SLLM 2016 Research Report

Introduction

The School of Literature, Language and Media experienced a productive year in terms of research. Alongside our intensive full-time undergraduate and postgraduate teaching programme, the School produced some 84 units of published research. Aside from the many indexed research articles authored or co-authored by researchers in or associated with the school, a number of notable monographs were also produced. Media Studies produced three monographs in 2016: Consumption, Media and the Global South: Aspiration Contested (Palgrave MacMillan and UKZN Press) by Mehita Iqani; The End of Whiteness: Satanism and Family Murder in Late Apartheid South Africa by Nicky Falkof (Jacana); and The Politics of Technology in Africa: Communication, Development and Nation-Building in Ethiopia by Iginio Gagliardone (Cambridge University Press). Judith Inggs (Translation & Interpreting) published Transition and Transgression: English Young Adult Fiction in Post-Apartheid South Africa (Springer). Peter and Anette Horn (German) published Der Schrei ist das einzig Ewige: Die Romane Thomas Bernhards (Athena).

A number of edited collections were also produced. Mehita Iqani (Media Studies) co-edited Consumption, Media and Culture in South Africa: Perspectives on Freedom and the Public. London. Michiko Kaneko (SASL) co-edited Introducing Sign Language Literature: Folklore & Creativity. Basingstoke, Palgrave Macmillan.

LINK published three issues of the DHET-accredited journal, The African Journal of Information and Communication (AJIC) in 2016: Thematic Issue 17: Economic regulation, regulatory performance and universal access in the electronic communications sector, edited by Dr Luci Abrahams with guest editor Prof Simon Roberts of the Centre for Competition Regulation and Economic Development (CCRED) at UJ; Thematic Issue 18: Informatics and digital transformation, edited by Dr Luci Abrahams, with guidance from Prof Jason Cohen (Information Systems at SEBS, Wits); and Thematic Issue 19: Knowledge governance for development, guest edited by LINK Visiting Researcher Dr Chris Armstrong and Dr Tobias Schonwetter of the UCT IP Law Unit.

Research grants continue to be raised by researchers in the school. Notably, Dr Iginio Gagliardone succeeded in harnessing a significant grant from UNESCO for a project about world press freedom on which he is principal investigator. Prof Dan Ojwang has been leading as the co-investigator on a major DAAD-funded project on Literary Cultures of the Global South, in which several staff members in the School have participated.

The number of rated researchers in the school increased to 19.

Prizes, awards and honours

African Literature
Professor Pumla Gqola was awarded the 2016 Sunday Times Alan Paton Award for Non-Fiction for her book Rape: A South African Nightmare.
Professor Pumla Gqola was appointed as the inaugural chair of the Fiction panel of the National Humanities and Social Sciences Awards.
Professor Dan Ojwang was, from 1 April to 30 June 2016, the Eric Auerbach Visiting Chair of Global Literary Studies at the University of Tubingen, Germany.

**Linguistics**
Milani Tommaso M. University of the Witwatersrand Faculty of Humanities Teaching and Learning Award Postgraduate studies.

**Journalism**
Carolyn Raphaely was awarded a fellowship by North Western University’s Medill Justice Project (MJP) in Chicago, in the United States.
Ruth Hopkins was awarded the inaugural Sylvester Stein Fellowship for 2016. Ruth spent two and a half months in the United States investigating the similarities between issues facing both the American and South African criminal justice systems.
Ruth Hopkins was awarded an Honourable Mention in the 2016 World Justice Project Anthony Lewis Prize for Exceptional Rule of Law Journalism.
Paul McNally was selected as a Knight Visiting Nieman Fellow at Harvard University for 2016. The fellowship ran for six weeks and provided short term research opportunities to journalists working on innovative and original projects committed to fostering progress in the field of international journalism.

**Media Studies**
Mehita Iqani was awarded a Certificate of recognition for “Most highly cited researcher” in the Wits Faculty of Humanities in 2016, for her 2016 paper on selfies co-authored with Jonathan E. Schroeder.
Media Studies received the Vice-Chancellors Team Teaching Award for 2016 for their curriculum development and teamwork. Importantly, in the context of research-led teaching and teaching-led research, in 2016 Oxford University Press has contracted Mehita Iqani to co-edit (with Sarah Chiumbu) a new book on Decolonial Media Theory. This book is the outcome of the collaborative research-led teaching development work done by the department.

**Creative Writing**
Phillippa Yaa de Villiers was shortlisted for Bellagio Residency.
Phillippa Yaa de Villiers served on the judging panel, African Poetry Book Prize, English Department, University of Nebraska–Lincoln
Ivan Vladislavić’s novel *Double Negative* (translation) shortlisted for Internationaler Literaturpreis in June 2016.

**English**
Prof Chris Thurman elected as president of the Shakespeare Society of Southern Africa.
Accredited Publications

Journal articles

**African Languages**

Brenda Mhlambi

2016 – ISI 2016


**Brenda Mhlambi, Donato Somma, Naomi Andre**

2016 – ISI 2016


**Brenda Mhlambi**

2016 – IBSS 2016


**Boni Zungu**

2016 – DHET South African list (January 2016)


**Boni Zungu**

2016 – DHET South African list (January 2016)


**African Literature**

Pumla Gqola

2016 – IBSS 2016

Intimate foreigners or violent neighbours? Thinking masculinity and post-apartheid xenophobic violence through film. *Agenda*, 2016, 30 (2) pp. 64-74.

**Pumla Gqola**

2016 – IBSS 2016

Danai Mupotsa, Dorothee Kreutzfeldt  
2016 – IBSS 2016  
Xenophobia, nationalism and techniques of difference. *Agenda*, 2016, 30 (2) pp. 13-20

Eddie Ombagi  
2016 – IBSS 2016  

Zukolwenkosi Zikalala  
2016 – IBSS 2016  

Carli Coetzee  
2016 – ISI 2016  

Carli Coetzee  
2016 – ISI 2016  

English Studies  
Merle Williams  
2016 – ISI 2016  

Merle Williams  
2016 – ISI 2016  

Merle Williams  
2016 – ISI 2016  

John Masterson  
2016 – ISI 2016  
John Masterson  
2016 – ISI 2016  

Michael Titlestad  
2016 – ISI 2016  
This is not the way the world ends: Richard Hughes’s rejoinder to William Golding’s Lord of the Flies Studia Neophilologica, 2016, 88 pp. 33-46.

Michael Titlestad  
2016 – DHET South African list (January 2016)  

Michael Titlestad  
2016 – IBSS 2016  

Barbara Boswell  
2016 – IBSS 2016  
Rewriting apartheid South Africa: race and space in Mariam Tlali and Lauretta Ngcobo’s novels. Gender, place and culture: a journal of feminist geography, 2016, 23 (9) pp. 1329-1342.

Barbara Boswell  
2016 – DHET South African List (January 2016)  

Christopher Thurman  
2016 – DHET South African List (January 2016)  

Charne Lavery  
2016 – ISI 2016  

Hazel Frankel  
2016 – DHET South African list (January 2016)  
Hazel Frankel
2016 – DHET South African list (January 2016)

Linguistics
Tommaso Milani, E Levon
2016 – ISI 2016

Tommaso Milani, D Machin, C R Cadlas-Coulthard
2016 – ISI 2016
Doing critical multimodality in research on gender, language and discourse. Gender and Language, 2016, 10 (3) pp. 301-308.

Maxwell Kadenge, A Chebanne, C Phili
2016 – IBSS 2016

Maxwell Kadenge, G Mavunga
2016 – ISI 2016
Shona Slang used by Zimbabwean Sex Workers operating from Inner City Johannesburg, South Africa. Journal of Communication, 2016, 07 (2) pp. 222-230.

