



## YOUR SUPPORT IS WITS' STRENGTH



The past year has been a very successful one for the University. We remain in the top 1% in the world amongst 25 000 universities and a leading university on the continent in all global rankings. Our Humanities and Arts programmes are rated the best in Africa and we are ranked in the global top 100 in clinical medicine, public health, and mining engineering.



Over the past two years, I have travelled extensively meeting with alumni around the world and I will continue to do so in the run up to the University's centenary in 2022. I have been so grateful to meet Witsies of all ages and backgrounds at our reunions. Their stories of success and achievements and the gratitude they express for the academic training they received at Wits and the impact it has had on their lives have been inspirational. We are very proud of your success, achievements, and thank you for your pride and loyalty in being a Witsie.



The Wits community is exceptional. We are smart, talented people who care about others, advance the public good, and transform society through our academic, research and social leadership endeavours. I am proud to be part of this wonderful #Witsie4Life community as I am sure you are too.



Lastly, it is fitting to reflect on the achievements and success of the University and of its graduates in the context of our centenary that will view Wits through the prism of understanding yesterday, shaping today and building tomorrow. Our ambitious centenary fundraising campaign will be a game-changer for Wits, setting it on a path for success for the next century and beyond.

I thank you for your support and look forward to strengthening our Witsie community as our centenary campaign gains momentum.

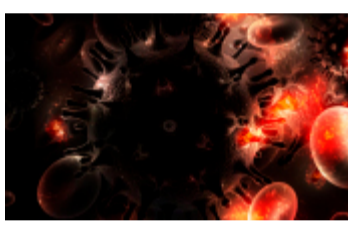
**[WATCH]** Prof. Adam Habib wishes Witsies well over the holidays

Professor Adam Habib  
Vice-Chancellor and Principal



## RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

Research output has increased by over 50% in the last five years, with over 96% of research published in internationally-competitive journals. Wits is home to the most number of highly cited researchers in Africa and hosts the most number of [South African Research Chairs](#) in the country.



Wits is transforming society through producing increasing amounts of research with impact be it through discovery, applied or innovative research, which the following examples illustrate. This year, our scientists brought us [a step closer to finding a cure for HIV](#), made an [ARV breakthrough](#) and led the [first HPV vaccine impact project in Africa](#).



Green chemists are turning [cashew nut shells into sunscreen](#) and climate scientists are developing the [first Earth System Model developed and based in Africa](#) which will contribute to the fight against the climate catastrophe.



Neo Hutri, a Master's student, based at the [Tshimologony Digital Innovation Precinct](#) created [Pulsebox](#), one of [TIME magazine's Top 100 inventions of the year](#), which reduces the waiting time for patients to receive medication from over three hours to 22 seconds.



Other discoveries include a [new species of dinosaur](#), an [ancient drop of water that revises the Earth's history](#), [Jungles, wind compass](#), and [how an asteroid contributed to mass extinction and climate change](#). We are also doing important work in [energy leadership](#), [migration](#), [diversity](#) and [inequality](#) studies.

## NEWS

Welcome to the seven new members of the University Convocation EXCO, voted for by you in elections and by-elections held between October and November 2019. Your new and renewed members are: **1.** Mr. Paul Taylor, **2.** Ms. Nomundo Ngobco, **3.** Ms. Motlatso Godongwana, **4.** Prof Michael Daramola, **5.** Dr George Masher, **6.** Dr Desmond Matnye, **7.** Mr. Mxolisi Ngulube. [Read more about convocation](#)



[Read more](#) Wits News stories

## ALUMNI EVENTS

### SUNNYSIDE 90TH GALA DINNER

Sunnyside Hall of Residence 90th Gala Dinner – Held on 27 September 2019



View photos of the event [here](#) / Watch the video [here](#)

### FOUNDERS' TEA 2019



View photos of the event [here](#) / Watch the video [here](#)



**CAREERS**  
Jonathan Walker spoke to young alumni and students about surviving year one as a tech start-up

[Career resources](#)

## REUNIONS

The Alumni office, together with our VC and Principal, Prof Adam Habib has hosted a number of reunions over the past few months. See more details below:

### JOHANNESBURG



• View photos [here](#) / Watch the video [here](#)  
• Listen to the audio recording [here](#)

### CAPE TOWN



• View photos [here](#)  
• Listen to audio recording [here](#)

### UK - LONDON



### UK - OXFORD



View photos of the event [here](#) / Watch the video [here](#)

## WATCH WITS VIDEOS



Curios.ty: The eighth issue of Wits University's research magazine, Curios.ty is themed: #Code

Wits Shop: Visit Solomon Mahlangu House, the Alumni Relations Office satellite shop or shop online.

WitsX: Free and verified courses. Academic writing for clarity and meaning, register [here](#)

[Update your details](#)

[Wits Annual Fund](#)