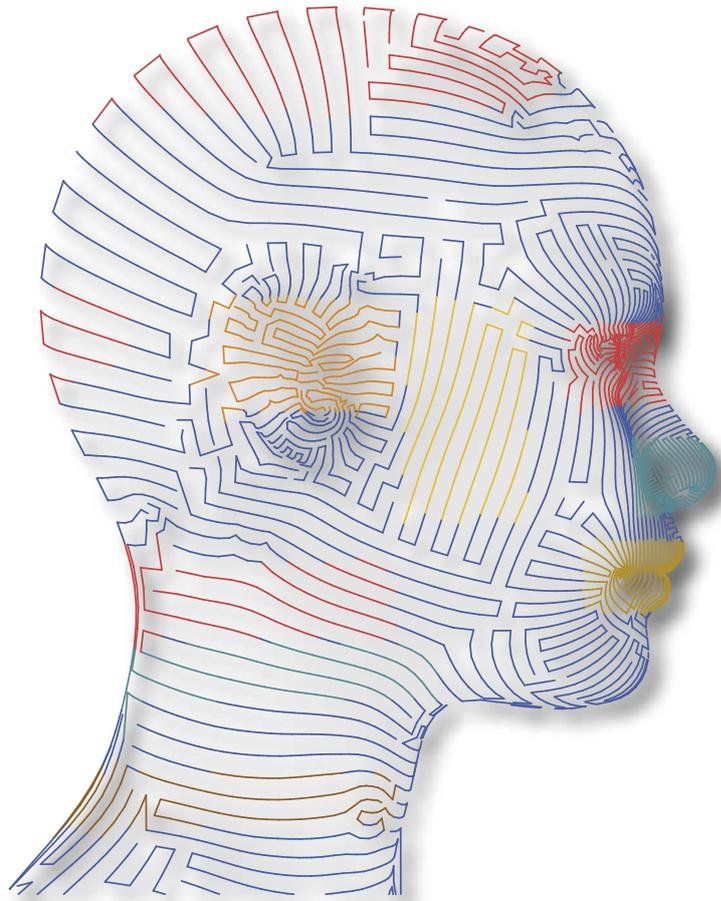


2020/21

Human Sciences Research Council - Universities South Africa



Medal for Social Sciences and Humanities



science & innovation

Department:
Science and Innovation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



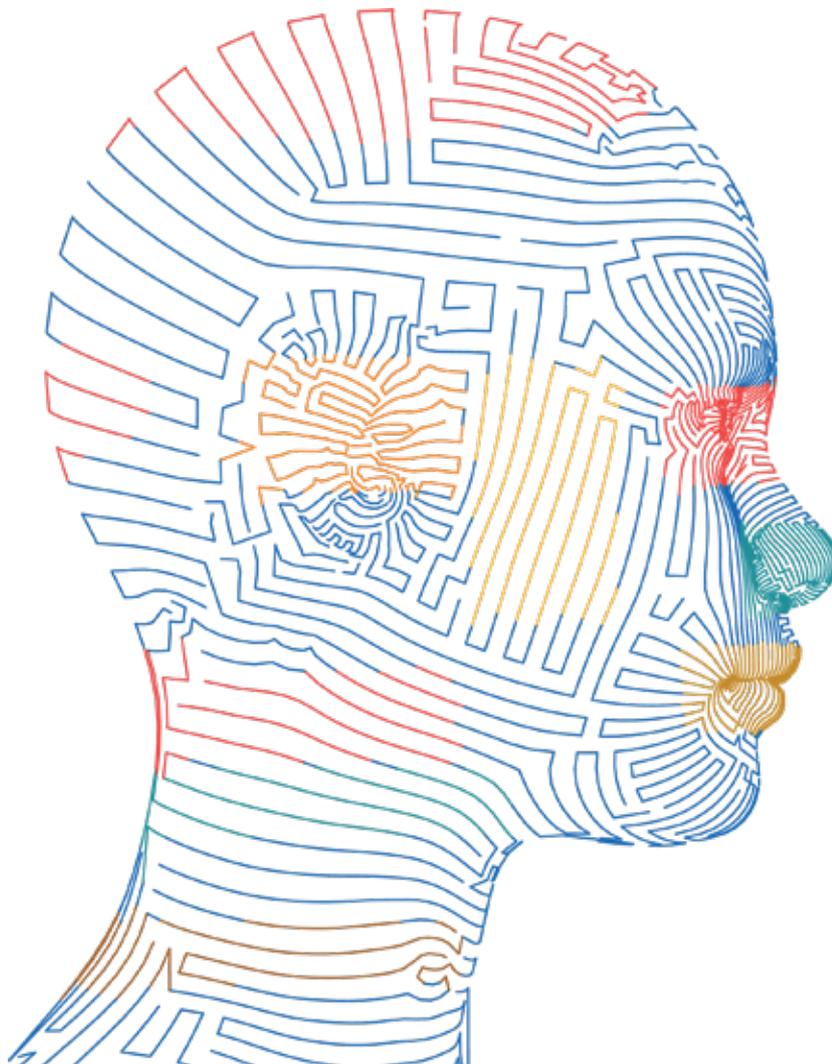
UNIVERSITIES
SOUTH AFRICA



HSRC
Human Sciences
Research Council

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Message from the CEO of the Human Sciences Research Council, Professor Crain Soudien

At the end of March 2021, South Africa would have been in lockdown for just over 365 days, the entire year. While almost 1.5 million people have been infected by COVID-19 and 50000 have succumbed to the virus, the arrival of the approved vaccines in the country at the beginning of February 2021, has also brought a ray of hope and to date, South Africa is implementing an aggressive vaccination programme.

Undoubtedly, the effects on the country have been devastating with unemployment rates reaching their highest level since 2008. Yet there has also been almost unanimous acceptance that science is the kingpin on which our recovery will be based. That South Africa has fared better than expected, can equally be attributed to the fact that science has been at the heart of its response.

Globally virologists, immunologists, vaccinologists and public health specialists have stepped up to the proverbial plate and in an unprecedented development, we now have a number of vaccines that will provide us with a large degree of protection. Although the immediate cause of our problems are biological, the effects are social and the solutions lie at the crossroads between the medical and behavioural sciences.

Less visible but no less debilitating are the social trauma and strains into which untold numbers have been thrust, unspeakable emotional breakdown, unsupported grief and depression, family strife, community dysfunctionality, more and more gender-based violence and other, and let us be blunt about this, social pathologies which we do not know enough about.

Social scientists also sprang into action from the earliest days of the first positive diagnosis in South Africa. Days after the national lockdown came into effect, the Human Sciences Research Council initiated two different survey series to establish what South Africans thought, their attitudes to the mitigation measures proposed and their trust in government. HSRC researchers and the University of Johannesburg have, through their successful partnership, also conducted three waves of surveys looking at attitudes, perceptions and behaviours of South Africans in respect of the pandemic and mitigation measures. At the same time, an HSRC led survey conducted with academics in the education sectors of 70 countries, including 13 African countries, found strong correlation between poverty and deprivation from electricity, data, devices and the lack of conducive learning space.

As these surveys were being conducted, teams of researchers from the Universities of Stellenbosch, Cape Town and the Witwatersrand began working on the effects of the pandemic with respect to employment, household income, child hunger and access to government grants. The results from their Coronavirus Rapid Mobile Survey (CRAMS), has critically informed government's response to the lockdown. Simultaneously, many universities and science councils, including the HSRC, took the initiative to hold public engagements about the epidemic, effectively bringing science to the people.

Many academics also joined civil society initiatives to deal with emergencies in stressed communities. This included land and agrarian reform researchers and civil society activists making submissions to the Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) and hosting dialogues with government on how to create resilient, sustainable and inclusive agrofood systems.

