

UCT New Generation of Academics Programme

Issue # 1. February 2018

Greetings to your all and hope that 2018 will be a very successful year for you. We are in the middle of summer with Level 6b water restrictions and the academic year is just beginning. This issue of the newsletter introduces two of our newest NGAP members, Xolisa Guzula (Education) and Musa Nxele (Development Policy and Practice). They were both appointed in terms of Phase 3 of NGAP. A further lecturer in Health Sciences Education is in the process of being appointed.

Any editor will tell readers that it is not always easy to extract contributions from potential providers of news. I have to confess that this challenge is one also that faces the NGAP newsletter. Come on guys, don't be so modest! Tell me and your friends what you're doing!

Yet, you will see that not everybody is hiding their achievements and I do thank the contributors whose news you will find below very much for stepping into the limelight.

Xolisa Guzula (School of Education)



I was born in a village in Lady Frere in the Eastern Cape. I matriculated at St James Senior Secondary School in Cofimvaba in 1993. I graduated at UCT with a Bachelor of Primary education (BPrimEd) in 1997 and a Master of Philosophy in Education Administration, Planning and Social Policy in 2011. This is where I combined both policy and literacy studies so as to be able to work within the area of language and literacy, teacher training and policy especially as it affects multilingual children in schooling.

In 2001-2012, I worked at the Project for the Study of Alternative Education in South Africa (PRAESA), then based at UCT as an Early Bilingual Specialist and later a Network

Coordinator for Nal'ibali, bringing together literacy specialists across the country to work together. After PRAESA, in 2013-2014, I worked as a senior language and literacy specialist at the Nelson Mandela Institute for Education and Rural Development, training, mentoring and coaching rural teachers in language and literacy. I resigned in 2014 to come to UCT to study for a PhD fulltime since 2015. My research is inspired by decolonial theory and is concerned with creating third spaces for literacy learning for multilingual children. I focus on children's trans-languaging and multi-literacy practices in an afterschool literacy club that has been established as a third space. I have been a recipient of UCT's Equity Funding for the last three years of my PhD Studies.

I am now a lecturer in multilingual and multi-literacies education in the school of Education at the University of Cape Town. I lecture in both Foundation Phase PGCE and Masters Programmes while working to complete my PhD studies, hopefully this year.

I have worked in the area of children's literature more as a translator and have authored a few children's books. My most recent translation is a Stephen and Lucy Hawking's book, "George's secret Key to the Universe" into isiXhosa as Iqhosha eliyimfihlelo kaGeorge kuzungezo lwendalo

<https://www.news.uct.ac.za/article/-2017-07-11-translating-a-path-to-success>

I am also one of the women who have started the new independent school for girls in Khayelitsha known as Molo Mhlaba/Hello World School for Girls, focussing on Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics. The school is a bilingual school, which will hopefully benefit from my PhD studies and experience in biliteracy education.

When I am not working, I enjoy reading, running literacy clubs for children and participating at the Puku Story festival for children and other literary festivals for adults including the Abantu Book Festival.

Musa Nxele (Graduate School of Development Policy and Practice)



Musa is a Sowetan whose father raised him to be apolitical and competent for blue-collar work. Faced with the threat of corporal punishment both at home and at school, Musa opted for sharp obedience and owned a yellow shoe duster which kept him polished.

His worldview was consequently largely removed from reality, which helped him see life through his dreams and not through his lack. His major influences as a teenager include reading *All the Days were Summer* by Jack Bickham and *My Left Foot* by Christy Brown, which gave him a place in an otherwise unfamiliar world.

Given his preferences for better-things-in-life, Musa pursued a Bachelor of Business Science at UCT before going on to attain an advanced Master of research degree in Globalization from the Université de Paris 1 Sorbonne and the École Normale Supérieure, Paris; as well as a Master of Commerce degree specialising in Economic Development from UCT. During this period, Musa had the opportunity to work as an investment banker and later a consultant broadly focusing on industrial policy-focused projects mainly for the South African national government.

However, of all his jobs, he most enjoyed tutoring economics at UCT, and learning about governance and political conflict, and seeking solutions that cause life. This led to his next adventure at Rhodes University where he lectured public economics, before moving to UCT to join the Graduate School of Development Policy and Practice. He is looking forward to serving and leading in the School, while learning from great Professors who all cheerfully believe in him. He hopes to keep on changing the world a day at a time, while formulating an opinion about how the world works – undoing his father's efforts to keep him apolitical.

Tabisa tackles Digital literacy at the Undergrad Level



Tabisa Mayisela works in the Centre for Innovation in Learning and Teaching in CHED so it is totally appropriate that she has written a chapter on “Integrating Digital Literacies into an Undergraduate Course: Inclusiveness Through Use of ICTs”. Working with a UCT colleague from the Commerce Faculty, Meke I. Kapepo, she showcases a successful case of how ICT was used for educational inclusiveness by students from previously disadvantaged backgrounds at UCT. The chapter reveals how students can be supported in acquiring digital and academic literacies within a discipline context. The optimistic message is that ICT and digital literacies can be integrated into the curriculum and students assisted to acquire graduate attributes and skills that make them fit for the workplace.

Charles K. Ayo (Covenant University, Nigeria) and Victor Mbarika (Southern University, USA and ICT University, USA) (eds), *Sustainable ICT Adoption and Integration for Socio-Economic Development* (Hershey, Pennsylvania, IGI Global 2017).

Phindile Ntliziywana – Locally and Abroad

In November 2017 Phindile was invited to present a paper at the Sixth Commonwealth Local Government Research Colloquium in Valetta, Malta. His paper was on *‘The use of Public-Private Partnerships for local economic development: the South African case study’*.