Maxwell Kadenge, K Gotosa
2016 – IBSS 2016

Ramona Kunene Nicolas, Saaliha Ahmed
2016 – DHET South African list (January 2016)

Journalism
Franz Kruger
2016 – DHET South African list (January 2016)
Ewan Sutherland
2016 – DHET South African list (January 2016)

**Media Studies**

Antonio Ciaglia
2016 – DHET South African list (January 2016)

Sarah Chiimbusu
2016 – ISI 2016

Glenda Daniels
2016 – DHET South African list (January 2016)

Glenda Daniels
2016 – ISI 2016

Nicky Falkof
2016 – ISI 2016

Mehita Iqani, Jonathan E Schroeder
2016 – ISI 2016

Mehita Iqani, Pontsho Pilane
2016 – DHET South African list (January 2016)
Nicky Falkof
2016 – ISI 2016

Ufuoma Akpojivi, Ayesha L Bevan-Dye
2016 – ISI 2016

**Modern Languages**

Fiona Horne
2016 – DHET South African List (January 2016)

Alexia Vassilatos
2016 – DHET South African List (January 2016)

Alexia Vassilatos
2016 – DHET South African List (January 2016)

Anita Virga
2016 – DHET South African List (January 2016)

Nereida Ripero-Muniz
2016 – ISI 2016

Peter Horn
2016 – DHET South African List (January 2016)
South African Sign Language
Morgan Ruth, Glaser Meryl, Magongwa Lucas
2016 – DHET South African list (January 2016)

Senna Tshegofatso
2016 – IBSS 2016
Deaf women’s lived experiences of their constitutional rights in South Africa. Agenda, 2016, 30 (1) pp. 65-75.

Chapters

African Literature
Bheki Peterson – 2016
Sol Plaatje’s Native life in South Africa: Past and Present
Chapter 2 – In B. Peterson & B. Willan & J. Remmington (eds.)
Modernist at large: The aesthetics of Native life in South Africa.
(pp. 18-36) Johannesburg: Wits University Press.
978-1-86814-981-0

Media Studies
Glenda Daniels – 2016
South African Arab or Democracy to Come? An analysis of South African Journalists’ Engagement with Citizenry through Twitter.
Chapter 7 – In B. Mutsvairo (eds) Participatory Politics and Citizen Journalism in a Networked Africa.
(pp. 107-122) BASINGSTOKE: Palgrave MacMillan.
978-1-137-55449-9

Dina Ligaga – 2016
Writing the Postcolony: Narrative, (re)Memory and the Imaginary in The Blind Kingdom and Queen Pokou.
Chapter 2 – In D. Kabwe-Segatti & S. Cordova (eds.) Ecrire, traduire, peindre Veronique Tadjo.
(pp. 121-137) Paris: Presence Africaine, 978-2-7087-0892-1

Ufuoma Akpojivi – 2016 / M Fosu
Indigenous Language Media, Language Politics and Democracy in Africa.
Chapter 6 – In M.B. Chibita & A. Salawu (eds.) Indigenous Language Broadcasting in Ghana: Retrospect and Prospect. (pp. 121-150) England: Palgrave MacMillan, 978-1-137-54729-3

Johanna Willems – 2015
The Routledge Companion to Alternative and Community Media.
Chapter 7 – In C. Atton (eds.) Alternative mediation, power and civic agency in Africa.
(pp. 88-99) Abington, Oxon and New York: Routledge Taylor & Francis Group, 978-0-415-64404-4
Johanna Willems – 2015
Race and the Reproduction of Colonial Mythologies on land: A Post-Colonial reading of British Media discourse on Zimbabwe

Modern Languages
Luigi Robuschi – 2016
Cavalieri Mediterranei e Corsari Caraibici: L’ordine di Malta nelle Antille Francesi.
Chapter 5 – In G. Spani & M. Marino (eds.) Visioni Mediterranee. Itinerari e Migrazioni Culturali. (pp. 73-89) Lanciano: Casa Editrice Rocco Carabba. 978-88-6344-398-1

Andreas Hettiger – 2016
Babel in Regenbogenland?
Chapter 2 – In K. Wermbter & Martin. Neef (eds.) Babel re-searched: Braunschweiger Beitrage zu Mehrsprachigkeit und Interkulturalitat. (pp. 147-174) Marburg: Tectum Verlag. 978-3-8288-3735-5

Authored Books

African Literature
Pumla Gqola – 2015

Translation and Interpreting Studies
Judith Inggs – 2016
Transition and Transgression: English Young Adult Fiction in Post-Apartheid South Africa. (1st edition): Gewerbestrasse: Springer. 120 pp.

Media Studies
Mehita Iqani – 2016

Iginio Gagliardone – 2016

Modern Languages
Anette and Peter Horn – 2016
Non-Accredited Publications but Peer-Reviewed

Journal articles

**African Literature**

Isabel Hofmeyr - Editorial
2016 – ISI 2016

**Creative Writing**

Bronwyn Law-Viljoen

Bronwyn Law-Viljoen
This is what I talk about when I talk: the portraits of Zanele Muholi. 2016 *ZUM Magazine*.

Ivan Vladislavić
Excerpt from *Double Negative*, in Betti-Sue Hertz, Frank Smigiel and Dominic Willsdon (eds), *Public Intimacy: Art and Other Ordinary Acts in South Africa* (Yerba Buena Centre for the Arts, San Francisco, 2016).

Ivan Vladislavić
‘Vaggsång’ (story), *Karavan*, No. 1 2016 (Stockholm, 2016; Swedish translation of ‘Lullaby’).

Ivan Vladislavić
‘De blankenbank’ (story), *Tirade*, 464 September 2016, Jaargang 60 (Amsterdam, 2016; Dutch translation of ‘The Whites Only Bench’).

Ivan Vladislavić

Ivan Vladislavić

**English**

Barbara Boswell; Jane Bennett; Tanekwah Hinds; Jody Metcalfe and Ivy Kabura Nganga

**Media Studies**

Iginio Gagliardone and Frederick Golooba-Mutebi

Modern Languages
Nereida Ripero-Muniz

Nereida Ripero-Muniz and Salym Fayad.

Nereida Ripero-Muñiz, Nereida and Salym Fayad

Véronique Tadjo
Écrire, traduire, peindre (Writing, Translating, Painting) Présence Africaine

Kathleen Thorpe
Temeswarer Beiträge Zur Germanistik 2015 Verlag; Band 12. 193-201

Anette Horn – Online article

Peter Horn
2016

Peter and Anette Horn - Editorial
2017 Peter Horn & Anette Horn (Edited by). 100 Poems from Bangladesh. Edition Delta, Stuttgart

Andreas Hettiger
Philina Wittke
Curriculum Transformation at the University of the Witwatersrand; Thoughts of a Lecturer in German Studies. 2016 eDUSA Deutschunterricht im Südlichen Afrika Teaching German in Southern Africa Vol 11/1

Chapters

**Media Studies**
Iginio Gagliardone and Matti Pohjonen

**Modern Languages**
Andreas Hettiger
*Chapter 2, pp 147-174, Babel im Regenbogenland? Book: Babel re-searched: Vraunschweiger Beiträge zu Mehrsprachigkeit und Interkulturalität*

**Peter Horn**

**Authored Books**

**Creative Writing**
Bronwyn Law-Viljoen
*The Printmaker, Umuzi; pp9-267*

**Media Studies**
Mehita Iqani and Bridget Kenny
*Consumption, Media and Culture in South Africa: Perspectives on freedom and the public.* Routledge; pp 1-173.