Understanding the complexity of the pandemic and its impact, the indispensable role of the medical and social sciences to forging the

"Globally virologists, immunologists, vaccinologists and public health specialists have stepped up to the proverbial plate..."

solutions we need, the ministerial advisory committees for the pandemic and for vaccinations have come to include social scientists. In this transdisciplinary vein, the HSRC has also led a multi-stakeholder team of medical and social scientists to conduct the national COVID-19 antibody seroprevalence study to ascertain levels of antibodies in the South African population.

South Africa's response to the pandemic, and how the medical and social scientists have responded, signals the awareness of transdisciplinary approaches to dealing with crises. Take the lead as public health researchers will at this time, there is growing acknowledgment that social scientists have to be present from the very beginning of an issue and will, in the appropriate circumstances, be given leadership responsibility. This is crucial.

While none of us would have wished for the past year, nor could we have imagined it, it has brought many opportunities to highlight the role of science in the lives of each of us, in South Africa and globally. Moreover, it has narrowed the gap between the social and the bio-medical sciences. In the past year we have realised that both fields are indispensable and if we are to have comprehensive solutions to some of our most intractable challenges, both fields have a role to play.

The awarding of the 2020/21 HSRC-USAf Medal in Social Sciences and Humanities has once again brought to the fore the work of our country's incredible minds in the social sciences and humanities, along with their commitment and passion in a very difficult year.

We congratulate all the nominees and wish them well as they continue to look for those answers that will drive solutions to making South Africa more equitable.

Professor Crain Soudien
CEO

Human Sciences Research Council



Message from the CEO of Universities South Africa, Professor Ahmed Bawa

The year 2020 will for the foreseeable future be described as the annus horribilus for the entire world. It was the year in which the best, and the worst, of society came to the fore. All the rumblings, fault lines, fissures and cracks in how societies are constructed, the inequalities and other social ills, ruptured and we could no longer ignore them, not matter how hard we tried.

None of us would have imagined a year like we have just experienced, but it is equally the year that could force us to collectively work to heal these fissures, cracks and fault lines. It is the year that future generations could refer to as the beginning of the transformation of societies, the year that forced us to truly stand in human solidarity and the year that inspired truly people-centred governance and development.

In the science community, it could bring forth new ways of collaboration both amongst social scientists and also between the social sciences and humanities and the bio-medical discipline.

*"In the science community,
it could bring forth new
ways of collaboration.."*

It is against this background that the Human Sciences Research Council and Universities South Africa have come together to celebrate social scientists and researchers throughout the country in the 2020 HSRC-USAf Medal in Social Sciences and Humanities.

Although the role of the bio-medical sciences has been crucial to getting us to the point where we can have viable vaccines to protect us against COVID-19 and data that helps us to understand the virus to enable appropriate and effective behavioural interventions, the role of the social sciences and humanities have also been heightened in the past year. Science councils and universities have done the country proud in the work that has been undertaken to understand, and respond appropriately, to the pandemic.

While the 2020 HSRC-USAf Medal in Social Sciences and Humanities celebrated established and emerging researchers for their commitment to their respective areas of work, we have also introduced the inaugural team awards which specifically recognised their contributions which enabled us to respond effectively to the pandemic.

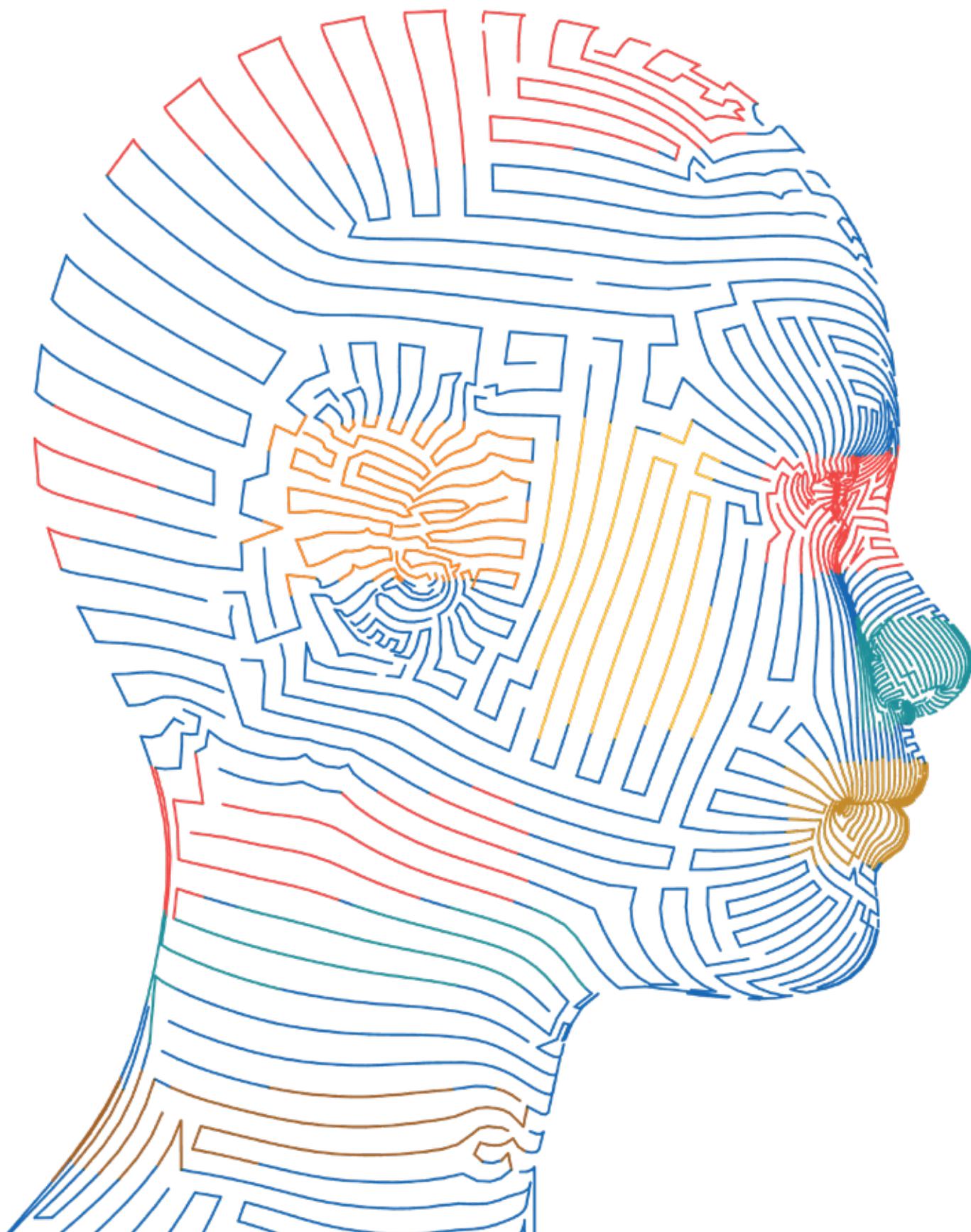
It was inspiring to adjudicate the various nominations. As the adjudication panel we were heartened by the quality, and number, of the nominations, the passionate and unwavering commitment of our social scientists and researchers to investigating complex problems in our country and to conceptualising evidence based solutions which can be both infused into policies and legislation, while also inspiring community's and society as a whole to do things differently.

We also have confidence that the year that has passed can lay the foundation for collaborations and partnerships, through which collective strengths can be leveraged to find the solutions we are all looking for to build healthier, prosperous and more socially cohesive communities.

On behalf of the adjudication panel, I congratulate all the nominees and express our deep gratitude for your ongoing commitment to the social sciences and humanities.

Only by working together in a consistent manner, can we contribute to the South Africa we all dream off and hope to bequeath to future generations.

Professor Ahmed Bawa
CEO
Universities South Africa



Nominees
Established Researcher Award



2020/21 Medal for Social Sciences and Humanities

Dr Kolawole Samuel Adeyemo is a senior lecturer in the Department of Education Management and Policy Studies at the University of Pretoria. He holds a PhD in Educational Management from Cavite State University in Philippines, has completed a postdoc at the University of Pretoria in 2014, and is also an alumnus of John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, Executive Education. Dr Adeyemo's expertise lies in the field of international and comparative studies in higher education. His work often involves exploring new populations of internationally mobile students, issues of policy in emerging and underresearched regional higher education destinations, as well as issues related to quality and social justice. He is currently an assistant editor for the accredited Journal of International Students and is the Country Director (South Africa) for the Society of Transnational Education Researchers (STAR).

