CENTRE FOR APPLIED ETHICS

ANNUAL REPORT 2019

1. **ABOUT THE CENTRE: GENERAL REMARKS**
   1. **What the Centre is: new development**

The Centre for Applied Ethics (CAE) is an interdisciplinary research, teaching, and service institution of Stellenbosch University, based in the Philosophy Department. It reports to the Faculty Board of Arts and Social Sciences. The Centre does work on its own, but also accommodates three units, viz. the Unit for Bioethics, the Unit for Environmental Ethics and the Unit for Business Ethics and Public Integrity. A fourth unit – a Unit Promoting Social and Political Ethics Research (PROSPER) has been created in the course of 2019 with prof. Vasti Roodt – an expert in political philosophy and political ethics – as Head.

* 1. **Revision of the Constitution**

The creation of PROSPER gave us the opportunity of thoroughly revising the constitution of the Centre. Members of the Governing Body were informed about and gave their blessing to the outcome of this process. The Director wishes to especially thank prof. Roodt for her considerable contribution to revising the old constitution. All parties are now satisfied with the new product, which is now adequately aligned with other such documents of the University.

* 1. **Departmental and Centre Evaluation**

The Philosophy Department, in which the Centre is situated, was at the end of 2019, submitted to a six yearly qualitative evaluation, led by an external panel of three senior academics under the leadership of prof. Emma Ruttkamp-Blum of the University of Pretoria. One other SA academic as well as a colleague from the Netherlands took responsibility for this exercise. The Centre was in the process also submitted to an evaluation.

The outcome of this process was very favourable for both the department and Centre. Special mention was made in the evaluators’ report of the high quantity and quality work done by the Centre. The main concern about the Centre from the side of the reviewers was the issue of succession planning in terms of the management of the Centre. This is an issue that enjoys continued attention in the work and reflections of the department and Centre.

The ***first*** part of this report deals with the ***general activities*** of the Centre as such. The reports of the different Units of the Centre follow this report. The report therefore has the following sub-divisions:

**General report of the CAE: pp. 1-9**

**Report of the Unit for Bioethics pp. 10-17**

**Report of the Unit for Business Ethics and Public Integrity: pp. 18-22**

**Report of the Unit for Environmental Ethics: pp. 23-25**

**Report of the Unit Promoting Social and Political Ethics Research (PROSPER): pp. 26-31**

1. **GOVERNING BODY 2019**

Prof. **AJ Leysens** (Dean), Prof. **AA van Niekerk** (Director of the Centre and Head: Unit for Bioethics), Prof. **JP Hattingh**, Head: Unit for Environmental Ethics, Prof. **P Fourie** (Representative of the Centre for International and Comparative Politics),Prof. **JP Smit**, Chairperson of the Philosophy Department, **Dr. C Maasdorp,** representative of the Centre for Knowledge Management and Decision-making), **Dr.** **S Hall** (Representative: Unit for Environmental Ethics), Prof. **WP Pienaar** (Representative of the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences), Prof. **Adriaan van Niekerk**, (Representative of the Depts. of Psychology, Sociology, Geography and Environmental Studies, and Social Work), Prof. **K Moodley** (Representative of the Centre for Medical Ethics and Law), **Prof. M Woermann** (Head: Unit for Business Ethics and Public Integrity), **Mr. Martin Rossouw,** representative of the Mediclinic Southern Africa, a key sponsor of the Centre, Prof. **Daniel Malan**, representative of the Centre for Corporate Governance in Africa, situated in the US Business School and **Prof. Petrie Meyer**, representative of the Faculty of Engineering.

Over the past few years, prof. WP Pienaar, representative of the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences (FMHS) on the Governing Body, acted as chair of the Governing Body. He has tendered his resignation due to retirement at the end of 2019. He has been replaced (on recommendation of the Dean of FMHS) as representative of that faculty by **prof. Mariana Kruger**, Head of the Department of Paediatrics in the FMHS, widely acclaimed ethicist and an alumnus of this Centre; she holds an MPhil in Applied Ethics of this Centre.

A new chair of the Governing Body (GB) has to be elected. The Director will make a recommendation at the GB’s next AGM.

The Centre was officially audited by the University’s internal auditors early in 2019. This is the outcome of a random sample of such institutions annually audited by Stellenbosch University. A few minor matters were raised in the report of the internal auditors, to which the Director responded in full. Since no further feedback was received, it is clear that the auditors and the Academic Planning Committee of Senate, who appointed them, are happy.

1. **RESEARCH**

(Under this heading, only activities that are not dealt with in the reports of the different Units of the Centre are reported. See also the reports of the Units).

**3.1 Publications and other research outputs**

* + 1. **Journal articles (\* indicates accredited journals)**

1. Van Niekerk, A.A. 2019. “Die intellektueel as opvoeder”. *Tydskrif vir Geesteswetenskappe\**, vol. 59 no. 3, pp. 305-317. September, 2019. doi.10.17159/2224-7912/2019/v59n3a1 [The intellectual as educator].
2. Van Niekerk, AA. 2019. “Kern-oorwegings in die besinning oor de rol van die (NG) Kerk in Suid-Afrika se grondhervormingsdebat”. *Stellenbosch Theological Journal\**, 5 (1), 2019: 383-401.
   * 1. **Research Reports**

Van Niekerk, A.A. 2019. “Stellenbosch University’s Centre for Applied Ethics” in *Research at Stellenbosch University: Showcasing Research Excellence*. Report compiled and published by the Stellenbosch University Division for Research Development, 2019, pp. 44-45.

* + 1. **Book**

Esterhuyse, W.P. 2019. *Oorlog en vrede*. Johannesburg: Naledi. 250 pp.