**Modern Languages**
Peter Horn – Book translation

**South African Sign Language**
Michiko Kaneko Sutton-Spence, Rachel & (2016)
Commercial long-form publications:


PG students completed (PhD, MA dissertation, MA Course-Work and Research Report)

**African Literature**
1. Anne Ajulu-Okungu (PhD)
2. Modupe Adebawo (MA)
3. Unifier Dyer (MA)
4. Linda Thango (MA)
1 PhD
3 MA

**English**
1. Josiah Nyanda (PhD)
2. Carla Chait (MA)
3. Baron Glanvill (MA)
4. Kate Sidley (MA)
1 PhD
3 MA

**Creative Writing**
3. Oldert, N. MA by research. With distinction.
5. Sidley, K. MA by research.
7. Johaardien, A. MA by research.
9. Thomas, R. MA by research.
9 MA

**Journalism**
1. Brigitte Read – MA Course work and Research Report
3. Kate Ferreira – MA Course work and Research Report
4. Nooshin Erfani Ghadmi – MA by Research
5. Richard Frank – MA Course work and Research Report
7. Mike Smurthwaite – MA Course work and Research Report
8. Sintha Chiuma – MA Course work and Research Report
8 MAs

**Linguistics**
1. Tasmia Khan MA by research
2. Dakom Damun MA by research
3. Nonhlanhla Ntuli MA by research
4. Megan Edwards MA by research
5. Kate Ferrera MA by research
5 MAs

**Media Studies**
1. Tendai Chari, PhD
3. Christi Kruger, PhD. Registered in Wiser but supervised in Media Studies. Winner of 2015 Monica Wilson Prize for best article published in Anthropology South Africa
4. Sally Kumwenda, MA
6. Simphiwe Emmanuel Rens, MA
7. Megan Edwards, MA. Co-supervised with Linguistics
3 PhD
4 MA

**Publishing Studies**
1. C Willis, MA Coursework and Research Report
2. C Jelegat, MA Coursework and Research Report
3. G Marx, MA Coursework and Research Report
3 MA

**SA Sign Language**
1. Nyeleti Nkwinika (MA Dissertation)
2 MA
School Total: 5 PhD, 24 MA

**PhD students registered**

**African Literature**
1. Francis Anolue
2. Rangarirayi Mapanzure
3. Nomonde Ntsepo
4. Femi Eromosele
5. Thabang Nkuna
6. Natasha Himmelman
7. Byron Sherman
8. Rangoato Hlasane
9. Addamms Mututa
10. Eddie Ombagi
11. Felix Ndaka
12. Jane Wakarindi
13. Joshua Kumwenda
14. Vusi Mchunu

Creative Writing
1. Greta Schuler
2. Joanne Hichens
3. Rohan Dickson
4. Kgafela Magogodi
5. Bronwyn Law-Viljoen

English
1. Anthea Buys
2. Leila Hassim
3. Barbara Janari
4. Tafirenyika Madziyauswa
5. Edwin Mhandu
6. Manosa Nthunya
7. Natalie Paoli
8. Robyn Pierce
9. Daniela Pitt
10. Clea Schultz
11. Sergio Teixeira
12. Marinus van Niekerk
13. Karl van Wyk
14. Alexandra Wheeler

Linguistics
1. Saaliha Ahmed
2. Cynthia Mazibuko
3. Nonhlanhla Ntuli
4. Gilles Baro
5. Megan Edwards
6. William Kelleher
7. Clive Vanderwagen
8. Steven Fielding

Journalism
1. Ms. Dineshree Balliah – In progress (Supervisor - Dr. Glenda Daniels)
2. Mr. Franz Kruger – In Progress (Supervisor – Professor Sue Van Zyl)
3. Mr. Emeka Umejei – Proposal submitted (Supervisor – Dr. Iginio Gagliardone)
Media Studies (supervisor’s noted by initials)
1. Onkopotse JJ Tabane – on final draft
2. Dinesh Balliah – busy with fieldwork
3. David Wigston – investigating his drop out out
4. Siyasanga Tyali (Submitting thesis for examination in June)
5. Last Alfandika
6. Lwazi Mjiyako
7. Yolanda Vamusse
8. Gloria Ernest-Samuel
9. Anthony Ambala
10. James Smurthwaite (writing up)
11. Gloria Ooko (commencing)
12. Vidhya Sana (Fieldwork)
13. Catherine Duncan – writing up
14. Katlego Disemelo – busy with fieldwork
17. Hugh Ellis – writing up
18. Beauty Muromo – writing up
19. Viraj Suparsad – fieldwork
20. Emeka Umejei – submitting
21. Job Mwaura – commencing
22. Edwin Tallam – commencing

Publishing Studies
1. Griffin Shea

Staff with/without PhDs

Permanent Academic Staff with/without PhDs
Of the total permanent staff complement of 54, 45 or 83% already have PhDs.

Four members of academic staff are currently registered for a PhD, one of these being a tutor. One is registered for an MA (submitted).

Of the remaining four the staff members without PhD, one holds an Honours degree and is a Distinguished Professor (Creative Writing), one holds an MA degree (English), and the remaining two are tutors.

Staff working on postgraduate degrees are provided with support through writing retreats and teaching buy-outs.

AFRICAN LANGUAGES
4 members of staff, 2 with PhD
1 Associate Professor
1 Lecturer
1 Principal Tutor
1 Tutor, registered for a PhD

**AFRICAN LITERATURE**
5 members of staff, all with PhDs
3 Professors (1 Research Professor)
1 Associate Professor
1 Lecturer

**CREATIVE WRITING**
3 members of staff, 1 with PhD
1 Distinguished Professor
1 Associate Professor
1 Lecturer

**ENGLISH**
13 members of staff, 12 with PhDs
4 Professors
2 Associate Professors
2 Senior Lecturers
4 Lecturers

**JOURNALISM**
3 members of staff, one with a PhD
1 Adjunct Professors 1 registered for PhD
1 Associate Professor
1 Lecturer

**LINGUISTICS**
4 members of staff, *all* with PhDs
2 Associate Professors
1 Senior Lecturer
1 Lecturer

**MEDIA STUDIES**
7 members of staff, 7 with PhDs
2 Associate Professors
4 Senior Lecturers
1 Lecturer

**MODERN LANGUAGES**
**French Studies**
3 members of staff, 3 with PhD
1 Senior Lecturer
2 Lecturers

**German Studies**
1 member of staff, with PhD
1 Professor

**Italian Studies**
3 members of staff, 2 with PhDs
2 Lecturers
1 Tutor

**Spanish**
1 member of staff with PhD
1 Lecturer

**South African Sign Language**
3 permanent members of staff, 2 with PhDs
3 Lecturers (1 at 50%)
(1 Associate Lecturer 50%)

**Translation & Interpreting Studies**
3 members of staff, 3 with PhDs
1 Associate Professor
1 Senior Lecturer (50%) (resigned July 2016)
1 Lecturer

**LINK CENTRE**
1 members of staff, with PhD
1 Senior Lecturers

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**Table 6: Distribution in 2014 – permanent staff only**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Positions</th>
<th>Totals and percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tutors</td>
<td>3 (5%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principal Tutors</td>
<td>1 (2%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lecturers</td>
<td>20 (37%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Lecturers</td>
<td>10 (19%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate Professors</td>
<td>11 (20%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adjunct Professors</td>
<td>1 (2%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professors</td>
<td>8 (15%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td><strong>54</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate Lecturers</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Breakdown by discipline: Profs, Aspros, Snr Lects, Lects, Assoc Lects, Tutors

**African Languages**
- Assoc. Professor (1): Mhlambi, I.
- Lecturer (1): Zungu, Boni, Dr
- Principal Tutor (1): Setschedi, Q. Mrs
- Tutor (2): Mjiyako, L.