Nominee: Established Researcher Award



Doctor Kolawole Samuel Adeyemo



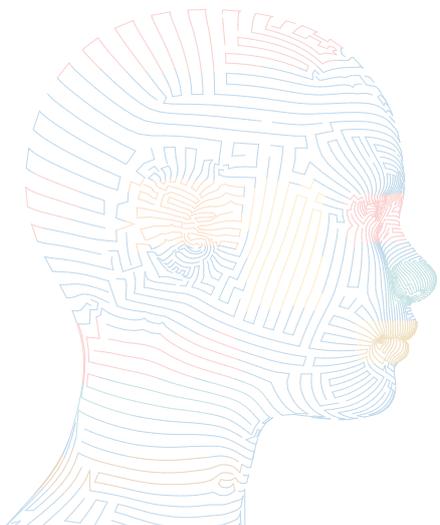
2020/21 Medal for Social Sciences and Humanities

Sam Lubbe is a retired research professor appointed at MUT to advise colleagues about approaches for research design. He holds a B. Com (UFS), B. Com (Hons) (UFS), M Com (UCT) and PhD (Wits). He has taught academic courses in the fields of Information Systems, supervised more than 100 honours graduates, 7 masters graduates, 120 local and international MBA graduates and 15 doctoral graduates. He has published 73 articles in accredited peer reviewed journals on his own, and with his students and research colleagues. He is presently supervising 3 Doctoral and 4 Masters graduates in Financial Management at UNISA in the School of Business Leadership and is a guest co-editor of management, informatics and governance issues of the SA scholarly journal Alternation.

Nominee: Established Researcher Award



Professor Samuel Izak Lubbe



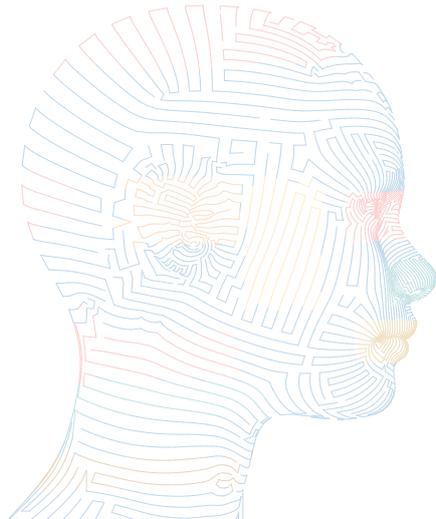
2020/21 Medal for Social Sciences and Humanities

Saloshna Vandeyar is a full professor in the Faculty of Education and the Director of the Centre for Diversity and Social Cohesion at the University of Pretoria. Her research focus is on social, cultural and cognitive justice education, with a particular focus on race in (equalities) and the ways in which all other kinds of inequalities are produced and reproduced in educational spaces. She is a NRF rated-scientist and the award-winning researcher. She received the Gauteng Woman in Excellence award in 2018. She serves on a number of editorial boards; has published widely; supervised numerous students; has numerous international networks and has presented many invited keynote addresses.

Nominee: Established Researcher Award



Professor Saloshna Vandeyar



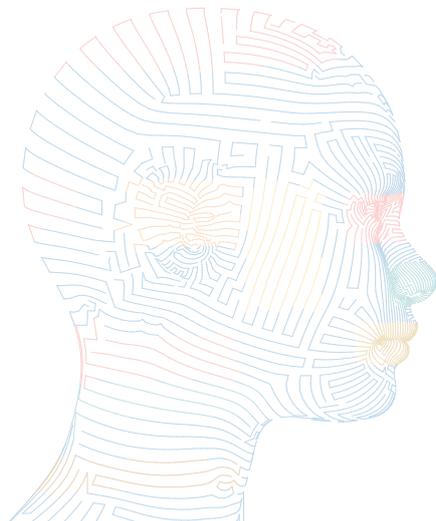
2020/21 Medal for Social Sciences and Humanities

Azwhangwisi Helen Mavhandu-Mudzusi is an NRF rated full Professor and Head of the College of Human Sciences Research at the University of South Africa (UNISA). Her main research focus is on reducing new HIV infections and improving the quality of life of people living with HIV in rural universities. As an activist, she is involved in the advocacy for LGBTIQ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex and Queer) individuals. She has authored 38 peer-reviewed publications, two book chapters and 25 peer-reviewed conference papers. She has successfully supervised 11 Ph.D. and 26 master's students to completion. Added to the formal supervision, she is mentoring several young academics. She is the holder of several research awards.

Nominee: Established Researcher Award



**Professor Azwhangwisi
Helen Mavhandu-Mudzusi**



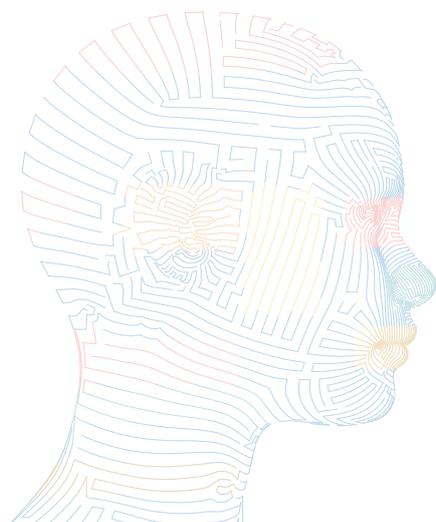
2020/21 Medal for Social Sciences and Humanities

Professor Mosa Moshabela is the Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor of Research and Innovation at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, and former Dean and Head of School of Nursing and Public Health. As a medical practitioner, he specialised in Family Medicine and Primary Health Care. He holds a Masters in Demography and Health (MSc), and a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in the field of Public Health, focusing on health systems, services and policy research. He convened the COVID-19 'war room' at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, and advised the provincial 'war room' for COVID-19. He is a Commissioner in the Kwa-Zulu Natal Provincial Planning Commission, chairperson of the Standing Committee on Health in the Academy of Science of South Africa (ASSAf), and chairperson of a sub-committee to evaluate and report on the national health sector response to COVID-19 in South Africa.

Nominee: Established Researcher Award



**Professor Mosa
Moshabela**



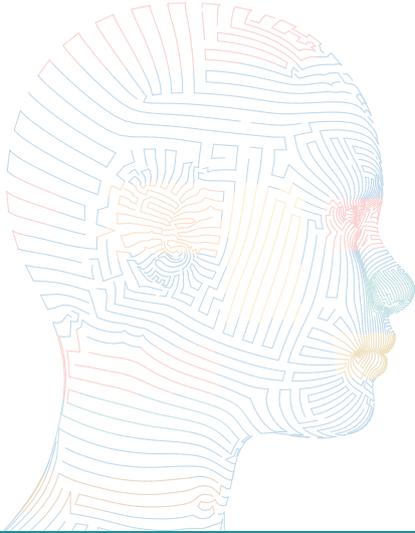
2020/21 Medal for Social Sciences and Humanities

Professor Thaddeus Metz, currently Professor of Philosophy at the University of Pretoria, obtained his PhD in from the Sage School of Philosophy at Cornell University in 1997. He has since published nearly 300 scholarly books, chapters, and articles, amongst which are more than 50 different works that have been reprinted and translated. Much of this work takes an analytic approach to African morality, the meaning of life, the nature of mental health, the point of a university, the role of a legal system, and a range of other topics in value theory and moral-political philosophy. Recent recognition for Prof Metz's research includes him having been designated one of The World's Top 50 Thinkers by Prospect Magazine and awarded an 'A1' rating from the South African National Research Foundation (2019–2024).