* + 1. **Other publications (indicative of the social impact of the Centre)**

From January 2019, prof. van Niekerk was invited by the Media Group *Netwerk 24* (as well as their newspapers *Die Burger, Beeld* and *Volksblad*) to write a column every two weeks on whatever he finds topical, particularly (though not exclusively) in relation to ethics matters. The articles below are a **selection** of these fortnightly columns. The Centre for Applied Ethics was throughout indicated as Van Niekerk’s institutional affiliation.

1. Van Niekerk, A.A. “’n Vreemde land, maar…” *Die Burger, Beeld & Volksblad*, 22 January 2019, p. 11. [A strange society, but…].
2. Van Niekerk, A.A. “Uil vlieg eers skemertyd”, *Die Burger, Beeld & Volksblad*, 5 February 2019, p. 7. [The owl only flies out at sunset].
3. Van Niekerk, A.A. “Regstaat of oerwoud?”, *Die Burger, Beeld & Volksblad*, 19 Februarie 2019, p. 11 [Rule of law or law of jungle?].
4. Van Niekerk, A.A. Interview with Willemien Brümmer: “Zondo schmondo sal kiesers hul aan kommissies steur?” *Netwerk 24*, 21 February 2019. <https://www.netwerk24.com/Stemme/Aktueel/zondo-schmondo-sal-kiesers-hul-aan-kommissies-steur-20190220>. [Zondo-schmondo: Wil voters pay any attention to commissions?].
5. Van Niekerk, A.A. “Wetenskap gedekoloniseer?”, *Die Burger, Beeld & Volksblad*, 5 March 2019, p. 11. [Decolonised science?].
6. Van Niekerk, A.A. “Is dít dalk ons probleem?”. *Die Burger, Beeld* & *Volksblad*, 2 April 2019, p. 11. [Is this possibly our problem?].
7. Van Niekerk, A.A. “MRK moet spel met vuur keer”. *Beeld*, 16 April 2019, p. 12. [Human Rights Commission should prevent play with fire].
8. Van Niekerk, A.A. “Paradoks van spraakvryheid”, *Beeld*, 30 April 2019, p. 20. [Paradox of freedom of speech].
9. Van Niekerk, A.A. “Etiek kom kort op dié terreine, *Beeld* & *Netwerk 24*, 21 Mei 2019. [Ethics in need in these areas].
10. Van Niekerk, A.A. “Beskawing op spel oor geweld” (“Ons beskawing op die spel”, *Die Burger*, p. 11). *Beeld*, 11 June 2019. p. 8 [Our civilization at risk because of violence].
11. Van Niekerk, A.A. “Word húlle ook onthou?” (Word ook al dié kinders onthou – *Beeld*, p. 8). *Die Burger*, 25 June 2019, p. 11. [Are all these children also remembered?].
12. Van Niekerk, A.A. “Dink meer inklusief oor diversiteit” (“Nie net aan eie skoenrieme” *Beeld*) *Die Burger* (Repliek op Danie Langer en Leopold Scholtz). 29 June 2019, p. 7. [Think more inclusively about diversity].
13. Van Niekerk, A.A. “Die universiteit as ‘n idee”, *Die Burger*, 23 July 2019, p. 11. (“Universiteit is meer as ‘n idee” – *Beeld*, p. 8) [The university as idea] [The university as an idea].
14. Van Niekerk, A.A. “Drome van normaliteit”, *Die Burger*, 6 August 2019, p. 11 (“Gesoek: normale SA samelewing”, *Beeld*, 6 August 2019, p. 8) [In search of a normal SA society]
15. Van Niekerk, A.A. “Mafia op die bouperseel”, *Die Burger*, 20 August 2019, p. 11; (“Bou-mafia: dís naakte anargie”, *Beeld*, 20 August 2019, p. 8) [Mafia on the building site].
16. Van Niekerk, A.A. “ How diep lê rassisme?”, *Die Burger*, 17 September 2019, p. 11. (Also in *Beeld*, 17 September 2019, p.8). [How deeply is racism rooted?].
17. Van Niekerk, A.A. “Gay besluit in regte rigting”, *Die Burger*, 15 October 2019, p. 11 (Also in *Beeld*, “Gay besluit stap in regte rigting, 15 October 2019, p. 8) [Gay decision step in right direction].
18. Van Niekerk, A.A. “Oor ‘n nar en die duiwel”, *Die Burger*, 29 October 2019, p. 9 (Also in *Beeld*, “Duiwel is los in Richardsbaai”, 29 October 2019, p. 10) [About a harlequin and the devil; The devil is loose in Richards Bay (*Beeld*)].
19. Van Niekerk, A.A. “ Demokrasie het ‘prys’”, *Die Burger*, 26 November 2019, p. 11.(Also in *Beeld*: Die demokrasie hef soms ‘pryse’, 26 November 2019, p. 12) [Prices to be paid for democracy].
20. Van Niekerk, A.A. “Staak onsin oor ‘swaarkry’”, *Die Burger*, 10 December 2019, p.11. (Also in *Beeld*: “Stop onsin oor dié ‘swaarkry’”, 10 December 2019, p.) [Stop nonsense about (this) “suffering”].
21. Van Niekerk, A.A. “Kersfees op ‘n ligblou spikkel”, *Die Burger* & *Beeld*, 24 December 2019, p. 10 [Christmas on a pale blue dot]
    * 1. **Publications in Press (for 2020)**

Van Niekerk, A.A. 2020.“The Rorty – Habermas debate: a critical assessment”, in: A Malachowski (ed.): *A Companion to Rorty*. Wiley, 2020. (Chapter 23), pp. 395-409. (In Press)

**3.2 Presentations**

**At International Conferences**

Van Niekerk, A.A. *Die intellektueel as opvoeder*. Congress of the “Nederlands-Afrikaanssprekende Wijgerig Genootschap”, 22-24 May, Leiden, The Netherlands. 2019. [The intellectual as educator] Also published in accredited journal; see 3.1.1 above.