**African Literature**
- Professor (3): Hofmeyr, I.; Peterson, B.; Gqola, P
- Assoc. Professor (1): Ojwang, D.
- Lecturer (1): Mupotsa, D.

**CREATIVE WRITING**
- Professor (1): Vladislavic, I.
- Assoc. Prof (1): Law-Viljoen, B.
- Lecturer (1): De Villiers, P.

**English**
- Professor (4): Houliston, V.; Williams, M.; Titlestad, M; Muponde, R.
- Ass. Professor (3): Gaylard, G.; Thurman, C.;
- Senior Lecturer (1): Jones, T; Boswell, B.

**JOURNALISM**
- Adjunct Professor (2): Kruger, F.
- Assoc. Prof (1): Cowling, L.
- Lecturer (1): Balliah, D.

**LINGUISTICS**
- Ass. Professor (1): Milani, T; Kadenge, M.
- Senior Lecturers (2): Van Der Spuy, A. Dr;
- Lecturer (1): Kunene-Nicolas, R. Dr

**MEDIA STUDIES**
- Assoc. Prof (1) Iqani, M; Falkof, N.
- Senior Lecturer (3): Ligaga, D; Daniels, G.; Akpojivi, U.; Van Staden, C.;
- Lecturer (3): Gagliardone, I.

**MODERN LANGUAGES**

**French Studies**
- Sen. Lecturer (1): Vassilatos, A.
- Lecturer (2): Horne, F. Dr; Moji, P. Dr
German Studies
Professor (1): Horn, A.

Italian Studies
Lecturer (2): Robuschi, L. Dr; Virga, A. Dr
Tutor (1): Gianoglio, C. Mrs.

Portuguese
Associate Lecturer (1)

South African Sign Language
Lecturers (3): Janse Van Vuuren, N. Ms; Kaneko, M.; Morgan, R. (50 %)
Associate Lecturer (1): Wright, D. (50%)

Spanish
Lecturer (1): Ripero-Muniz, N. Dr

TRANSLATION & INTERPRETING STUDIES
Ass. Professor (1): Inggs, J.
Senior Lecturer (1): Fléchais, O. Dr (50%) (until mid-2016)
Lecturer (1): Fotheringham, C. Dr

LINK CENTRE
Senior Lecturer (2): Abrahams, L.

Postdoctoral Fellows
Linguistics
Dimitris Kitis 07 November 2013 to 08 November 2016

English/African Literature
Charne Lavery 23 January 2014 to 24 January 2017

English/Creative Writing
Hazel Frankel 01 January 2015 to 30 March 2017

French
Lara Buxbaum 01 April 2015 to 31 March 2017
Katia Gottin 05 October 2015 to 30 September 2017

International research collaborations

African Literature
The DAAD-funded Thematic Network on “Literary Cultures of the Global South.” The research network, which is funded to the tune of 1 million euros over a 4-year period (2015-2018) involves academics and postgraduate students from 8 universities. The network organizes students and staff exchanges, conferences, annual summer schools and student workshops. The Wits team is coordinated by Prof Dan Ojwang.
Journalism
Indra de Lanerolle is a member of the World Internet Project international research group that includes members from more than twenty countries in North and South America, Asia, the Middle East and Europe. The research group meets annually and aims to produce quantitative research on Internet access and use.

Indra de Lanerolle was appointed as a member of the Making All Voices Count Research Outreach Team in 2016 by the Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex, Brighton, one of the leading development research institutions in the world. He works with researchers in the UK, Philippines, East Africa, Indonesia and Ghana to develop research, evidence and learning approaches for the Making All Voices Count programme which aims to strengthen the use of Internet and related technologies in transparency and accountability.

Indra de Lanerolle concluded a research study with partners in the UK, Norway and Kenya on processes of technology selection and development in transparency and accountability in South Africa and Kenya. The study was published in May 2016.

Bob Wekesa is a steering committee member of the Chinese in Africa, Africans in China Research Network with partners from USA, China (including Hong Kong), Belgium and Norway. This initiative includes an active google group with over 700 members. Wekesa represents Africa in the group. Bob Wekesa representing Wits Africa China Reporting Project in an ongoing project with Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (Germany Foundation) and Institute for Global Dialogue (South Africa) aimed at developing an African policy towards China.

Alan Finlay ran a two-day pre-event at the Internet Governance Forum in Guadalajara in Mexico on the topic of economic, social and cultural rights and the internet, on behalf of the Association for Progressive Communications.

Linguistics
Kunene Nicolas R. 4-Year, Marie Curie International Research Staff Exchange Scheme (IRSES), Seventh Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development, Grant number: GEST_LAN_D PIRSES-GA-2013-612563 “Gesture and Language Development across Romance and Bantu Languages. €52164 (Euros)/ ±R890,000 for Wits partner. Principal Investigator for Wits, Co-PI for collaboration. A 4 year international partnership between the university of Grenoble Alpes, France, (GLADD) Lab at the Institute of Cognitive Sciences and Technologies (ISTC) of the National Council for Research (CNR) of Italy and the university of Cape Town.

Milani Tommaso M. Research Council of Norway. 3-year International Partnership (NOK 3 978 000) between the University of Oslo, University of the Witwatersrand, University of Cape Town, University of the Western Cape and Stellenbosch University. Main applicant is Professor Elizabeth Lanza (University of Oslo). The aim of the network is to develop a North/South dialogue on issues of multilingualism.
Milani Tommaso M. Danish Agency for Science and Innovation. 1-year International Partnership on “Language, Gender and Sexuality in a Global Materialility Perspective” (DKK 199 000). The aim of the collaboration is to initiate a North/South and South-South dialogue on issues of gender, sexuality and language. The collaboration involves researchers from the University of Copenhagen (Denmark), University of Sao Paulo (Brazil) and Wits University (South Africa). Main applicant is Dr Marie Megaard (University of Copenhagen).


Media Studies
Ufuoma Akpojivi worked with Teke Ngomba (Aarhus University, Denmark); Michael Coynette (Okanagan College, Canada); Jose Luis Gomez (UDEN Spain).

Iginio Gagliardone won a major grant from UNESCO, on which he is the principal investigator. The project is on World Trends of Freedom of Expression and Media Development. The Co-Investigator is Emanuele Fantini on UNESCO-IHE project on Water Diplomacy and the Media on the Nile Basin.

Mehita Iqani worked with Dr Simidele Dosekun (Sussex, UK) on convening a workshop on ‘Luxury Aesthetics in Africa’ in November 2016, which will be turned into a book project.

Nicky Falko worked with Moradewun Adejumobi from UC Davis on a journal special issue; and is working towards a joint article with Sara Orning from Oslo University.

SA Sign Language
Michiko Kaneko Ongoing collaboration with Prof Anne Baker from Stellenbosch.

Creative Writing
Phillippa Yaa de Villiers is a Fellow, Centre of Transcultural Research, Lancaster University, and Fellow, Africa Study Centre University of Leiden, and Guest editor, special edition of Atlanta Review poetry journal, Georgia Institute of Technology.