Nominee: Established Researcher Award



**Professor Thaddeus
Hines Metz**

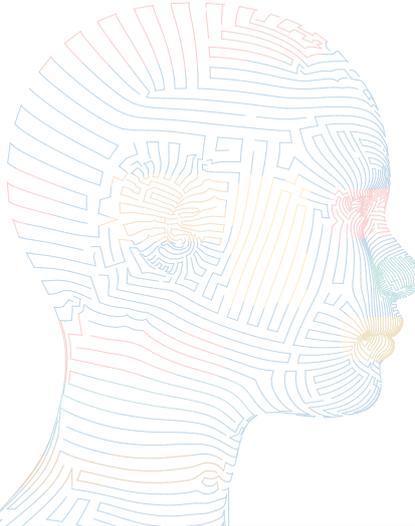


2020/21 Medal for Social Sciences and Humanities

Yaseen Ally, a Research Psychologist and Registered Counsellor with the Health Professions Council of South Africa, is an associate professor at Nelson Mandela University. His research areas include cultural and religious belief systems and their influence on mental health. He has been exploring research linked to supernatural belief systems and the role it plays in mental health within South African communities. During the COVID-19 pandemic and lockdown, he developed online platforms aimed at digitizing and sharing psychological information, and creating a dialogue around mental health. Data collected during lockdown levels 3-4 will be used to shed light on the psychological and mental health needs in the wake of the pandemic. He centralizes in his work, mentoring and empowerment of students.



Professor Yaseen Ally

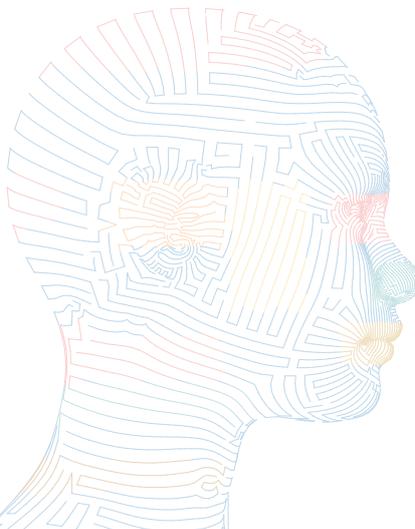


2020/21 Medal for Social Sciences and Humanities

Professor Irene Govender is a Professor of Information systems and Technology, and an established NRF-rated researcher with over 65 peer-reviewed publications in the field of computing. Her research interests are interdisciplinary involving technology for teaching and learning, ICT4D, Big Data Analytics and a niche area of object-oriented programming. She has taught a range of modules including Research methodology for IS & T, Advanced Systems Design, Networking and Security for information systems and Mobile and Personal information Systems. She brings a multidisciplinary perspective to the discipline in her research and in designing and enacting the modules. She has been involved in teacher education, and has been chief examiner for matric senior certificate for Information Technology for several years.



Professor Irene Govender



2020/21 Medal for Social Sciences and Humanities

Given Mutinta, is an Associate Professor at the Department of Media and Communication Studies, in the School of Language, Media and Communication at Nelson Mandela University. Holding two Doctorates from the University of KwaZulu-Natal, he teaches several courses in Media and Communication Studies, and Research Methodology. His specific research focuses on the use of action research approaches and culture-centred approach to advance HIV combination prevention. He is a member of the editorial board of the Journal of Health Communication, a Review Editor for the International Journal of Social Research Methodology, a member of the Health Communication working group for the Consultancy Africa Intelligence Research and part on the Eastern Cape Department of Health advisory committee for developing and implementing the provincial Health Promotion Strategy for the COVID-19 pandemic.



Professor Given Mutinta

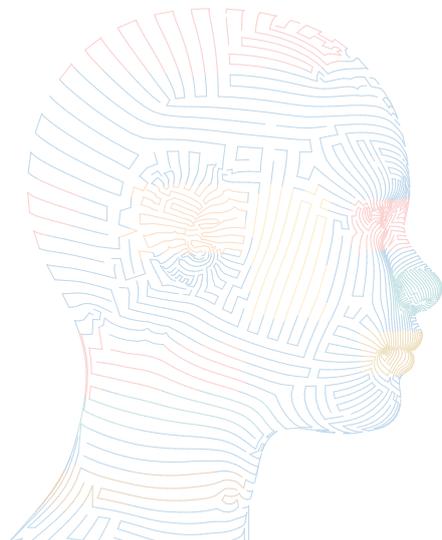


2020/21 Medal for Social Sciences and Humanities

Ashraf Kagee is Distinguished Professor of Psychology at Stellenbosch University, co-Director of the Alan Flisher Centre for Public Mental Health, and a member of the Academy of Science of South Africa. With over 200 academic publications, he has also completed fellowships at the University of Pennsylvania and Columbia University, and a sabbatical year at the Freie Universität Berlin. Professor Kagee's research has focused on common mental disorders among persons living with HIV, psychological and structural factors influencing adherence to antiretroviral therapy, and common mental disorders in various populations. He currently teaches cognitive psychotherapy and research methods. He chairs the Board of Trustees of the Trauma Centre for Survivors of Violence and Torture in Cape Town, does capacity building work at the Gaza Community Mental Health Centre in Palestine and serves on the Western Cape Covid-19 Vaccine Committee.



**Professor Shaheen
Ashraf Kagee**

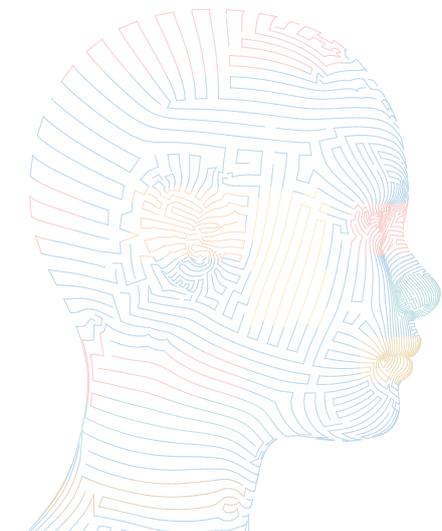


2020/21 Medal for Social Sciences and Humanities

Christof Heyns is a professor of law at the University of Pretoria. He also teaches at Oxford University and the Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights. He has published widely in the field of human rights, including the recent book 'Alston and Heyns on unlawful killings'. Heyns was UN Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions 2010 – 2016. During 2016, he chaired the UN Independent Investigation on Burundi. He was a member of the United Nations Human Rights Committee 2017 – 2020. He is currently a member of the Working Group on Death Penalty, Extra-Judicial, Summary or Arbitrary Killings and Enforced Disappearances in Africa of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights.



**Professor Christoffel
Hendrik Heyns**



2020/21 Medal for Social Sciences and Humanities

Tanja Bosch is an Associate Professor of Media Studies and Production in the Centre for Film and Media Studies, and Deputy Dean of Research and Postgraduate Affairs, at the University of Cape Town. She teaches journalism and multimedia production, social media, radio studies and research methods at undergraduate and postgraduate level. Her first book, *Broadcasting Democracy: Radio and Identity in South Africa*, was published in 2017. Her second monograph, *Social Media and Everyday Life in South Africa* explores how South Africans use social media apps for personal and group identity formation. Dr Bosch has published widely in South Africa; and is currently emerging as one of a few African academics publishing in the area of social media activism, with her work on #RhodesMustFall and #FeesMustFall and



Professor Tanja Bosch



2020/21 Medal for Social Sciences and Humanities

Professor Fortune Ganda holds a Doctor of Commerce in Accounting from the University of Limpopo, and was recently awarded the National Research Foundation's Y2. Prof. Ganda is currently an associate professor at the Walter Sisulu University in the Department of Accounting. He has also previously taught Accounting, Research and Financial Mathematics, at the University of Limpopo and MANCOSA, while supervising Masters and Doctoral research work. His research interests are sustainability accounting, responsible investment and integrated reporting. He has published 32 SAPSE accredited journal articles and 1 book chapter. He also serves as a reviewer in notable high impact journals and is an editorial board member in two international finance and accounting journals.