**At National Conferences and other events**

1. Van Niekerk, A.A. *The profile of the ideal Stellenbosch professor*, presentation to Appointments Committee of Senate, Stellenbosch University, 7 February 2019.
2. Van Niekerk, A.A. *1. Models of Science; 2.The patient as person*. Key note lectures at Workshop on Thinking and Communication in Medicine, Stellenbosch, Protea Hotel, Technopark, 1 March 2019.
3. Van Niekerk, A.A. *Om eeue lank te leef: droom of nagmerrie?* Mediclinic Seminar on Contemporary Issues in Bioethics, US Woordfees, 5 March 2019. [To live for centuries: dream or nightmare?]
4. Van Niekerk, A.A. *Menswaardigheid, Leierskap en Moraliteit.* Conference on Land Reform in SA, Williston, South Afria, 18-19 March 2019. [Human dignity, leadership and morality] Also published in accredited journal; See 3.1.1 above.
5. Van Niekerk, A.A. *Ons pad vorentoe*. Konferensie van DAK Netwerk (Plenary session), Pinelands, 30 Maart 2019. [Our road ahead].
6. Van Niekerk, A.A. *What is the shape of future ethics – new challenges, new tasks, new approaches?* International Seminar on Theology, the Fourth Industrual Revolution and Emerging Technologies: Venturing into the Unknown. Bloemfontein, 29-30 July, 2019. In press as book chapter to be published in 2020.
7. Van Niekerk, A.A. *What is the Human Question in Artificial Intelligence?* Lecture in series: Shared Humanity: Human connectedness in a complex world. Stellenbosch, 9 October 2019.
8. Van Niekerk, A.A. *Thinking about thinking: what is philosophy?* Opening presentation at Philosophy for Business Executives Retreat, Boschendal Manor House, 1 November 2019. For more details, see report of PROSPER.
9. **SOCIAL IMPACT**

As is usual, there were a number of occasions during which the director participated in radio and television programs. The following can be noted (in all cases, prof. van Niekerk participated or was interviewed):

* *Verander dinge*, TV Interview (KykNet) with Amore Bekker, 6 February 2019. Topic: Ethics and education.
* *Monitor,* Interview with Anita Visser on Morality, Robots and AI. 12 March 2019.
* *Monitor*, RSG interview on population crisis, 11 July 2019.
* *Monitor*, RSG, Interview with Jean Oosthuysen on origin of morality, 9 June 2019.
* *Praat saam*, RSG, interview with Lynette Frances on ethics and religion.
* *Monitor*, RSG, interview with Izak du Plessis on “Limitarianism – is it ethical to be rich?”, 3 October 2019.
* *Praat saam*, RSG, participation in radio programme about role of art in society and its relation to values and religion. 25 October 2019.
* *Praat saam*, RSG, participation in radio programme about integrity in society and government. 15 November 2019.
* Interview with Andries Mouton of Radio Namibia about the nature of democracy, in program: *Die wêreld in 60 minute*. 26 November 2019.

1. **OTHER GENERAL ACTIVITIES OF THE CENTRE**

**5.1 Teaching**

In 2019 we saw the twelfth intake of the one-year MPhil (in Bioethics or Business Ethics of Environmental Ethics) students. This program is running well and excellent feedback from the students was received. The rate of throughput can, however, improve. We do find that handling this ever-growing group of postgraduate students is becoming ever more demanding.

Prof. van Niekerk, Dr. Woermann and Prof. Smit again offered a complete module in the PG Dip (Future Studies) program at the Business School; ethics forms an integral part of this module. Very positive feedback was received about this contribution. At the same time, we remain surprised to note the significant increase in administrative work that tends to accompany this service course. The matter has been discussed in more detail in the Department and Centre. Because of too many current commitments, prof. van Niekerk decided to withdraw from this commitment, and dr. Hall will take his place from 2020 onwards.

**5.2 Ethics committees and services**

Personnel of the Centre serve as members of a variety of ethics committees/institutional review boards at Stellenbosch University and elsewhere.

**5.2.1 Membership of, and service to, the following committees continued:**

* Prof. van Niekerk is chair of the Senate Research Ethics Committee of Stellenbosch University – the policy making body of the University, which also appoints and accredits members of all the Research Ethics Committees of the University. This committee has, over the past few years, had to deal with a number of very difficult challenges, not least of which is the difficulty of soliciting personnel to serve on the required numbers of REC’s on campus. Some solutions, such as e.g. freeing up time of academics to act as chairs of these committees, are currently in the offing.

In the course of 2019, a great deal of this committee’s (and therefore prof. van Niekerk’s) time was taken up by the now infamous matter of “The Article”, i.e. an incident where an academic article (written in another faculty) was published and caused a huge outcry because of its uncritical reinforcement of racist stereotypes and prejudices. Prof. van Niekerk was, consequently, requested to serve on the task team appointed by the Vice Rector for Research and Innovation, prof. Eugene Cloete, to deal with this matter. This is not the space to narrate the convoluted history that followed this unfortunate incidence of research misconduct. A full investigation of this matter, initiated by this committee as well as the Research Integrity Officer, was done, and the report of that investigation was communicated to the university community in the course of 2020. What remains to be acknowledged anew in the context of this Centre and its work, is to reiterate the pivotal and vital importance of (research) ethics in current-day academia.