English
Prof Merle Williams is the South African leader of the “Fictions of Threat” collaboration with the University of Uppsala in Sweden and the University of Sussex, UK (2013-2017). The group has received a grant of 1.541 million Swedish krona from STINT (The Swedish Foundation for International Cooperation in Research and Higher Education) and has hosted an international research colloquium annually since 2014. The 2016 colloquium was themed “Cultures of Risk: Management, Speculation, Symptom”. Other colleagues involved in this project are Prof Michael Titlestad, Dr Simon van Schalkwyk and Dr Lara Buxbaum. Research articles emerging from the collaboration have been published or are forthcoming in issues of the journals English Studies in Africa, Safundi and Studia Neophilologica.

When Tomorrow Comes, a visual arts exhibition co-curated by Prof Titlestad, opened at the Wits Art Museum in March 2016.

Prof Merle Williams is volume editor for The Complete Fiction of Henry James, the first-ever critical edition of James’s fiction which is being produced by an international group of scholars for Cambridge University Press in Cambridge.
Prof Chris Thurman is the project leader of “Our’ Shakespeare: Performance, Translation, Education” (2015-2017), a collaboration between South African and German Shakespeare scholars, theatre makers, translators and educationists co-funded by the National Research Foundation (South Africa) and the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation (Germany).

Conferences, symposia, public lectures/talks/seminars and visiting speakers

Hosted and organised:

The Literary Humanities in the Global South: The Question of University Pedagogies. Danai Mupotsa, Barbara Boswell, Harry Garuba, Simon During, Elsie Cloete, etc. 27-28 June 2016, University of Tübingen. Conference organized by Dan Ojwang and Russell West-Pavlov.

‘Luxury Aesthetics in Africa’ Workshop on 15 November 2016. Johannesburg, SA. Speakers: Hlonipha Mokoena (University of the Witwatersrand); Alexia Smit (University of Cape Town); Simidele Dosekun (University of Sussex); Amah Edoh (MIT); Ilana van Wyk (University of Cape Town); Pamila Gupta and Joni Brenner (University of the Witwatersrand); Ndapwa Alweendo (The university currently known as Rhodes); Mehitä Iqani (University of the Witwatersrand). Organised by Mehitä Iqani.

Radio Days Africa: Wits Journalism hosts an annual conference of radio practitioners, the largest of its kind on the continent. The 2016 edition took place at Wits between 29 June and 1 July, and drew around 300 participants. Details at http://www.journalism.co.za/radiodays.


Taco Kuiper awards: Wits Journalism awards the largest prize for investigative journalism in the country. The prize is awarded at an annual event with a prestigious international speaker. Details at http://www.journalism.co.za/tacokuiper/.

Ruth First Fellowship and lecture: Wits Journalism annually awards the Ruth First Fellowship, and fellows then deliver the results of their research at a public lecture timed to mark pioneering journalist First’s death in August. At the 2016 event, research papers were delivered by Lwandile Fikeni, Leigh-Ann Naidoo and Nolwazi Tusini. Details at http://www.journalism.co.za/projects-a-fellowships/ruth-first/.

Carlos Cardoso lecture: Wits Journalism hosts the annual Carlos Cardoso Lecture to highlight media freedom issues in Africa, it is timed to coincide with the AIJC. The 2016 event took place on 8 November, and was delivered by Rwandan journalist Bob Rugurika, director of the private radio station Radio Publique Africaine. Details at http://www.journalism.co.za/blog/2016-carlos-cardoso-memorial-lecture/.
“Workshop in Sign Linguistics”. Names of Speakers: Professor Anne Baker (University of Amsterdam), Morgana Proietti (Ca Foscari University), Michiko Kaneko (Wits), Naomi Janse Van Vuuren (Wits)
09/03/2016 Name of organiser: Michiko Kaneko.


Publishing Studies hosted a number of seminars:
- Christopher Fotheringham – Translation issues in publishing
- Isabel Hofmeyr – Introduction to book history
- Melanie Law, Programme Leader: Language Practice, School of Languages, University of North West – Onscreen copyediting
- Joanne Fedler, author – marketing your books as an author
- Andrew Joseph, digital publisher, Wits University Press - Digital academic publishing
- Bernita Naudé, publishing director, Macmillan Publishers - Digital publishing for SA schools
- Griffin Shea, PhD student and bookseller – bookselling in inner city Johannesburg

Creative Writing has hosted the South African Literature series: University of Pretoria, as well as an ongoing seminar series: ZAPP – researcher on South African Poetry Project, a 3-year Indigenous knowledge research project.

In 2016 the English Research Seminar series, convened by Prof Merle Williams and Dr Sonia Fanucchi, included eight seminars on various aspects of English literature presented by visiting scholars, members of staff and postgraduate students.

Presented:

*Organised in alphabetical order by staff member name.*

Akpojivi, Ufuoma . 5-12 December 2016. New Social Movement and Activism: #BringBackOurGirls and the Feminism Discourse in Nigeria.


Daniels, Glenda. 23 July 2016. The Saga of the SABC. Keynote address to the Broadcast Complaints Commission of SA (BCCSA). Magaliesberg.

Daniels, Glenda. 22 April 2016. What is the master signifier in the discourse of journalists around political party membership? Sacomm roundtable. UJ.

Daniels, Glenda. 19 July 2016. Censorship and Freedom of Expression at the Institute for the Advancement of Journalism on Racism, Moderator of public panel discussion: Johannesburg.

Daniels, Glenda. 6 June 2016. SABC and Censorship. Panelist on panel discussion on Maggs on Media at eNCA. Johannesburg.


Daniels, Glenda. 22 April 2016. What is the master signifier in the discourse of journalists around political party membership? Sacomm roundtable. UJ.

Daniels, Glenda. 19 July 2016. Censorship and Freedom of Expression at the Institute for the Advancement of Journalism on Racism, Moderator of public panel discussion: Johannesburg.

Daniels, Glenda. 6 June 2016. SABC and Censorship. Panelist on panel discussion on Maggs on Media at eNCA. Johannesburg.


Falkof, Nicky. 2 May 2016. ‘Satanism and Family Murder in Late Apartheid South Africa’ book seminar. Invited speaker. Centre for Gender Research, University of Oslo. Invited speaker.


Finlay, A. facilitated a media perceptions survey on gun ownership and control in South Africa for the School of Journalism & Mass Communication at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. The survey is administered by the Poynter Institute and funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.


Gqola, Pumla. (28-30/7/2016). Keynote Address. FEMRITE @20: Rethinking African Literature Conference. Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda.


Houliston, Victor. 27/08/2016. “From Tragic Scene to Spectacle: St. Thomas More on the Jesuit Schoolboy Stage”. Imagining Transformation in the Middle Ages and the Renaissance. SASMARS, Stellenbosch, South Africa.

de Lanerolle, Indra 01.07.16 World Internet Project annual meeting Taipei, Republic of China.
De Lanerolle, Indra 18-20.7.16 Research Outreach Team meeting for development of Country Learning Plans for Making All Voices Count programme. Institute of Development Studies, Brighton, UK.

de Lanerolle, Indra 10.10.16 African Storytelling Guest Lecture at African Leadership University, Mauritius.
De Lanerolle, Indra, 10.11.16 Facilitator and Presenter and Making All Voices Count South African Community of Practice on approaches to learning. Johannesburg, South Africa
De Lanerolle, Indra convened – with Lucienne Abrahams, the Director of the LINK Centre a new Internet research seminar which was attended by scholars from Media Studies, Software Engineering, the LINK Centre and others. The first meeting was held in October 2016.


Janse van Vuuren, N. 3/10/2016. “SASL Curriculum at the University of the Witwatersrand”. Workshop on Designing and Improving SASL Acquisition Curricula. Stellenbosch University, Stellenbosch, South Africa.