Professor Fortune Ganda



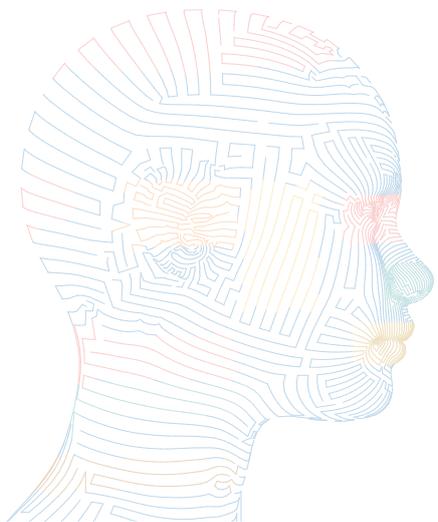
2020/21 Medal for Social Sciences and Humanities

Prof Mokgale Makgopa serves as the Dean of School for Human and Social Sciences at the University of Venda. The school addresses the needs and challenges of the disciplines in the Humanities and Social Sciences within SADC. He is an alumnus of UNISA and Stellenbosch and he holds a Doctor of Philosophy and Literature from UNISA. Prof Makgopa is a seasoned and renowned international scholar in African Literature (all the genres), Indigenous Knowledge Systems (IKS), Sociolinguistics, Onomastics and Folklore.

He is a C3 NRF rated researcher in language, literature and folklore. Prof Makgopa has researched and published extensively. About 28 articles have been published in peer reviewed and accredited journals, 8 book chapters and 9 books.



**Professor Mokgale
Albert Makgopa**



2020/21 Medal for Social Sciences and Humanities

Talita Greyling, an Associate Professor in the School of Economics at the University of Johannesburg, specializes in well-being economics and quality of life studies with a keen interest in fourth industrial revolution applications. She developed the first real-time "Happiness Index", using Big Data. She has founded and is the Director of the Gross National Happiness Today Project and has authored numerous articles in multi-disciplinary and economic journals. Since 2020 she has been actively involved in COVID-19 research projects. She is the associate editor for *Pioneers in Quality of Life Theory and Research* for the *Journal of Applied Research in Quality of Life* and a co-editor for economics in the *Journal of Happiness Studies*. She is the Vice-President of the International Society for Quality-of-Life Studies and is a Research Fellow of the Global Labor Organization (GLO). Talita is involved in several international collaborations related to well-being research.



**Professor Talita
Greyling**



2020/21 Medal for Social Sciences and Humanities

Professor Ogude is the Director at the Centre for the Advancement of Scholarship, University of Pretoria and an NRF A-2 research. His research interests include African literature written in English and postcolonial theories, with a specific focus on issues of memory and reconstruction of African history and identities. During the past decade he has studied popular cultures and literature in Africa, and more recently, his research focus has shifted to postcolonial ecologies. He is also the principal investigator in a supra-national project, funded by the Mellon Foundation, involving the University's of Ghana, Makerere, Cape Town, and Pretoria. He is also currently leading the University of Pretoria in a collaborative project on "Climate Justice and Problems of Scale", sponsored by an international Consortium for Humanities Centres and Institutes (CHCI).



Professor James Adera Ogude



2020/21 Medal for Social Sciences and Humanities

Catherina Schenck holds a DPhil in Social Work and is rated as an established researcher by the NRF. She currently holds the position as Professor and DSI/NRF/CSIR Research Chair in Waste And Society at the University of the Western Cape. She has taught at the University of Pretoria, Unisa and headed the Department of Social Work at UWC. She has authored and co-authored 90 peer reviewed articles in national and international journals and several books and book chapters. Conducting research in communities is her preferred research activity. When she was at Unisa she was awarded the Chancellors medal for her community engagement projects and research.



Professor Catharina Schenck

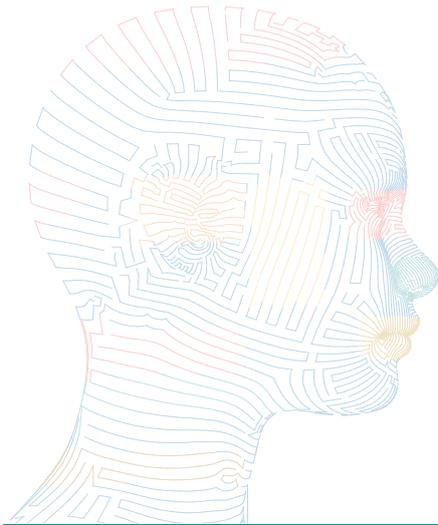


2020/21 Medal for Social Sciences and Humanities

Nokuthula Sibiyi is the Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Teaching and Learning at the Durban University of Technology (DUT) and an NRF rated scientist. She has previously served at DUT as the Executive Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences and Head of Department in Nursing. In 2015, she was inaugurated as a Fellow of the Academy of Nursing of South Africa in recognition of her contribution to primary health care. Prof Sibiyi was bestowed with the Department of Science and Technology's 2018 South African Distinguished Woman Scientist in Humanities and Social Sciences. Her research area is primary health care with specific focus on maternal and child health. She has published over 70 peer-reviewed articles, 2 books, 12 book chapters and has successfully supervised over 65 postgraduate students.



Professor Maureen Nokuthula Sibiyi

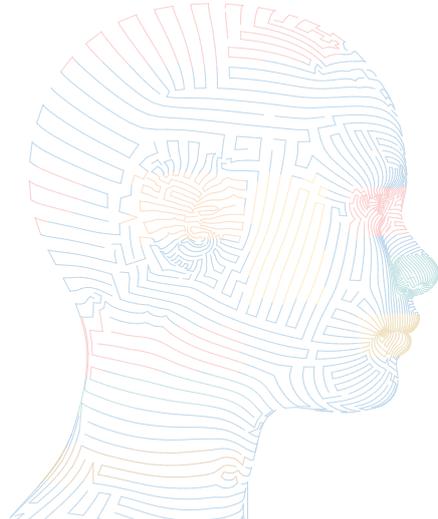


2020/21 Medal for Social Sciences and Humanities

Leslie Swartz, a Clinical Psychologist, is a professor of psychology at Stellenbosch University, and editor-in-chief of South African Journal of Science. He also has a PhD in English studies from Stellenbosch University. Much of his work is in the interdisciplinary field of disability studies and mental health issues, with a focus on southern Africa. He has received a number of awards for his work and is committed to increasing participation in science and in scholarly publishing. He is also interested in communicating academic and research ideas to the general public. His latest book, *How I Lost My Mother* (Wits University Press, 2021) is a memoir dealing with personal issues but also raising issues of care and exploitation for a general audience.



Professor Leslie Philip Swartz



2020/21 Medal for Social Sciences and Humanities

Professor Mark Tomlinson, a Clinical Psychologist, is the Co-Director of the Institute for Life Course Health Research in the Department of Global Health at Stellenbosch University. His scholarly work brings together an interest in factors that contribute to compromised maternal health, understanding child and adolescent development in contexts of high adversity, understanding the impact of maternal depression on child health and development, and how to develop community based interventions to improve health and development across the life course. He has consulted for the World Health Organization, UNICEF, USAID, World Bank, and Conrad N Hilton Foundation. He is a member of the Academy of Science in South Africa since 2017. He has published over 290 papers in peer-reviewed journals, edited two books and published numerous chapters.



