FACULTY OF COMMERCE, LAW AND MANAGEMENT

DEAN: PROFESSOR I VALODIA BCom (Unisa) BCom Hons (Natal) MSc (Lancaster) DEcon (KwaZulu-Natal)

Doctor of Philosophy

BREYTENBACH, Adele  
*Economics*  
*THESIS*: The economics of peace: institutional and policy reform for sustainable peace and development in Africa's great lakes region  
Adele Breytenbach has made a notable contribution to the sub-discipline of peace economics in her study of institutional and economic policy reform in Africa's Great Lakes region. Her research addresses the issue pertaining to the risks post-conflict countries encounter that prevent them from reaching a sustainable level of peace and development  
Supervisor: Prof M Padayachee

DABULA, Nandi  
*Marketing*  
*THESIS*: Market, psychological and social factors influencing blood donation: a case of S.A. millennials  
Three theories were integrated to examine how social media communication impacted millennials' socio-psychological drivers of blood donation attitude and intention. Data collected from 650 millennials revealed that even for a life-saving product like blood, social media marketing can aid social marketers' efforts to build attitudes and propensity to act.  
Supervisor/s: Prof H Duh and Dr N Chiliya

DZINGIRAI, Canicio  
*Economics*  
*THESIS*: Essays on banking sector competition and efficiency: the case of selected African Countries  
Banks play an important role in stimulating economic growth. The level of competition and efficiency in the banking sector determine their effectiveness. This thesis assesses the extent to which African banking sectors are efficient and competitive. It also looks at the casual relationship between banking sector competition and efficiency.  
Supervisor: Prof T Gwatidzo

HOVE, Precious  
*Wits School of Governance*  
*THESIS*: The strategic role of knowledge management in the growth and sustainability of Small, Micro and Medium Enterprises (SMMEs) in Zimbabwe  
The study investigated the ways in which Small, Micro and Medium Enterprises (SMMEs) formulate strategies and explored the knowledge infrastructure capabilities of SMMEs in Mashonaland East Province in Zimbabwe. The research stressed the importance of knowledge infrastructure for SMMEs and showed that knowledge management plays a significant role in SMME growth and sustainability  
Supervisor: Prof P Pillay
KASAI, Stanford  
*Business Science*

**Thesis:** The influence of supplier relationship quality in South African municipalities' service delivery performance  
The study explored the impact of relationship quality on service delivery performance in the South African municipal sector. The researcher adopted a mixed method approach to data. The South African municipalities were sampled. The data was analysed using SPSS and AMOS statistical software. The findings revealed that the supply chain management practices has a positive influence on relationship quality which in turn has a significant influence on the municipalities' service delivery performance. From the findings it is clear that the quality of the relational interactions between the municipalities and their suppliers has great impact on the quality of service delivery performance.  
*Supervisor:* Dr N Chiliya

KASEKE, Paul Chidochashe  
*Law*

**Thesis:** Towards good governance: interpreting the Right to Administrative Justice in the Zimbabwean Constitution  
In 2013, Zimbabwe adopted a new constitution that replaced the 'Lancaster’ Constitution adopted at independence in 1980. The 2013 Constitution introduced a right to administrative justice. This thesis focuses on how courts should interpret the right to administrative justice in a manner that promotes good governance and administration. Good governance in the Zimbabwean Constitution bears a specific meaning that encompasses social justice, economic stability and the orderly transfer of power during elections. The thesis suggests how courts can interpret the right in a way that supports the building of a progressive constitutional democracy in Zimbabwe. In doing so, this thesis formulates and postulates a theory of substantive fairness that can be adopted by Zimbabwean courts.  
*Supervisors:* Dr O Adeleke and Prof V Bronstein