* Prof. van Niekerk is a member of the governing board of the Centre for Medical Ethics and Law (CMEL) in the FMHS.
* Prof van Niekerk was also invited by the SA Akademie vir Wetenskap en Kuns (of which he is a member) to act as chairman of the Committee for awarding the Stals Prize for Philosophy in 2019. The prize in 2019 went to prof. Johan Snyman, emeritus professor of philosophy at UJ.
* As ASSAf member, Prof. van Niekerk also continued to serve on the Committee for Biosafety and Biosecurity of ASSAf - the Academy of Sciences of SA.
* From 1999 to 2019 prof. van Niekerk was a (founding) member of the Board of The Ethics Institute of SA, and he acted as chairperson from 2003 to 2018. On his own request, he attended his last meeting of the Board on 11 April 2019.
* Dr. Woermann is a member of the Governing Committee for the Anticorruption Centre for Education and Research(ACCERUS), as well as the Centre for Corporate Governance at the Business School, Stellenbosch University.
* Dr Hall serves on Research Ethics Committee for Social, Behavioural and Education Research (REC: SBE). Dr Hall has also been elected vice-chair of that committee.
* Dr Hall served as external member on the Governance and Ethics Committee of the Cape Peninsula University of Technology (CPUT)

**5.3 Personal Achievements**

1. Prof. van Niekerk, who has been invited by Stellenbosch University to prolong his employment until 31 December 2023 (when he will have turned 70), was also informed that his tenure of Distinguished Professor, which technically expired on 30 June 2019, was extended until 31 December 2020, whereafter it can again be extended.
2. At a special occasion for the bestowal of merit awards on SU academics, prof. van Niekerk received two awards. The first was for **Research Excellence**, especially related to his recent number of research outputs. A substantial monetary reward accompanied this award.
3. The second was a repetition of the award he received the previous year, namely an **Excellence Award as a thought leader of Stellenbosch University**, particularly with reference to his contribution to communicate academic issues to the broader public through the media.

**5.4 Visitors to the Centre in 2019**

The following scholars visited the Centre and delivered guest lectures in the course of 2019:

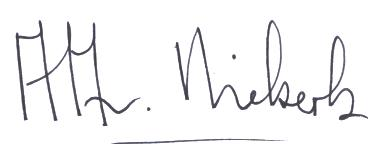
* Dr Athol Williams (UCT Business School) (16 May)
* Dr Anna Hartford, UCT Alumnus and Postdoc fellow (22 August)
* Prof. Philip Nel, University of Otago, New Zeeland (7 October)
* Prof. Leonhard Praeg, University of Pretoria (16 October).

For notice: Prof. van Niekerk was, on 9 April 2019, invited (with other colleagues) to meet pres. Cyril Ramaphosa at Beyerskloof Farmstead and discuss relevant issues with him in view of the approaching national elections.

1. **Sponsorship**

Mediclinic’s highly appreciated sponsorship of R200 000 per year continued in 2019. Assurance was also given that the sponsorship will continue in 2020 and 2021. We thank them, as always, very sincerely for this precious contribution. Without it, the Centre (particularly the Unit for Bioethics) can hardly continue its work on the current scale. We trust that this invaluable contribution will continue in future.

**We convey our sincere gratitude to Mediclinic Southern Africa, and specifically ask their representative on the Governing Committee, Mr. Martin Rossouw, to convey that gratitude to Mr. Koert Pretorius, CEO of Mediclinic Southern Africa and his entire management team and Board of Directors.**





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Prof. PP Fourie Prof.. A.A. van Niekerk

Chair: Governing Body Director: Centre for Applied Ethics

**UNIT FOR BIOETHICS**

### Annual Report 2019

**1. RESEARCH**

**Completed research projects**

1. *Decolonisation as legitimate ideal in biomedical research (AA van Niekerk)* Article in accredited journal published.
2. *Ethical concerns in South Africa’s land debate* (AA van Niekerk). Article in accredited journal published in 2019.
3. *The intellectual as educator* (AA van Niekerk) Article in accredited journal published in 2019.
4. *Medically unnecessary genital cutting and the rights of the child: moving toward consensus* (AA van Niekerk) Article in accredited journal published in 2019.
5. *The moral problem of double loyalty in occupational medicine* (G. Grobler) Completed PhD; candidate graduated in December 2019, 132 pp.
6. *A utilitarian argument for developing new genetic technologies in an African context, with special reference to Kenya.* (T Obengo). PhD project completed; candidate graduated in April 2020. 150 pp.
7. *Who’s morality, who’s burden? Family planning, international development and grandstanding*. (R Thetard) MPhil (cum laude) completed, March 2020, 182 pp.
8. *Human embryonic stem cell research in transplantation and regenerative medicine: A principlist assessment*. (D Kidha Kidha), MPhil (cum laude) completed March 2020, 137pp.
9. *Is life to be taken seriously?* MA (cum laude) completed, March 2020, 104 pp.

**Ongoing projects**

1. *Ethical problems related to newer developments in genetic reproductive technologies, with special reference to human enhancement and transhumanism.* (AA van Niekerk, S Hall, A Palk, L. Franken, S Gardner)
2. *The morality of the idea of unlimited longevity*. (L. Franken)Work on this PhD project is progressing well.
3. *Bio-banking in Sub-Saharan Africa: potential cultural challenges, their philosophical underpinnings and management*. (F Rakotsoane), PhD project (interrupted for one year).
4. *Shared decision-making and neo-liberalism: the origins and unintended consequences of patient-centred care.* (B Gray). PhD project.
5. *What will a future ethics look like*? (AA van Niekerk)
6. *The ethics of responsibility* (AA van Niekerk)
7. *Building the future: In conversation with Yuval Noah Harari* (AA van Niekerk)
8. *The theoretical basis of paediatric ethics* (AA van Niekerk)
9. Models of clinical ethics consultation services in SA: a critical appraisal (S. Kling; PhD project)
10. **RESEARCH OUTPUTS**
    1. **Articles in peer-reviewed journals; (\*) indicates accredited journals**
11. Van Niekerk, AA. 2019. “Is ‘decolonisation’ a legitimate and appropriate value in biomedical research and teaching?” *South African Journal of Bioethics and Law\**, vol. 12 (1), pp. 4-7.
12. Van Niekerk, AA. 2019. “Medically unnecessary genital cutting and the rights of the child: Moving Toward Consensus”, (with B Earp et al - The Brussels Collaboration on Bodily Integrity). *The* *American Journal of Bioethics\**, 19 (10): pp. 17-28
13. Ewuoso, C. 2019. ‘Paltering and an African Ethics: Contributing an African Perspective to the Ethical Literature on Paltering’. *South African Journal of Philosophy*\*, 38(1): 55-67.
14. Ewuoso, C. 2019. Managing Ethical Challenges around Misattributed Parentage within the Clinical Context: Insights from an African Moral Theory. *Developing World Bioethics*\*, 19(1): 36-44
15. Ewuoso, C. 2019. Models for truth-telling in physician-patient encounters: what can we learn from Yoruba concept of Ooto?. *Developing World Bioethics*\*, 19(1): 3-8.
16. Ewuoso, C. & Hall, S. 2019. ‘Core Aspects of Ubuntu: A Systematic Review’. *South African Journal of Bioethics and Law\**, 12(2): 93-103.
    1. **Book chapter**