Professor Mark Tomlinson

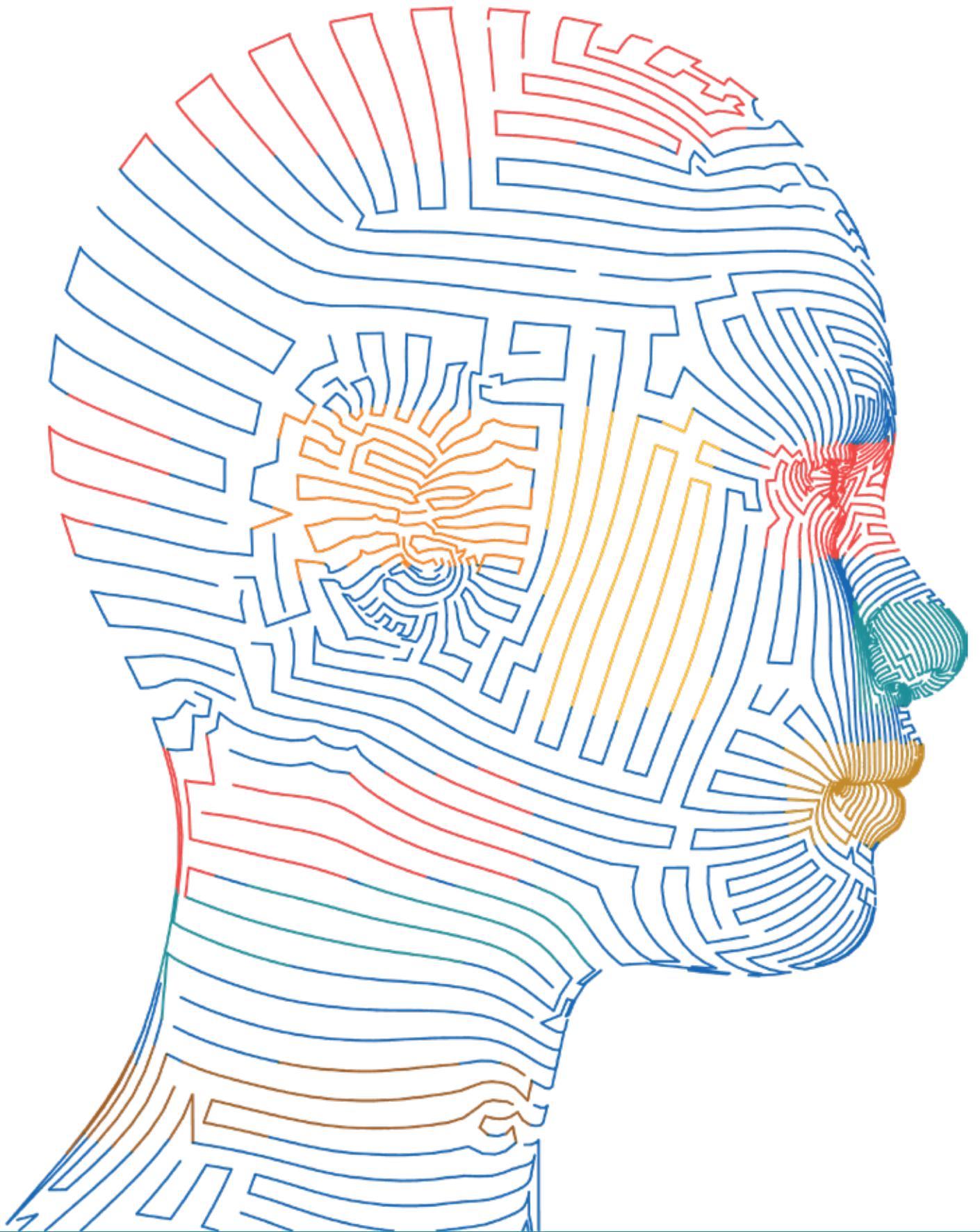


Established Researcher 2020

Professor Jonathan David Jansen

Jonathan Jansen is Distinguished Professor of Education at Stellenbosch University and President of the Academy of Science of South Africa. He is a curriculum theorist and an A-rated researcher (NRF) whose research is concerned with the politics of knowledge. His recent books (co-authored, co-edited) include,

The settled curriculum: Radical ideas, institutions and the decolonization of knowledge; *Who gets in and why: the politics of admission in South Africa's elite schools;* and *South African Schooling: The enigma of inequality.* His current research includes a national study on the impact of the pandemic on the academic work of women scholars, and a study on the underlying causes of chronic dysfunction in ten South African universities. He holds a PhD from Stanford University and four honorary degrees in education.



Nominees
Emerging Researcher Award



2020/21 Medal for Social Sciences and Humanities

Dr. Thobane is a Senior Lecturer in the College of Law, Department of Criminology and Security Science at UNISA. She is currently the vice-president of the Criminological Society of Africa (CRIMSA). Her research and personal interests are CIT/bank related robberies, critical criminology, indigenous research methods as well as gender based violence. Given her interest in gender based violence issues, she founded a Non-Profit Organisation, Mu Duka (212-833 NPO), in 2018 which promotes holistic and intersectoral approaches to combat the scourge of gender based violence in South Africa.

Nominee: Emerging Researcher Award



Dr Mahlogonolo Stephina Thobane



2020/21 Medal for Social Sciences and Humanities

Dr Fortunate Silinda is the Chair of Department and a Research Psychologist at Unisa's Department of Psychology. Her research interests involve understanding how social and psychological factors influence university students' desires to finish their degrees. Dr Silinda also served as a Peer Helper and Assistant Student Counsellor at UNISA's Directorate of Counselling and Career Development. Her experience as a lecturer encouraged her to plough back to society by empowering high school learners through her work at Winning Youth Foundation. The organisation aims to build a group of Alumni from rural areas, which will give back and continue building this area to be the best possible.

Nominee: Emerging Researcher Award



Dr Fortunate Silinda



2020/21 Medal for Social Sciences and Humanities

Dr. Wendy N Phoswa received her Bachelor of Medical Science at the University of KwaZulu Natal in 2015. In 2017 Dr Phoswa received her Master's degree in Medical Science in Physiology and graduated Summa cum Laude. Following this she completed her PhD in Medicine. Her research has mainly focuses on the role of HIV infection, COVID19, diabetes mellitus, and tuberculosis in hypertensive disorders of pregnancy such as pre-eclampsia and gestational hypertension. Dr Phoswa is working as a Senior Lecturer in Anatomy and Physiology at the University of South Africa, Department of Life and Consumer Science, College of Agriculture and Environmental Science.

Nominee: Emerging Researcher Award



Dr Wendy Nokhwezi Phoswa



2020/21 Medal for Social Sciences and Humanities

Dr Bronwynè Coetsee is a lecturer and researcher in Psychology at Stellenbosch University and teaches predominately in the area of child development and mental health. Her research is broadly located within the fields of health psychology and mental health and focuses on factors affecting treatment adherence amongst children, adolescents and adults living with HIV in South Africa, as well as the development and implementation of interventions to mitigate the onset of anxiety and depression amongst primary school aged children in South Africa. She is currently funded by the Wellcome Trust to develop a universal school-based psychoeducational intervention to support psychological well-being amongst primary school aged children in the Western Cape. Dr Coetsee has graduated 6 masters students, and 3 doctoral students since her appointment in 2015.