LUIMES, Wilhelmina Henrietta  
*Wits School of Governance*

**Thesis:** Assessing leadership intention and influence upon a country's social, political and economic development trajectory  
The study applied critical discourse analysis upon the language of leadership with a history of constructive outcomes, comparing it with the language usage of destructive leaders in Russia, South Africa and Nigeria. Its insights deepen our knowledge of the interplay between leadership intention, power and citizen social functioning that shapes the history of a community, country and region.  
*Supervisor:* Dr A Van Nieuwkerk

MAKONI, Eric Nyembezi  
*Law*

**Thesis:** Law spatial planning and the making of South African cities  
This thesis examines the relation of law and spatial planning in the making of contemporary South African cities, using the city of Johannesburg as primary unit of analysis. Anchored in the theoretical concepts of "lawscape" and the "right to the city", the thesis illustrates law and planning’s deployment in the creation of racially fragmented and unjust cities. It then illustrates and evaluates the extent to which law and planning have managed to assume new roles of creating South African cities defined by spatial justice and socio-economic inclusivity.  
*Supervisor:* Prof M Pieterse

MANDA, More Ickson  
*Information Systems*

**Thesis:** Towards 'smart governance' through a multidisciplinary approach to e-government systems integration, interoperability and information sharing: a case of the Labour Market Intelligence Project in South Africa  
More Ickson Manda’s thesis investigated institutional barriers to e-government information systems integration, interoperability and information sharing in South Africa. His study proposes two frameworks. First, it proposes the Integration, Interoperability and Information Sharing Complexity Framework for understanding the complexity and some of the barriers to integration, interoperability and information sharing. It also proposes the Power, Politics and Information Systems Institutionalisation Framework which highlights the relationship between the circuits of power, institutional isomorphism and the institutionalisation process in institutions.  
*Supervisor:* Prof J Backhouse

MBULAWA, Abednego Simphiwe  
*Wits School of Governance*

**Thesis:** Developing a service delivery performance index for South African local government  
This thesis explores the links between service delivery performance and municipal sustainability. It focuses on the relationship between productive efficiency and financial sustainability within South African local government. As a solution it proposes a performance measurement index consisting of financial, human resources, and service delivery components.  
*Supervisor:* Prof P Pillay
MBUYISA, Barbara  
*Wits School of Governance*

**THESIS:** Micro-Finance institutions as tools for the development of informal furniture manufacturers in Zimbabwe  
The study examines why microfinance institutions fail to be sustainable sources of finance for small businesses using a sample of furniture manufacturers in Bulawayo. The research suggests the development of an integrated model for microfinance in Zimbabwe to ensure greater sustainability of small businesses.  
Supervisor: Prof P Pillay

MGXAJI, Bongekile  
*Business Science*

**THESIS:** The impact of social media communication on business reputation in the investment management industry in South Africa  
This study investigated the effects of social media communication on business reputation. By means of a quantitative approach, surveys were distributed amongst investment professionals in South Africa. The results contribute to marketing practitioners in the investment management industry with an understanding of tactics that can be used to influence business reputation through social media communications.  
Supervisor: Dr M Venter

MOGOMOTSI, Goemeone Emmanuel Judah  
*Law*

**THESIS:** An analysis of Botswana's anti-money laundering regime: towards compliance with international standards  
For a thesis which examines the compliance of Botswana's anti-money laundering regulatory framework against international standards and which makes recommendations for legislative reforms.  
Supervisor: Dr H Kawadza

MOYO, Funa  
*Wits School of Governance*

**THESIS:** The contribution of artisanal gold mining to rural households, livelihoods in Southern Matabeleland Zimbabwe  
The thesis shows how artisanal gold miners utilise their social networks to access mines to ensure rural livelihoods. The thesis concludes that resource-based networks and networks of political influence (tribal and ethnic) constitute the social capital that enables communities to negotiate mining rights to ensure household survival in the rural areas.  
Supervisor: Dr H Zandamela