In January, Phindile was part of a Roundtable Discussion on “*Elections and Electoral Reform in South Africa*” held at the Vineyard Hotel, Newlands. Sponsored by Konrad Adenauer Stiftung, the roundtable brought together an impressive array of experts including Justice Albie Sachs, former Constitutional Court Judge; Prof. Zwelethu Jolobe, UCT; Prof. Roger Southall, Wits; Dr Collette Schulz-Herzenberg, University of Stellenbosch; and Ms Raenette Taljaard, Director, Economic Research Southern Africa (former IEC Commissioner).



Phindile in Malta



Phindile with his thesis

Hot off the Press:

Phindile has graduated with a PhD(Law) titled “*The Transformation of Local Government Service Delivery in South Africa: The Failures and Limits of Legislating New Public Management*” at the University of the Western Cape. His supervisor was Nico Steytler, who holds a South African Research Chair (SARChI) in Multi-Level Government, Law and Policy.

Well done, Phindile!

Contested Kosi: Working with Local Communities to protect rights and ecology

Kosi Bay Viewpoint



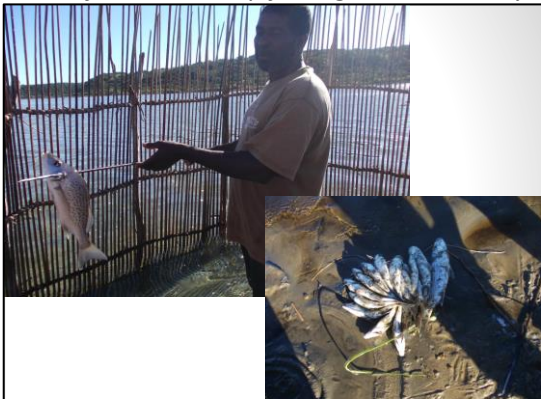
Philile Mbatha

In January 2018, Philile Mbatha conducted a field visit to her PhD case study site, Kosi Bay. Kosi Bay is situated in the northernmost coast of KwaZulu-Natal, within the iSimangaliso Wetland Park, declared in the year 2000. It comprises an ecologically unique lake system, which, because of its rich biodiversity, is part of an environment protected as a natural site under UNESCO World Heritage status. The iSimangaliso site was declared South Africa's first World Heritage Site because its natural attributes are considered to be of global significance. They have economic potential and thus need to be conserved for both local people, as well as the international community. Formal conservation within the boundaries of the iSimangaliso has existed for over 100 years, and the St. Lucia Nature Reserve is one of the oldest protected areas in Africa, established in 1895. The progressive creation of protected areas within the boundaries of iSimangaliso are said to be motivated by the need for protecting increasing populations of large mammals such as hippopotamus, sea turtles, as well as black rhinoceros, within the system.

The Kosi Bay system, including fish traps



A local fisherman trap fishing in Kosi estuary



Burning of property during recent protests against 4x4 vehicle theft in Kosi Bay



Over and above the ecological attributes of Kosi Bay is the rural coastal community that has a long history of relying on the Kosi Bay system for fishing, forestry and tourism livelihoods. This community is subject to dual governance between local government and the Tembe Traditional Authority, and not only that, it is also

situated adjacent to the Maputaland Marine Protected Area, Tembe Coastal Forest Reserve, as well as the Kosi Bay-Ponto d' Ouro Transfrontier Conservation Area. It is thus apparent that there are plural horizontal and vertical layers of governance from the international level all the way to the local level that influence the livelihood strategies of the local people.

Philile has recently successfully completed PhD research in Kosi Bay that sought to elucidate understanding about rural coastal livelihood strategies by highlighting the manner through which rural livelihoods are shaped, influenced and reproduced by governance systems that aim to govern natural resources. One of the main reasons why her study was important is that it sought to contribute to the gap in the body of knowledge about the relationship between the livelihoods strategies of rural and marginalized communities and plural natural resource governance systems controlling access and use of coastal resources.

During a recent field visit to Kosi Bay, it remained apparent that the area remains highly contested by the community, traditional authorities, as well as various statutory governance structures in relation to land and coastal resources. There is also ongoing conflict between governance actors and members of the community around this, so much so that the community was initially reluctant to speak to outsiders regarding these sensitive topics. More recently, there have also been conflicts that have sprung up due to the porous border near Kosi Bay between South Africa and Mozambique. This is something that was observed in the field visit in January 2018 where local protesters blocked the tourism route between Kosi Bay and the south of Mozambique as a demonstration against alleged Mozambicans who cross the Kosi Bay border illegally to steal 4x4 vehicles belonging to community members. Residents of Kosi Bay complained to law enforcement officers that there have been various incidents over the past few years where local 4x4 vehicles were stolen and sold in Mozambique, and that nothing has been done about this. This conflict has created tensions between people from Kosi Bay and the south of Mozambique, and local people largely blamed border patrol police for not dealing with the problem of the porous border between South Africa and Mozambique on the Kosi Bay side.

Therefore, due to the perpetual and increased layers of complexity in the governance of land and resources in Kosi Bay, Philile plans to continue to work with the community and governance structures in the area, beyond her PhD. This work will begin by feeding back the key findings from her PhD research to the community, as well as local and national governance structures through policy workshops and a policy brief that will be published in both isiZulu and English languages. The next step would be to engage international organizations like UNESCO and other actors in the international community about how global policy regimes for environmental protection are interpreted in the global South, and how they alter or shift the livelihood strategies of marginalized communities. Philile seeks to do more research to assess the influence of international policy regimes for protecting natural resources through the use of rural livelihoods as a form of analysis.

Robert Morrell
Office of the Vice-Chancellor
Editor