Kaneko, Michiko. 4-7/01/2016. “Neologism in South African Sign Language”. Theoretical Issues in Sign Language Research,12. La Trobe University, Melbourne, Australia.
Kaneko, Michiko. 4-7/01/2016. “Onomatopoeic Mouth Gestures in Creative Sign Language”. Theoretical Issues in Sign Language Research,12. La Trobe University, Melbourne, Australia.


Kunene Nicolas, R & Judin, S. (2016). Predicate Comprehension and Production in the early acquisition period of isiZulu. LSSA/SAALA/SAALT Annual Joint Conference 2016. 4-7 July 2016, University of the Western Cape, South Africa

Coertze, N & Kunene Nicolas, R . (2016). A Multimodal Comparative Study of Oral Narratives: Typical and Atypical populations. LSSA/SAALA/SAALT Annual Joint Conference 2016. 4-7 July 2016, University of the Western Cape, South Africa


Law-Viljoen, Bronwyn. 7 September 2016, ‘From Papers to Page’. Open Book Festival, Cape Town. Panel discussion with Nancy Richards (moderator), Michela Wrong and Steven Robins.

Law-Viljoen, Bronwyn. 8 September 2016, ‘Author as Curator’. Open Book Festival, Cape Town. Panel discussion with Steve Kretzman (moderator), Bongani Madondo and Nick Mulgrew.

Law-Viljoen, Bronwyn. 8 September 2016, ‘Switching Courses’. Open Book Festival, Cape Town. Panel discussion with Yewande Omotoso (moderator), Michela Wrong and Laurie Kubuitsile.


Ligaga, Dina. 7-9 September, 2016. Popular culture and the emergent digital public in Kenya. ASAUK. Cambridge University, UK.

Milani Tommaso M. Queering critique: Discourse, body, affect. Keynote address at the 6th International Conference on Critical Approaches To Discourse Across Disciplines (CADAAD), Catania, 5-7 September 2016.


Milani Tommaso M. Organizer with Erez Levon (Queen Mary University of London) of the panel Sexual Politics Revisited: Language, Queer Theory and (Anti)Normativity, 9th International Gender and Language Association (IGALA) Conference, Hong Kong, 19-21 May 2016. Speakers: Holly Cashman (University of New Hampshire), Mie Hiramoto (National University of Singapore), Lucy Jones (University of Nottingham), Erez Levon (Queen Mary University of London), Phoebe Pua (National University of Singapore).

Milani Tommaso M. Organizer with Michelle Lazar (National University of Singapore) of the panel Language, Gender and Sexuality: Southern Perspectives, 9th International Gender and Language Association (IGALA) Conference, Hong Kong, 19-21 May 2016. Speakers: Rodrigo Borba (Federal University of Rio de Janeiro), Scott Burnett (University of the Witwatersrand,
Johannesburg), Brian W. King (City University, Hong Kong), Michelle Lazar (National University of Singapore).


Milani Tommaso M. Queering diversity. Invited talk delivered at University of Gothenburg, 7 April 2016.

Milani Tommaso M. FAQ on academic publishing. Invited workshop held at University of Gothenburg, 6 April 2016.

Milani Tommaso M. Multilingualism: Quo Vadis? Invited talk delivered at University of Gothenburg, 4 April 2016.

Milani Tommaso M. Queer performativity. Invited talk delivered at Federal University of Santa Catarina, Florianopolis, 22 March 2016.

Milani Tommaso M. Gender and Language: Where are we now? Invited talk as part of the Roundtable “Gender Studies: Theories and Applications”. Federal University of Santa Catarina, Florianopolis, 21 March 2016.


Ripero-Muñiz, Nereida. 23-26/05/2016. “Inclusion and exclusion among Somali Women in Nairobi and Johannesburg: Hostility, Cosmopolitanism and Cultural Translocality”. Inclusion and Exclusion in Sub-Saharan Africa: Migrants’ Challenges in Comparative Perspective, Centre for the Study of Governance Innovation, University of Pretoria


Robuschi, Luigi (14-16/06/2016). “Adapt or Die: The Birth of the Cultural and Political Myth of Venice”. “Adaptation in the Arts: Theory and Practice”, Emery Community Arts Center, University of Maine at Farmington, Farmington (ME), USA


Thurman, Chris. 01/10/2016. “Shakespeare: We need new names” (Keynote address). Decolonising Shakespeare. University of KwaZulu-Natal, Durban, South Africa.

Thurman, Chris. 27/08/2016. “Introducing Coriolanus to South Africa’s classrooms (and stages)”. Imagining Transformation in the Middle Ages and the Renaissance. SASMARS, Stellenbosch, South Africa.


Van Staden, Cobus. Public lecture on Japanese pop culture fandom at University of Pretoria’s Centre for Japanese Studies, March 2016


Vladislavić, Ivan. 3 May 2016. ‘Jozi Literary Allstars’. Reading at David Krut Books, Johannesburg, with
Harry Kalmer, Fred Khumalo, Kleinboer, Yewande Omotoso and James Whyle.

Vladislavić, Ivan. 21 May 2016. ‘Ultimately, literature is nothing but carpentry’. Panel discussion with Claire Robertson and Michele Magwood, Kingsmead Book Fair, Johannesburg.


Vladislavić, Ivan. 14 July 2016. ‘The Other 80s’. University of the Free State Book Festival, Bloemfontein. Panel discussion chaired by Johann Rossouw, with Kirby van der Merwe and Jacob Dlamini.

Vladislavić, Ivan. 6-17 September 2016. German book tour to promote the German translations of Double Negative (A1 Verlag) and Exploded View (Osburg Verlag). The tour included the following events with German translator Thomas Brückner and others:

- Vladislavić, Ivan. 7 September 2016. Frankfurt Literaturhaus, reading and public discussion.
- Vladislavić, Ivan. 8 September 2016. Zürich Literaturhaus, reading (with Miriam Japp) and public discussion.
- Vladislavić, Ivan. 9 September 2016. Münster Volkshochschule, reading and public discussion.
- Vladislavić, Ivan. 16 September 2016. Tübingen University. Postgraduate workshop on translation chaired by Russell West-Pavlov, with Thomas Brückner and Mark Sanders.


Wekesa B. was lead organizer for the, The fourth Chinese in Africa/Africans in China Research Network (CAAC RN) conference: Interdisciplinary approaches to media and communications in Africa-China engagement, August 18-21 2016, Aga Khan University, Kenya, Nairobi

Wekesa B. presented a paper entitled: African agency in Africa-China media engagements: The case of Wits China Africa Reporting Project, August 18-21 2016, Aga Khan University, Kenya, Nairobi


Wekesa B. presented a paper entitled, Media-based approach to investigating China’s presence in Eastern Africa hydrocarbons sector, April 21-12 2016, University of Dundee, UK, Dundee

Wekesa B. presented a paper entitled: Chinese media and diplomacy in Africa: Theoretical pathways, January 14-16 2016, University of Nottingham, UK, Nottingham


Williams, Merle. 11/07/2016. “Tracing the Foreign and the Other: From The Ambassadors to Foreign
"Bodies". Commemorating Henry James – Commemoration in Henry James. Brandeis University, Waltham, Massachusetts, USA.