Nominee: Emerging Researcher Award



Dr Bronwynè Jo'Sean Coetsee



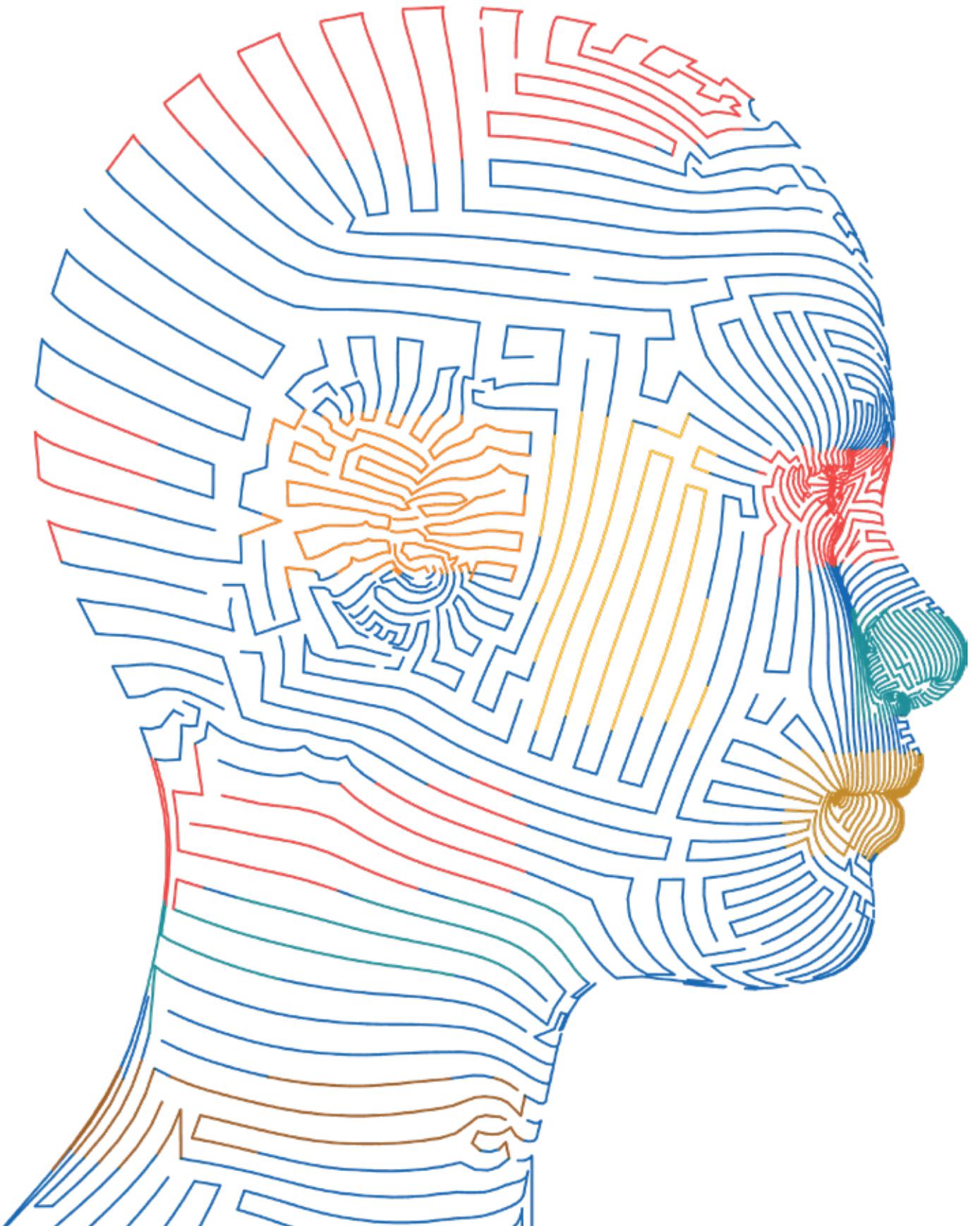


Emerging Researcher 2020

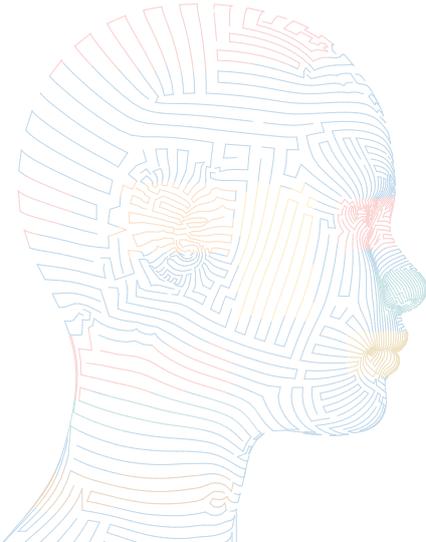
Doctor Ryan Nefdt

Dr Ryan Nefdt is a senior lecturer in Philosophy at the University of Cape Town and a fellow at the Center for the Philosophy of Science at the University of Pittsburgh. He is an NRF P-rated researcher and has won multiple research awards including UCT's College of Fellows Young Researcher Award in 2020. His work focuses on the interconnections between language, cognition, and science.

His other interest lies in bringing philosophy and the humanities in contact with broader audiences within the public sphere and the sciences. He is currently working on issues related to scientific modelling during the COVID-19 pandemic and how these issues might affect our continent.



Nominees
Inaugural Team Award



2020/21 Medal for Social Sciences and Humanities

The **Walter Sisulu University** - HSRC team of researchers on a project commissioned for the Eastern Cape government from April 2020. The study considered the impacts of the lockdown restrictions on funerals and customary practices in rural communities in the former Transkei region of the province.

Dr Nelly Sharpley (Vuyokazi Kolisa) is a sociologist and the former head of the Department of Social Sciences, at Walter Sisulu University.

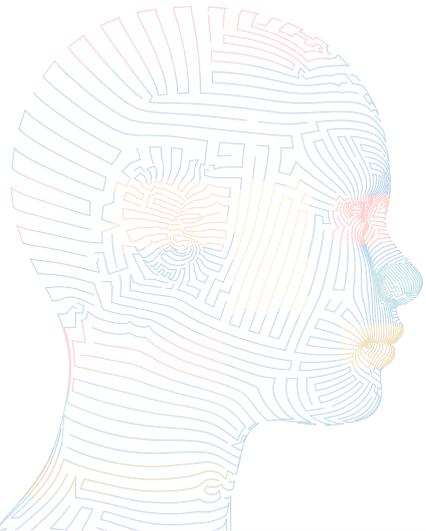
Professor Leslie J. Bank is a Deputy Executive Director at the Human Sciences Research Council in Cape Town and an extraordinary professor of Social Anthropology at Walter Sisulu University.

Nominee: Team Award

Dr Nelly Sharpley Prof Leslie Bank



WSU Team



2020/21 Medal for Social Sciences and Humanities

The University of Johannesburg's **Centre for Social Change (CSC)** in partnership with the Human Sciences Research Council's (HSRC) **Developmental, Capable and Ethical State (DCES)** division, has, since April 2020, been conducting an ongoing cross-sectional survey among adults living in South Africa to determine the social and economic impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic. The partnership was created out of the mutual recognition of the need for rapid response social science research that could inform the response to the pandemic and understand the unfolding effects on society.

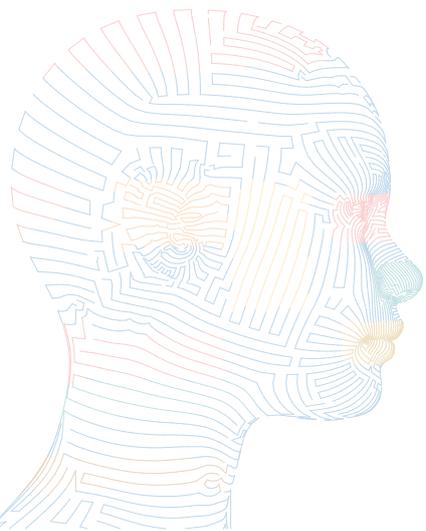
The leaders of the **UJ/HSRC COVID-19 Democracy** team are:

Professor Kate Alexander, South African Research Chair in Social Change based at the University of Johannesburg (until 31 January 2021).

Professor Carin Runciman, Director of the Centre for Social Change (from 1 February 2021) based at the University of Johannesburg and an associate professor in Sociology.

Professor Narnia Bohler-Muller, Divisional Executive of the Developmental, Capable and Ethical State (DCES) research division at the Human Sciences Research Council.

Nominee: Team Award



2020/21 Medal for Social Sciences and Humanities

Talita Greyling is an Associate Professor in the School of Economics at the University of Johannesburg in South Africa. She specializes in well-being economics and quality of life studies and has a keen interest in fourth industrial revolution applications. She developed the first real-time "Happiness Index", making use of Big Data. Subsequently, she founded and is the Director of the Gross National Happiness Today Project (GNH-today). Talita is the author of numerous articles in both multi-disciplinary and economic journals. These journals include, among others, Social Indicators Research, Plos One and the South African Journal of Economics. Since 2020 she has been actively involved in COVID-19 research projects and has published numerous working papers and journal articles related to the topic. Recently she co-authored a chapter "Big Data and Happiness" in the Handbook of Labor, Human Resources and Population Economics, edited by Klaus F. Zimmermann. She is the associate editor for *Pioneers in Quality of Life Theory and Research* for the *Journal of Applied Research in Quality of Life* and a co-editor for economics in the *Journal of Happiness Studies*. She is the Vice-President (Membership) of the International Society for Quality-of-Life Studies and is a Research Fellow of the Global Labor Organization (GLO). Talita is involved in several international collaborations related to well-being research. The collaborating institutes are: The German Institute for Economic Research (DIW), Auckland University of Technology, Victoria University of Wellington, STATEC (National Institute for Statistics and Economic Studies of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg) and Akhawayn University of Ifrane, Morocco. She frequently consults with governmental organizations on the measurement of Quality of Life.