MUNENE, Anthony Wambugu  
*Law*

**THESIS:** Realising the right to development in Kenya under the 2010 Constitution through poverty alleviation, anti-corruption and public participation interventions  
The thesis provides a comprehensive examination of the right to development (RTD) in Kenya under the 2010 Constitution, which is currently an understudied field. By weaving through Kenya's international and domestic law obligations, as supported by relevant treaties, legislation and case law, the study advocates for realisation of RTD in Kenya through interventions that address Kenya's trial challenge of poverty, corruption and public participation in decision-making processes.  
Supervisor: Prof L Chenwi

MUNTHALI, Julius Kadambo  
*Wits School of Governance*

**THESIS:** Decentralization and challenges of corruption in implementation of community projects in Malawi  
Scholarly governance literature promotes the positive outcomes of decentralization as citizens at local level are best able to influence appropriate policies. This thesis demonstrates that decentralization in Malawi had unintended consequences as it enabled local level corruption in the distribution of agricultural subsidies to small farmers.  
Supervisor: Dr I Sarakinsky

MUPAMBWA, Patrick  
*Business Science*

**THESIS:** Predictors of e-Marketing adoption by Zimbabwean churches  
The study sought to investigate the predictors of e-Marketing adoption by Zimbabwean churches. A quantitative study was conducted. The study results indicate that marketing orientation, marketing innovation, church youth marketing, competitive intensity and dynamic marketing capabilities have a significant influence on e-marketing orientation amongst Zimbabwean churches. It is recommended that churches include digital marketing channels as part of their marketing communication mix elements to spread the Good News and making disciples of all the nations as commanded by Jesus Christ.  
Supervisors: Prof R Chinomona and Dr N Chiliya
MUTAMBA, Jeremiah

**Graduate School of Business Administration**

**THESIS:** A framework for the turnaround of State-Owned Companies in South Africa

State-Owned Companies (SOCs) are pivotal for the growth of many economies, including South Africa. However, several South African SOCs are distressed, requiring pragmatic and responsive turnaround strategies. Following a qualitative approach, this thesis investigates key drivers for the turnaround of distressed South African SOCs. The study provides two main contributions: a set of 25 drivers and a SOC turnaround framework that guides policymakers and practitioners. The framework underscores management of power-governance dynamics among leadership, ensuring strategic alignment for successful turnaround.

Supervisor: Dr D Heil

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MUTIMUDYE, Given

**Wits School of Governance**

**THESIS:** Economic governance challenges affecting the formulation of National Economic development policies in Zimbabwe

This research involves the analysis of a number of factors that combine to prevent good governance in economic policy making in Zimbabwe including institutional capacity, state capture, violence and political patronage. The thesis concludes that the failure to change from 'liberal politics' to 'development politics' has negatively affected economic policy making.

Supervisor: Prof P Pillay

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NKUNA, Isaac Simon

**Wits School of Governance**

**THESIS:** A critical analysis of integrated development planning in relation to sustainable local economic development, livelihoods and poverty alleviation: A case study of Mopani District Municipality

The study examines the linkages between IDP and LED in five local municipalities in the Mopani DM. The research highlights the widespread ineffectiveness of IDP and questions whether the role and responsibilities allocated to municipalities are appropriate given numerous developmental failures.

Supervisor: Prof I Valodia

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OGANA, Litha Musyimi Mumbua

**Wits School of Governance**

**THESIS:** Dynamics of aid evaporation in Overseas Development Assistance (ODA): A Kenyan case study of the Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Program (CAADP)

This study finds that the challenge of aid ineffectiveness persists in Africa. The research showed that while there were demand side (African) challenges such as poor governance, corruption, and lack of strong institutions, there were also supply (donor) side challenges such as over-reliance on their own ODA governance frameworks and delivery mechanisms, the entrenched of bilateral interests in ODA, and specific geo-political interests.

Supervisor: Dr H Zandamela

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OKUNGU, Denis Ogwel

**AERC**

**THESIS:** Mutual funds performance: evidence from emerging African markets

Dr. Denis Okungu:

“The study examined the performance of actively managed equity mutual funds in emerging African markets. Findings suggest that some Africa's actively managed funds could outperform the market benchmarks. The study contributes significantly to the development of policies necessary for the development of domestic equity markets.”