## Grants and Fellowships Received

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<td>Institute of International Education</td>
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<td>BUXBAUM L</td>
<td>NRF POST-DOC</td>
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<td>KUNENE-NICOLAS</td>
<td>NRF-COE GRANT</td>
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<td>PETERSON BK</td>
<td>NARRATIVE ENQUIRY FOR SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION</td>
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<td>PUMLA GQOLA</td>
<td>NIHSS CATALYTIC RESEARCH PROGRAMME - Rape &amp; the South African Feminist Imagination</td>
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<td>ROBUSCHI, L</td>
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<td>THURMAN CJ</td>
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## Conference Funding

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## NRF Ratings

### New
- Falkof, N Professor
- Daniels, G Dr

### Re-rating
- Horn, PRG Professor
- Inggs, Judith Professor

### Previous
- Akpojivi, U Dr
- Gqola, P Professor
- Hofmeyr, CI Professor
- Horn, AC Professor
- Houliston, V Professor
- Iqani, M Professor
- Ligaga, DA Dr
- Mhlambi I Professor
- Milani, T Professor
- Muponde, R Professor
- Newfield, D Professor
- Ojwang, D Professor
- Peterson, B Professor
- Thurman, CJ Professor
- Titlestad, MF Professor
Research Thrusts

African Languages

Members of the department are involved in research in the discourse of popular culture, media, ethnomusicology and computational linguistics individually. Each member of the department has found a niche with each sub-discipline and pursuing either to fulfil degree requirements or for academic growth.

African Literature

African literary studies; African intellectual histories; literatures of the Indian Ocean world; literatures of the African Diaspora; postcolonial literary and cultural theory; cultural studies.

Creative Writing

Creative writing is engaged in research on the place of creative writing in the academy; the relationship of oral to literary forms of creative work; contemporary South African literature.

- The interaction of languages within the creative process.
- The teaching of creative writing.
- Creative writing and/as research.
- Creative writing and translation.

English

The department is particularly strong in Southern African literature, with Michelle Adler and Chris Thurman particularly concerned with the earlier periods, and Barbara Boswell, Lara Buxbaum, Gerald Gaylard, Sofia Kostelac, Clea Schulz and Michael Titlestad specializing in post-apartheid and postcolonial studies. Sofia Kostelac and Robert Munonde are authorities in Zimbabwean literature, attracting a growing number of PhD students from Zimbabwe. Gerald Gaylard has a particular interest in Ivan Vladislavic, who is also the School’s writer-in-residence; so too has his former PhD student, Kirby Mania, Senior Lecturer in the ADU of the Faculty of Engineering and the Built Environment, which is closely associated with our department. Barbara Boswell is well known for her work on gender, race and sexuality especially in black women’s writing. Gender studies links many of these individual research projects.

Merle Williams, Lara Buxbaum and Hazel Frankel work in the area of trauma studies, linked often but not exclusively to the holocaust. Merle Williams does research into contemporary Hebrew poetry and fiction. It may be worth noting that the late Joseph Sherman was a leading international authority on Yiddish literature.

Chris Thurman, Colette Gordon and Victor Houliston are active in Shakespeare studies, especially in colonial and postcolonial contexts, where Chris Thurman is particularly well known. Both he and
Colette Gordon have a special expertise in Shakespeare in performance, education and contemporary culture. Victor Houliston is a leading figure in the growing field of early modern British Catholic studies.

Merle Williams works on Henry James and Shelley, and is highly regarded internationally in both these areas. Robyn Pierce specialises in William Blake, Sonia Fanucchi in nineteenth-century fiction, and Simon van Schalkwyk in American poetry.

Michael Titlestad is one of the most prolific scholars in the country, with a wide range of expertise, most notably maritime literature, where he is in great demand internationally. Natalie Paoli is doing research into contemporary East European literature.

**Journalism**

**Research on transparency, accountability and open data (Network Society Programme, Indra de Lanerolle)**

Relevant publications


De Lanerolle was appointed as a member of the Making All Voices Count Research Outreach Team by the Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex, Brighton, one of the leading development research institutions in the world. In this role he supported innovation in uses of new technologies in transparency and accountability in South Africa providing research and learning support. He also developed a learning programme which is being implemented in 2017.

**Research on Mobile phones access and use**

Following a quantitative study on Internet access and use in South Africa published in 2012, de Lanerolle led a new qualitative research project which investigates mobile phone use amongst South Africans on low incomes. The study is being done in partnership with researchers at UCT and Rhodes and will be completed in 2017.

**Research on tech hubs and innovation in journalism and media**

In preparation for the launch of a new journalism and media innovation lab being started at the new Wits Tshimologong Digital Innovation Precinct in conjunction with the Johannesburg Centre for Software Engineering, Indra visited a number of tech hubs, incubators and accelerators in California and East Africa.

**Research on media and public debate**
Lesley Cowling was awarded a research fellowship at the Archive and Public Culture Research Initiative at UCT, to co-edit (with Prof Carolyn Hamilton) a book on The Public Life of Ideas. The project is part of an ongoing research collaboration, hosted by APC, around public intellectual life and media and public debate, which includes scholars from Wits, Rhodes and UCT.

Research on media histories project
Lesley Cowling participated in a Mellon-funded workshop on African Print Cultures, jointly run by Derek Peterson of the University of Michigan and Prof Isabel Hofmeyr of Wits. There is an agreement in principle to collaborate with UJ, UCT and UP on a media histories project arising from that workshop, with potential seed funding from NIHSS.

Bob Wekesa published a journal paper (January 2017), New Directions in the study of Africa-China media and communications engagements, Journal of African Cultural Studies, Taylor & Francis, Abingdon, UK

Bob Wekesa published journal paper (2016), Deborah Brautigam’s Will Africa Feed China?: A critical media-centric review, African East-Asian Affairs, Centre for Chinese Studies, Stellenbosch University, Stellenbosch, South Africa


Ruth Hopkins contributed an article on her investigation into a G4S run prison in Mangaung for the report: "Dirty Profits 5: Report on companies and financial institutions benefitting from violations of human rights” for the organisation Facing Finance.


Wits Journalism has developed an approach to masters research which is based on long-form narrative journalism, coupled with a framing essay. In 2016, three master’s projects were completed in this form.

Linguistics
The Linguistics department has a dynamic research focus on Linguistics. There are four main focus areas: Phonology of Southern Bantu and Optimality Theory; Morphology and Syntax; Language Gender and Sexuality and Language development of South African Bantu Languages.

LINK Centre
The scholarly focus of LINK is on ICT policy and regulation and its relationship to socio-economic development through the digital transformation of social and economic sectors. These issues are of interest across a broad audience ranging from policy-makers and regulators to user communities in major industry sectors, including the broad electronic communications sector (telecoms, broadcast and Internet sub-sectors), and the user sectors (banking and finance, travel and tourism, small enterprise, government services, scientific research agencies and universities, the community sector, other).

The research direction for LINK in 2016-2020 is to conduct and publish research with respect to the realm of ICT-enabled and ICT-mediated social and economic change (digital transformation). Research themes include ICT policy, regulation and governance; information society, knowledge economy, digital transformation and e-development; ICT evolution in the public and commercial sectors, with research and publishing projects operating in each of these thematic areas. These themes for research and interrogation are relevant to building the public discourse on the information society and development issues. They are further relevant to public policy advocacy, as well as to postgraduate teaching and research programmes across the spheres of public policy, innovation studies, media studies, and the economics, business and engineering sciences. LINK works with other scientific (CSIR Meraka), academic institutions (CCRED, UJ) and sector regulators (ICASA, SSCOM, CRAN) to enhance the diffusion and sharing of knowledge and to mutually build the research capacity of all partner institutions.

Media Studies

The department of Media Studies aims to be the premier location for the critical study of media and culture in the global south. Our individual research strands feed into this overarching agenda.