Nominee: Team Award



Prof Talita Greyling



2020/21 Medal for Social Sciences and Humanities

The COVID-19 crisis has provided a series of challenges and opportunities for business and for business schools. One of the greatest challenges facing business schools is to teach relevant and appropriate cases/theory that directly addresses the challenges and opportunities businesses are facing at the time.

A series of shorter case studies (or caselets) was GIBS' solution to this challenge. While developing new theory takes time, shorter cases that could be taught in the short-to-medium term was seen as an ideal opportunity. GIBS and the research team were well positioned to respond appropriately and the research team were tasked with producing a series of shorter cases in order to help students apply their learning to solve real problems faced during the height of the pandemic.

At the same time, the research team were able to provide material to the broader academic community that is timely and of good quality.

Nominee: Team Award



Prof Albert Wöckle



2020/21 Medal for Social Sciences and Humanities

The Accelerate Hub (UKRI Accelerating Achievement for Africa's Adolescents), based at the Universities of Cape Town (co-PI: Toska, Co-I: Ward) and Oxford (PI: Cluver), is focused on development accelerators that can boost the potential of African adolescents so that the Sustainable Development Goals are achieved across the continent. Early on during the COVID-19 pandemic, lead social scientists in different Accelerate Hub teams identified several key initiatives that responded to pressing needs exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic in South Africa. This included: remote parenting support to address increased stress, mental and physical health in households as schools closed down, infections increased and economic shocks unfolded; service provision, access and interruptions among adolescents and young people; Understanding needs of adolescents and young people, particularly with regards to service access and interruptions; and cost-effective combinations of programming that may best address the most pressing needs for vulnerable children, adolescents and their families which have emerged or become starker during the COVID-19 pandemic.

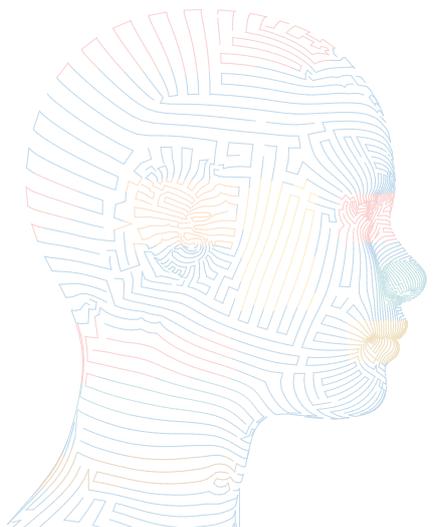
Catherine L. Ward is a Professor in the Department of Psychology at the University of Cape Town, South Africa.

Elona Toska is a Senior Research Officer at the Centre for Social Science Research, University of Cape Town, South Africa.

Nominee: Team Award



The Accelerate Hub Team



2020/21 Medal for Social Sciences and Humanities

Dr Nic Spaull is a Senior Researcher in the Economics Department at Stellenbosch University's Research on Socioeconomic Policy (RESEP). His research centres on education policy in South Africa with a focus on inequality and early grade literacy and numeracy.

Nic initiated the National Income Dynamics Study Coronavirus Rapid Mobile Survey (NIDS-CRAM), a nationwide consortium of more than 30 researchers from six universities, to measure the impact of COVID-19 in South Africa.

This has generated over 30 academic working papers in less than a year and has been cited by the President.

Nic comments regularly in the media and advises numerous policymakers in government and decision-makers within philanthropies and NGOs in South Africa.

Nominee: Team Award
The NIDS-CRAM Team



Dr Nic Spaull



Inaugural Team Award 2020

DUT Urban Futures Team led by Professor Monique Marks

This nomination is based on the sustained research, innovation and engagement track record the DUT Urban Futures Team has made over the last few years.

This nomination is particularly in view of the outstanding work of the UFC during Covid-19, and their huge role in reducing the impact of the pandemic on the most vulnerable in our community, that is homeless people with a drug use disorder.

Their responsiveness during Covid-19 was possible due to their long-term record of running substantive engagement programmes together with network actors, both state and non-state.

Prof. Monique Marks currently heads up the Urban Futures Centre (UFC) at the Durban University of Technology. Over the past five years she has developed a special interest in drug use disorders and drug policy. She, together with a team from TB HIV Care, directed South Africa's first opioid substitution demonstration programme.





Inaugural Team Award 2020

HSRC Team led by Prof Priscilla Reddy

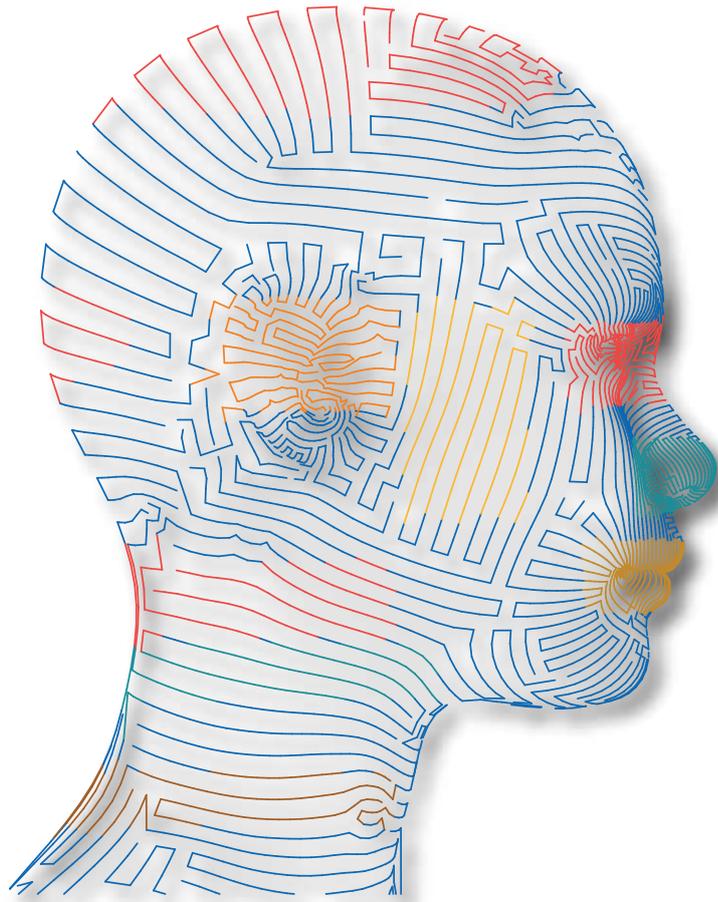
The HSRC's COVID-19 research team was at the forefront of South Africa's social sciences research response to COVID-19. From as early as the third week in March 2020, the team initiated a range of qualitative and quantitative research studies to investigate the knowledge, attitudes and behaviours of the public and various at-risk populations regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, and the impact of the lockdown measures on their lives launched as the "street talk" series. The research team consisted of about 150 people including senior researchers and medical students from multiple universities.

The Team is currently engaged in designing and conducting "One Year Later" Covid-19 surveys on, amongst others, Covid-19 vaccine preparedness amongst the respondents.

Priscilla Reddy is a Behavioural Science and Health Promotion specialist and is currently the Strategic Lead: Health and Wellbeing, in the Human and Social Capabilities programme within HSRC.

2020/21

Human Sciences Research Council - Universities South Africa



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