Lenk, C. & Hall, S. 2019. ‘Access to health care in emerging and industrialised nations: A comparison between South Africa and Germany’. In: Steger, F. (Ed.), Diversität im Gesundheitswesen. Freiburg: Alber.

* 1. **Publications in press (for 2020)**

1. De Roubaix, M. 2020. *Hoop, heling en harmonie: Dink nuut oor siekte en genesing*. Cape Town: Penguin, 312pp. (In Press)
2. Van Niekerk, AA. 2020. “What is the shape of future ethics?” in: J.A. van den Berg (ed.): *Engaging the Fourth Industrial Revolution. Perspectives from Theology, Philosophy and Education*. Bloemfontein: Sun Press*,* pp. 113-134. (In Press)
3. Van Niekerk, AA. 2020. “The Ethics of Responsibility: Fallibilism, Futurity and Phronesis”, *Stellenbosch Theological Journal\**. (In Press)
4. Van Niekerk, AA. 2020. “Building the future in the 21st century: In conversation with Yuval Noah Harari”, in: C Jones & J van den Heever: Building blocks of the future. *Hervormde Teologiese Studies\* (HTS),* Special Collection Building Blocks 2020, vol. 76, Issue 1, (In Press)
5. Ewuoso, C. 2019. ‘Addressing the Conflict between Partner Notification and Patient Confidentiality in Serodiscordant Relationships: How Can Ubuntu Help?’ Developing World Bioethics\*. (In Press) Early view online version available at: <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/dewb.12232>
   1. **Popular articles – indicative of Unit’s social impact.**
6. Van Niekerk, AA. “Die reg om waardig te sterf”, *Die Burger*, 14 Mei 2019. p.11. [The right to die with dignity].
7. Van Niekerk, AA. “Etiek kom kort op dié terreine, *Beeld* & *Netwerk 24*, 21 Mei 2019. [Ethics in need in these areas].
8. Van Niekerk, AA. “Etiek hier dringend nodig”, *Die Burger*, 28 Mei 2019. p. 11. [Ethics here urgently needed].
9. Van Niekerk, AA. “Gay besluit in regte rigting”, *Die Burger*, 15 October 2019, p. 11 (Also in *Beeld*, “Gay besluit stap in regte rigting, 15 October 2019, p. 8) [Gay decision step in right direction] (20)
10. Van Niekerk, AA. “Nuwe soort imperialisme?”, *Die Burger*, 12 November 2019, p. 11 (Also in *Beeld*: “‘n Huigelagtige aborsiementaliteit”,12 November 2019, p. 12 [A new kind of imperisalism?; A hypocritical abortion mentality]
    1. **Papers delivered at scientific conferences, seminars and/or other meetings**

**International**

1. Ewuoso, C. Seminar presented to doctoral students at the Center for Healthcare Ethics, Duquesne University, United States of America, (October 01, 2019). Presentation title “Ubuntu Philosophy and the Consensus Regarding Incidental Findings in Genomic Research: A Heuristic Approach.”
2. Ewuoso, C. Seminar presented at the College of Science and Health Professions of the Edinboro University of Pennsylvania (October 04, 2019). Presentation title: “Ubuntu a South African Philosophy: an alternative to Western Philosophies for Analyzing Bioethical Issues.”
3. Hall, S. 2019. ‘A Level Playing Field? Treatment, Enhancement, and the IAAF Eligibility Regulations for Female Classification’. XXXVIth International Congress on Law and Mental Health, Università degli Studi Internazionali di Roma, Rome, 21-26 July 2019.

**National**

1. Van Niekerk, AA. *Medies-etiese perspektiewe op genadedood*. Seminar of Communitas, US Faculty of Theology. 2 May 2019 [Medical-ethical perspective on euthanasia.]
2. Van Niekerk, AA. *Etiese perspektiewe op Vooruitopdragte en Lewende Testamente,* Lecture at The University of the Third Age, Hermanus, 5 August 2019.
3. Van Niekerk, AA. *Ethical issues at end-of-life crises*. Conference of Mediclinic Clinical personnel, Hermanus, 29 August 2019.
4. Van Niekerk, AA. *Ethics and human enhancement technologies: preparing for the future*. Lecture as part of “Forward with Research impact” Program of Division of Research Development, Stellenbosch University, 23 October 2019.
5. Ewuoso, C. 2019. ‘Addressing the Conflict Between Partner Notification and Patient Confidentiality in Serodiscordant Relationship: How can Ubuntu Philosophy Help?’ 2019 Annual Conference of the Philosophical Society of Southern Africa (PSSA), University of Pretoria, April 11 – 13, 2019
6. Hall, S. 2019. ‘The Ethics of Pharmacological Enhancement’. Biological Psychiatry Congress, Century City Conference Centre, Cape Town, 21-23 September 2019 (invited speaker).
7. **TEACHING**
   1. The Unit takes, first and foremost, responsibility for the post-graduate teaching of bioethics in the MPhil (Applied Ethics) Program, as well as the doctoral program in bioethics. The MPhil was offered in 2019, and will again be offered in 2021. A group of 12 students were admitted, many of whom completed the PG Dip in Applied Ethics, also offered by the Centre. In the meantime, the supervision of a number of students’ dissertations continues (see below).
   2. Prof. Van Niekerk annually teaches a module on ethical issues relating to HIV/AIDS in the Postgraduate Diploma and MPhil programmes of the Centre for AIDS Management in the Workplace in the Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences. The lectures for this program are currently offered at a summer and/or winter school, as well as via satellite transmission.
   3. Prof. van Niekerk, seconded by Dr. Hall, assists with the teaching of Medical Ethics to MB ChB second as well as fifth year students.
8. **POSTGRADUATE SUPERVISION**