- **Glenda Daniels’** research examines the media and democracy relationship in South Africa, keeping track of international trends, and with a focus on the news media, journalism, freedom of expression, censorship, the state of the newsroom, transformation race and gender in the latter as well as social media and fake news.
- **Ufuoma Akpojivi** researches Citizenship, Media Policy, Democratization, Social Movement and Digital Activism, Media Practices in Emerging Democracies.
- **Cobus van Staden** write on Asia-Africa relations, diplomacy, mediation of the state, popular cinema and TV
- **Iginio Gagliardone** works on Africa’s media system; Communication and nation building; hate speech online; information societies in the Global South; China-Africa relations.
- **Dina Ligaga’s** work examines representations of femininity across media through the lens of popular culture. Through the methodology of transmediation, I look at representations on radio drama, tabloid press and online cultures.
- **Mehita Iqani’s** work continues to explore questions of aspiration, equality and identity in relation to consumer cultures in the global south. I examine how these themes manifest in media discourses across various genres.
- **Nicky Falkof** writes on Race, particularly whiteness; gender, particularly masculinity; risk, anxiety, moral panic and cultures of fear; spatial politics in the global south city

Modern Languages

French

Francophone Afropeanism and South African Afropolitanism
Defining cosmopolitan identities through the notion of Afropolitanism [African + Polis (meaning City in Ancient Greek)] and Francophone Afropeanism [African + European] and considers these identities through of material lived existence of subjects in the cities of Paris and Johannesburg.

Foreign language pedagogy and teaching and learning cultures
Multilingualism, foreign language pedagogy and trans-inter cultural dynamics in the foreign language classroom. The evolution of teaching and learning cultures, the changing role of literature and cultural canons in relation to emerging identities.

The poetics of sensation in JMG Le Clézio’s fiction
Le Clézio’s fictional writing as a sensory journey through existence, in order to bear witness to human experience as a whole.

Thomas Mofolo
The impact of Mofolo’s writing on Negritudinist writers; South-South dialogue; Francophonie

German
We engage in intercultural and multicultural studies, besides looking at German canonical texts from a South African perspective and interpreting South African literature through a comparative literature lens. We also participate in and convene European Literature courses at Honours and Masters levels, as well as cross-teaching in the English Department. Besides, we co-supervise or supervise research projects from Honours to Doctoral level in other disciplines, such as English, translation, as well as Migration and Anthropology. We are interested in postcolonial approaches to German literature, including narratology, as well as cultural studies methodologies, in analysing advertising strategies for example. We work on transculturalism as a way of overcoming old paradigms in cultural studies, such as universalism and particularism. We also reflect on teaching methodologies for German as a foreign language by engaging with other universities in order to keep abreast of developments both nationally and internationally. We have strong links with other African scholars in order to create a network and to reflect our position as German Studies and German Foreign Language Teaching in Africa. We are interested in and encourage research in multilingualism.

Spanish
Areas of research focus on: gender, migration, diaspora studies, Somalia, human geography, narrative and ethnographic methods.
The Project Metropolitan Nomads seeks to visually document the daily life of Somali migrants in Johannesburg. The project is supported by ACMS; the aim is to expand this visual research to other cities in Southern Africa.

Publishing Studies
Publishing Studies is a multi-disciplinary research area, and research projects reflect the variety of issues of concern to students and publishers of all types of materials. Research projects include: what makes a bestseller in South Africa, diversity in young adult novels, sustainability of small publishers, copyediting skills, application and assessment, various book history topics, relationship between publishers and departments of education, African language reading materials available for Foundation phase education, consumer behaviour, exhibition catalogue publishing in SA art institutions, South
African books translated into German and their reception in Germany, teaching and curriculum development of an academic programme with a professional focus.

Other departments that have been involved with supervision of publishing students include English, African Literature, Creative Writing, German, Translation, Education and the business school. Because Publishing Studies is such a broad academic area, there is huge scope for inter-departmental work.

SA Sign Language

We are passionate about writing the first book on SASL linguistics in the near future. We are also running small projects on SASL literature (poetry and storytelling).

Translation Studies

The department has a wide range of research interests covering the disciplines of translation and interpreting as well as interdisciplinary fields such as literary translation and postcolonial studies. On a more practical and empirical level, members of staff are currently engaged in research on translator and interpreter training and recent developments in the study of process models in relation to interpreting. In the interdisciplinary field of literature and translation studies members of staff are involved in research on the application of literary theory to African literature, postcolonial translation studies, stylistics, cognitive approaches to translation and the translation of comic books and graphic novels. Another strand of research pursued in the department is the study of children’s and youth literature as well as the translation of that literature into other languages, including African and European languages.

Steps taken to grow next generation of scholars

The School continues to develop the potential among its younger staff and young emerging scholars at postgraduate and senior undergraduate level. The School is cognisant of the importance of ensuring succession planning within and across disciplines and therefore has over a period of years given preference to the appointment of younger, emerging scholars and provided them with the opportunity for academic growth and development. Academic staff members are kept informed of all the grant and funding opportunities available and encouraged to apply for these as well as for teaching buy-outs to afford them time to finish their postgraduate degrees and/or develop their publication profile. Three of the School’s committees (the Research and Postgraduate Committee, the Teaching and Learning Committee and the Transformation Committee) continue to investigate ways in which the School can promote the development of younger scholars. All departments actively identify and encourage promising students to continue to postgraduate studies.

The School has a School Promotions Committee, whose remit is, in the first instance, to consider the senior promotions (at Associate Professor and Professor levels). The committee plays a developmental role and mentoring in assessing the quality and timing of applications. It has decided to extend the developmental and mentoring role to academic staff at all levels. This will assist the HoS in the development of the next generation of scholars.
An important aspect of the School’s focus on developing young scholars has been the roll-out of its Teaching Assistant Programme which was launched in 2013 for PhD students keen to enter a career in academia. This is the third year of the programme and has made a successful contribution in this area. The School had 8 Doctoral Teaching Assistants in 2016, 3 in English, 3 in Media and 2 in Linguistics. The doctoral Teaching Assistants have been assisted in the development of teaching, assessment and mentoring skills. The TA experience has been an informative one that has enhanced pedagogical practice within the School. The School is hopeful it will be able to extend this programme for a further six years.

School Writing Retreats have been significant in supporting the trajectories of staff and have also been used to encourage the doctoral assistants in the writing of their PhDs and to provide a forum for research discussions.

Particular focus areas in departments are as follows:

Creative Writing
- Enlisted one honours student to poetry research project, which resulted in MA scholarship.
- Awarded Honours scholarship to one Honours student.
- Encouragement of students to publish in Wits University online creative journal Itch.
- Support and encouragement of lecturer Phillippa Yaa de Villiers in application for PhD degree at University of Lancaster.
- Attendance of Phillippa Yaa de Villiers at CLTD teaching and supervision workshops.

Linguistics
Kunene Nicolas R sent Ms Nonhlanhla Ntuli to France (University of Grenoble Alpes) and (GLADD) Lab at the Institute of Cognitive Sciences and Technologies (ISTC) of the National Council for Research (CNR) of Italy under the IRSES Grant for training April – November 2016

Media Studies
Students are given mentoring and assistance at every level of teaching, from Honours tutoring support to hiring advanced postgrads for Wits Plus and sessional lecturing to close work with Teaching Assistants. Strong postgraduates at all levels are offered the opportunity to publish with their supervisors or to do so alone with supervisory support if they feel capable. New structures and curricula introduced at Honours level to support increased research quality. Media Studies developed the school-wide MA proposal workshop and provides a strong impetus alongside colleagues from elsewhere in SLLM for creating a more formal support structure for postgraduates. Skilled third years and postgrads are actively recruited for further study. Staff support students financially where possible, offering paid employment appropriate to developing scholars (teaching/research/admin assistance) and/or grants from RINC or other funds when necessary.