Supervisor: Prof O Kodongo

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PAMACHECHE, Rukudzo

**Business Science**

**THESIS:** Predictors and behavioural outcome of personal loyalty dimensions to Johannesburg hair care service providers

The drivers and outcomes of commercial friendship between hairstylists and clients were examined. Quantitative testing of a model derived from three models showed drivers were service customisation, reliability, trustworthiness and clients¿ satisfaction. Outcomes were four dimensions of personal loyalty rarely studied. Behavioural personal loyalty drove willingness to pay premium price.

Supervisor: Prof H Duh
POPOOLA, Ahmed Babatunde  
Graduate School of Business Administration 
**THESIS**: Opportunities and constraints of Government support programmes on access to finance for SMEs: Cross-Country evidence from Africa  
This thesis examines the effectiveness of government programs aimed at fostering access to finance for SMEs in Africa. Results show that impacts of indirect government financing are significantly higher than impacts of direct government funding support, and that the former often increases SME failure rate because it influences SMEs to take on unnecessary risk. 
Supervisor: Prof K Ojah

QUAYE, Emmanuel Ato Silva  
Graduate School of Business Administration 
**THESIS**: Xenocentrism, cosmopolitanism and consumer behaviour in emerging market: important antecedents and consequences  
This research advances our understanding of foreign brand preferences in emerging markets, making several novel contributions to the marketing literature that are of conceptual, methodological, and practical importance. A new consumer xenocentrism scale is proposed and assessed rigorously. Study participants include 1,177 South African, Kenyan and Ghanaian consumers. The study concludes that personal and domain-specific values predict foreign vs local product preference in the three countries. 
Supervisor: Prof S Burgess

SABINO, Yolanda De Figueiredo  
Wits School of Governance 
**THESIS**: Managing VAT non-compliance: a case study of the Mozambique Tax Authority  
This thesis examines how current tax-compliance approaches have had a limited impact on VAT compliance in Mozambique. The main finding is that "cause-driven" enforcement strategies were more effective in discouraging non-compliance. In spite of a high degree of collusion by different actors, the conclusion is that a systemic perspective is needed to improve VAT compliance. 
Supervisor: Dr K Wotela

TOTOWA, Jacques  
Graduate School of Business Administration 
**THESIS**: The value relevance of discretionary and non-discretionary disclosures in financial reports: does impression management have an impact on firm value?  
Dr Totowa investigated impression management in Chairman's letter issued with annual financial reports. He found that managers use predominantly optimistic language to create impression about their companies. However, this optimism is reduced by firm performance, firm debt and some internal governance mechanisms. Firm institutional environment influences investors' perception of impression management. For example, investors in developed countries are likely to be influenced by the tone of Chairman's letter while in emerging markets, investors prefer companies' fundamentals to make economic decisions. 
Supervisor: Dr T Mokoaleli-Mokoteli

UMANAH, Tebogo Elizabeth  
Wits School of Governance 
**THESIS**: Leadership in the South African Police Service: A case study of Gauteng Province  
Using the leadership lens and frameworks, this study interrogates the challenge in the South African Police Service with Gauteng Province as its case. Specifically what are the reasons underlying escalating policeable crime in the Province and the constraints to arresting it. Theoretical and empirical interrogation points to prioritising (i.) strategy formulation and innovation, (ii.) reinstitution of structures and systems, and (iii.) inculcation of police culture. 
Supervisor: Dr K Wotela

WILSON, Stuart David James  
**Law** 
**THESIS**: The law of dispossession: property law, power and social change  
In advancing an agent-centered theory of law and social change, this thesis examines the impact of litigation involving sections 25 and 26 of the South African Constitution on the spaces in which social agents negotiate and dispute the possession, use and distribution of property. 
Supervisor: Prof M Pieterse