researchers included on the list have published papers that rank in the top 1% of total citations in the world in one or more ESI fields for the period of survey.

As many as 6 389 researchers from some 60 different countries/regions were included on the list. Among these, 3 896 received a high frequency of citations in a specific field, while 2 493 displayed exceptional performance across various disciplines. Both Bond and Lambert feature among the latter, while Stein has been recognised for his influence in the field of psychiatry and psychology.

Professor Sue Harrison, UCT's deputy vice-chancellor for research and internationalisation said: "It's always deeply gratifying to be recognised for your work in this manner, but it is even more significant that our researchers are being cited as key contributors to knowledge that will drive meaningful projects forward throughout the world. My sincerest congratulations to professors Bond, Stein and Lambert."

When asked what it feels like to be featured on the HCR list once again this year, Bond from the Department of Biological Sciences said: "Well, not quite as exhilarating as winning the Rugby World Cup but it has its similarities. You're out in the big wide world and, although we may seem on the fringes of science here in South Africa, those citations mean you know you're being heard and influencing scientific knowledge elsewhere."

Bond's research focuses on the processes that most strongly influence changes in vegetation. These include fire, climate extremes, habitat fragmentation and vertebrate herbivory.

Stein, head of the Department of Psychiatry and Mental Health, points out the collaborative nature of his work, which focuses on the psychobiology and management of anxiety and related disorders. "My most highly cited papers are invariably a result of large collaborative efforts," he says. "I feel privileged to be part of a number of productive projects and am mindful of the fact that these citations reflect the work of my colleagues and students."

"My work ranges from neuroscience through clinical research and on to public health studies, and increasingly work in each of these areas requires collaboration," he says. "Some of my most highly cited papers include work from Enhancing Neuroimaging Genetics through Meta-analysis, a large brain imaging collaboration, from collaborative work on the DSM-5 and ICD-11 classifications of mental disorders, and from World Mental Health Surveys, a large psychiatric epidemiology collaboration."

Included on the list for the first time this year, Lambert's research largely focuses on the role of physical activity for public health purposes in the Global South with an emphasis on equity and environmental justice. Her work also includes research on the "wicked problem" of food insecurity and obesity, particularly in underserved communities.

Lambert is the director of the Research Centre on Health through Physical Activity, Lifestyle and Sport, within the Division of Exercise Science and Sports Medicine, in the Department of Human Biology. She recently served on the World Health Organization 2020 Guidelines Development Group for Global Recommendations on Physical Activity and Sedentary Behaviour.

When asked about the highlights of her career, Lambert commented that she was "privileged to work with incredible teams of passionate, committed researchers all over the world" and that her best outputs included two Lancet papers, as part of the 2012 and 2016 Lancet series on physical activity for health. However, Lambert indicated that the work of which she is most proud was a recent invited commentary from the *British Journal of Sports Medicine*, released last month, on the novel construct of 'physical activity security'.

This year, Lambert led a consortium of more than 40 academics and implementation partners, that has produced a series of policy briefs on Physical Activity for Health in Africa, during COVID and Beyond.



From left to right: Professor Dan Stein, Professor Vicki Lambert and Emeritus Professor William Bond.

Photos: UCT

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