Several postgraduate students were involved in, or are still, conducting research on topics that are of direct interest to the activities of this Unit. The details are as follows:

**4.1 Completed Doctoral Dissertations**

1. GM Grobler: *To serve two masters? A moral analysis of an apparent conflict of interest in the profession of occupational physicians*. PhD, 132 pp. December 2019. Supervisor: Prof. AA van Niekerk.
2. T Obengo: *A Utilitarian Assessment of the Relevance of Genetic Therapies for HIV-AIDS in Africa, with Special Reference to the Situation in Kenya*. PhD, 150 pp. April 2020. Supervisor: Prof. AA van Niekerk
3. C Ewuoso: *Information Management in Physician-Patient Interactions: Towards a New Approach*. PhD (Applied Ethics), April 2019. Supervisor: Dr. S Hall.
   1. **Completed Masters Theses**
4. R Thetard: *Who’s morality, who’s burden? Family planning, international development and grandstanding*. MPhil (cum laude), March 2020, 182 pp. Supervisor: Prof. AA van Niekerk.
5. D. Kidha Kidha, *Human embryonic stem cell research in transplantation and regenerative medicine: A principlist assessment*. MPhil (cum laude), March 2020, 137 pp. Supervisor: Prof. AA van Niekerk.
6. D. Du Plessis: *Is life to be taken seriously?* MA (cum laude), March 2020, 104 pp. Supervisor: Prof. AA van Niekerk.
7. H.E. Potgieter: *The* *Authenticity of Informed Consent in Anaesthesia:*

*Ethical Reflection on the Dilemma of Informed Consent in Anaesthesia*. (cum laude) March 2020, 145 pp. Supervisor: Dr. M. de Roubaix.

* 1. **Continuing doctoral projects**

1. Franken, L. *Morality and immortality: assessing the ethical implications of the idea of radical life extension*. PhD. Supervisor: Prof. A.A. van Niekerk.
2. Nyamadzawo, E. *Health Technology Assessment: applied and professional ethics perspectives*. PhD. Supervisor: Prof. A.A. van Niekerk.
3. Kling, S. *Models of clinical ethics services in SA: a critical appraisal*. PhD. Supervisor: Prof. A.A. van Niekerk; Co-supervisor: Prof. K Moodley.
4. Gray, B. *Shared decision-making and neo-liberalism: the origins and unintended consequences of patient-centred care*. PhD. Supervisor: Prof. A.A. van Niekerk
5. Rakotsoane, F. *Bio-banking in Sub-Saharan Africa: potential cultural challenges, their philosophical underpinnings and management*. PhD. Supervisor: Prof. A.A. van Niekerk (Interrupted for one year)
6. Heyman, S. *Moral perspectives on suicide*. PhD. Supervisor: Prof. AA van Niekerk.

**4.4 Continuing Master’s projects**

1. Adams, S. *Moral challenges in the management of HIV positive children*. Supervisor: Dr. S Hall
2. Biyela, I.M. *People living with disabilities’ competition for employment and career advancement: moral perspectives*. MPhil. Supervisor: Prof. AA van Niekerk.
3. Botha, G. *Morele kwessies rondom sub-akute sorg*. Supervisor: Prof. AA van Niekerk
4. Davids, R. *Sedation and analgesia in the intensive care unit in South Africa- is it a synonym for euthanasia?* Supervisor: Dr M de Roubaix
5. Fouché, M. *The role of race in bioethics*. Supervisor: Prof. AA van Niekerk
6. Hambira, R. *How do people change behaviour*? Supervisor: Prof. AA van Niekerk.
7. Harbor, O. *Shades of Competence: An Exploration of the Competence Element of Informed Consent.* Supervisor: Dr. S. Hall.
8. Kheswa, S. *An Ethical Analysis of Dental Bleaching*. MPhil. Supervior: Dr. S. Hall
9. Lotz, J. *Ethical issues related to perinatal hypoxicischemic injury.* MPhil. Supervisor: Dr S Hall.
10. Madaka, N. *Public Health Policy in Resource Allocation: The role of Ubunthu Ethics in redressing the resource disparity between public and private health care in SA*. Supervisor: Dr Lyn Horn.
11. Mafanya, A. *Informed consent issues in Eastern Cape*. Supervisor: Prof. AA van Niekerk.
12. Makola, N. *Moral issues in public health*. Supervisor: Dr. N Barsdorf.
13. Mapukata, M. *The role of nurses in end-of-life care*. Supervisor: Dr. S Hall.
14. Mashele, T.S. *An exploration of ethical challenges related to the management of drug resistant Tuberculosis in South Africa.* Supervisor: Dr. L. Horn.
15. Maswanganyi, J.V. *An exploration of the plausibility of human rights and communitarian approaches in guiding public health interventions.* Supervisor: Dr. L. Horn.
16. Michel, G. *On the moral permissibility of ‘wrongful life’*, Supervisor: Dr S Hall
17. Mkumbuzi, J. *A moral issue in dental therapy*. Supervisor: Dr. S Hall.
18. Moolman, M. *Ethical considerations related to invasive medical procedures in the elderly*. Supervisor: Prof. AA van Niekerk
19. Mphelo, D. *Voluntary ceding of autonomy.* Supervisor: Dr S Hall.
20. Munkanda, W. The nurse educator’s perpective on ethics in nursing education: A Namibian case study. Supervisor: Dr S Hall.
21. Ogunyinka, R. *Paternalism in Medical Ethics: An Evaluation.* Supervisor: Dr. S. Hall.
22. Patel, F. *The nature of the moral obligation underlying global bioethics*. MPhil. Supervisor: Prof. A.A. van Niekerk.
23. Photo, M. *The effects of the SA Choice of Termination of Pregnancy Act on health care workers in South Africa*. MPhil. Supervisor: Prof. A.A. van Niekerk.
24. Potgieter, H. *The moral issues involved in obtaining consent from patients in duress, awaiting surgery.* Supervisor: Prof. M de Roubaix.
25. Rossouw, L. *Obtaining informed consent from vulnerable research participants in a disadvantaged SA community*. Supervisor: Prof. AA van Niekerk.
26. Seedat, S. *Therapeutic prevention of Posttraumatic Stress Disorder: Ethical analysis and proposal of a bioethical framework*. Supervisor: Prof. AA van Niekerk.
27. Van Niekerk, MGM. *Ethical issues related to cochlear implants*. Supervisor: Prof. AA van Niekerk
28. Verwey, H. Enhancement as a legitimate goal of medicine: Understanding enhancement and therapy in the context of human wellbeing. Supervisor: Dr S Hall.

**5.OTHER GENERAL ACTIVITIES OF THE UNIT**

**5.1 Bioethics at the SU “Woordfees”**

The Unit/Centre has, with a sponsorship by Dr Edwin Hertzog and the Mediclinic Group, staged a bioethics event at the Woordfees for the past five years. In 2019 the topic was “Om eeue lank te leef: droom of nagmerrie?”. The speaker was Anton van Niekerk, assisted by Susan Hall, who acted as facilitator. A packed audience turned up. A highly stimulating discussion was offered. This event has become part and parcel of the Woordfees and will continue in future.

**6.2 The Bioethics Discussion Group**

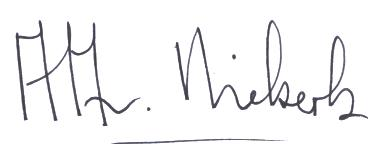
As in the past, the discussion group on bioethics continued in 2019. The following presentations and discussions took place:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Date | Speaker | Topic |
| Thursday 23 May 2019 | Dr Cornelius Ewuoso | Addressing the Conflict between Partner Notification and Patient Confidentiality in Serodiscordant Relationships: How can Ubuntu Help? |
| Thursday 5 September 2019 | Dr Susan Hall | A Level Playing Field? Treatment, Fair Equality of Opportunity, and the IAAF Eligibility Regulations for Female Classification. |
| Thursday 31 October 2019 | Prof Willie Pienaar | The tragic stand-off between traditional health care and ‘western’ medicine – an ongoing ethical debate. |
| Thursday 14 November 2019 | Dr Malcolm de Roubaix | Human Procreation: right, duty, or privilege? |

**6.3 Postdoctoral fellowships**

6.3.1 A SU Consolidoc fellowship was awarded to Dr Cornelius Ewuoso, for the period 1 March 2019 to 31 October 2019. Host: Dr Susan Hall.

6.3.2 Dr Andrea Palk also completed the Consolidoc fellowship that was awarde to her during 2018-2019. Host: Prof. AA van Niekerk.



**Prof. AA van Niekerk**

**(Head: Unit for Bioethics)**

**16 June 2020**

**UNIT FOR BUSINESS ETHICS AND PUBLIC INTEGRITY**

**ANNUAL REPORT 2019**

1. **RESEARCH (please note that some of these publications have been reported on in previous years as ‘forthcoming publications’)**
   1. **Dr Andrade (post-doctoral researcher hosted by Prof Woermann)**

* Andrade, J. 2019. A Levinasian reconceptualisation of supererogation. *Ethics & Politics*, XXI(2): 449-472.
* Andrade, J. 2019. They can be choosers: Aid, Levinas and Unconditional Cash Transfers. *African Journal of Business Ethics*, 13(2): 1-15.
* Andrade, J. 2019. Enacting Levinas’s infinite responsibility as an ethico-political compromise. *Ethics, Politics & Society. A Journal in Moral and Political Philosophy,* 2: 273-286.
* Andrade, J. 2019. Contributed section ‘Data Royalties’ to chapter 11, *Funding Methods*. Palgrave International Handbook of Basic Income.
  1. **Dr Engelbrecht**
* Business Ethics
  + Woermann, M. and Engelbrecht, S. 2019. The Ubuntu challenge to business: From stakeholders to relationholders. *Journal of Business Ethics*. Published in 2017 in an online virtual edition on Business Ethics in Africa; published in 2019 in vol. 157(1): 27-44.
* Opinion Pieces
  + “Social media winning battles for ‘everyman’, but beware”, *Business Day*, 18 January 2019.
  + ‘We didn’t start the fire: Why we don’t care about the environment’, *Business Day*, 11 September 2019.
  1. **Prof Rossouw**
* Rossouw, D. (ed.), Kretzschmar, L., Prinsloo, F., Sander, K., Siebrits, J., van Vuuren, L., Voster, P. and Woermann, M. 2019. *Ethics for Accountants and Auditors 4th ed*. Cape Town: Oxford University Press.

Aside from his many public engagements as CEO of The Ethics Institute, Prof Rossouw edited and critically reviewed the fourth edition of *Ethics for Accountants and Auditors.* Chapters were extensively revised on the basis of user feedback, and the new edition of this popular textbook offers a sophisticated overview of both business ethics and professional ethics topics relevant to accountants today.

* 1. **Prof Woermann**
* Business Ethics
  + Woermann, M. and Engelbrecht, S. 2019. The Ubuntu challenge to business: From stakeholders to relationholders. *Journal of Business Ethics*. Published in 2017 in an online virtual edition on Business Ethics in Africa; published in 2019 in vol. 157(1): 27-44.
  + Rossouw, D. (ed.), Kretzschmar, L., Prinsloo, F., Sander, K., Siebrits, J., van Vuuren, L., Voster, P. and Woermann, M. 2019. *Ethics for Accountants and Auditors 4th ed*. Cape Town: Oxford University Press.
    - Prof Woermann contributed a chapter on ‘Macro Ethics’
* Applied Ethics
  + Preiser, R. and Woermann, M. 2019. Complexity, philosophy and ethics. In *Global Challenges, Governance, and Complexity: Applications and Frontiers,* V. Galaz (ed.). Cheltenham: Edward Elgar Publishing, 38 – 62.
  + Woermann, M. 2019. Complexity and the normativity of law. In J. Murray, T. Webb, and S. Wheately (eds.). *Complexity Theory & Law: Mapping an Emergent Jurisprudence*. London / New York: Routledge, 234 – 250.
* Forthcoming 2020
  + Woermann, M. and Sanni. J. Ethnic and racial valorisation in Nigeria and South Africa: How Ubuntu may harm or help. *South African Journal of Philosophy*.
  + Mancilla-Garcia, M., Herz, T., Schlüter, M., Preiser, R., Woermann, M. Adopting process-relational perspectives to tackle the challenges of social-ecological systems research. *Ecology and Society*.
  + Woermann, M. Towards an African Business Ethics: Past contributions and Future Challenges and Possibilities. In L.C. Rodrigues and J. Chimakonam (eds.). *Key Issues in African Ethics*. London: Bloomsbury.
* Edited book project
  + Woermann, M. (lead editor), Praeg, L., Okeja, U. and Hall, S. (eds). *Ordinary Essays: Philosophy of the Everyday*.
    - *Ordinary Essays* is a textbook addressing real-world issues from a philosophical perspective. The textbook consists of 23 chapters, and is authored by academics (mostly philosophers) from eleven South African Universities and two international universities. A pre-contract has been secured with Thinking Africa Imprints (UKZN Press) and the envisaged publication date is middle 2022.

1. **TEACHING**
   1. **Postgraduate teaching**

The primary task of the Unit’s staff is to assume responsibility for the post-graduate teaching of business ethics in the MPhil (Applied Ethics) Programme. Two week-long contact sessions were held, in which prominent business ethics themes and local business ethics challenges were addressed.

The specialisation programme is primarily lectured by Prof Woermann. Prof Rossouw – who is appointed as an extraordinary professor in the Department of Philosophy – also assists in this task, as does Dr Engelbrecht – who is appointed as a Research Fellow in the CAE.

As usual the student feedback was excellent, and this stream of the MPhil Applied Ethics Programme has gained significant market traction. Indeed, this Programme stream is currently the biggest postgraduate growth area within the Department (in 2019, a record number of 20 students enrolled for the Programme). Part of the success of the Programme is attributable to the combination of theoretical insight and practice-based insight (Rossouw, Engelbrecht) that the teaching offers.

The increase in student numbers does, however, raise capacity issues. We thank the Dean, Prof Leysens for the financial support to buy-in additional supervision. We also thank Dr Engelbrecht, Dr Andrade, Dr Hartford, Prof Hattingh, and Dr de Villiers-Botha for the supervision support.

* 1. **Undergraduate teaching:**
  + Philosophy and Ethics 314 (approx. 320 students) (Dr S. Hall; Dr D.J. Louw; Prof Woermann);
  + Philosophy and Ethics 474 (approx. 250 students) (Dr S. Hall; Dr D.J. Louw; Prof Hattingh).

In 2020, the Philosophy and Ethics modules will be reduced from a semester to a term, at the behest of the Engineering Faculty.

* 1. **Additional teaching**
* Dr Engelbrecht
  + Lectured as part of a short course on “Practice and Fraud Risk Management” for the North-West University (aimed at students in Forensic Accounting)
  + Dr Engelbrecht was invited as a guest speaker / lecturer at the following events:
    - SAICA Regional Breakfast – “Beyond Margins and Materiality”
    - The KZN regional event of the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (ACFE) – “Between Spectacle and Spin: Fraud Examiners at the Crossroads”
    - South African Banking Risk Information Centre (Sabric) Annual Event – “*Et tu, Brute!* The Role of Ethics in Addressing the Insider Threat”
    - The Independent Development Corporation (IDC) Fraud Week Event – “Investing in Ethics:*Character, Characters & Fraud”*
    - Guest lecture (North-West University, students in Forensic Accounting) – “Professional Pitfalls”
* Prof Woermann
  + Rolled-out a Philosophy short course (*Philosophical Conversations*). The idea behind this short course offering is for staff from the Philosophy Department to present a series of lectures and discussions on classical philosophical problems and contemporary applied issues. The aim of the course is to stimulate thinking and critical engagement amongst members of the general public and non-philosophy staff and students.
  + Presented on ‘What is the Good Life?’ at *The Philosophy Retreat for Business Executives* (SU Philosophy Department in conjunction with USB, Boschendal, 2019).
  + Taught in the PGD Programme in Future Studies, Institute for Future Studies, University of Stellenbosch Business School (subjects: complexity thinking and business ethics).

1. **POSTGRADUATE SUPERVISION**

There are currently approximately 26 active MPhil thesis projects and one active PhD dissertation project (Liezl Groenewald) within the Unit.

1. **SERVICE DELIVERY**
   1. **Appointment and designations**

* Ms Groenewald continued in her position as President of the Business Ethics Network Africa (BEN-Africa) and as chairperson of BEN Africa’s EXCO.
* Prof Woermann was appointed to the Social and Business Ethics Committee of the Council of Stellenbosch University (starting 1 January 2020).
* Prof Woermann was appointed as the Chair of the Philosophy Department (starting from 1 January 2020).
* Prof Woermann was promoted to Associate Professor (from 1 January 2020).
  1. **Representation on editorial boards**
* Prof. Rossouw continued to serve on the editorial boards of the following journals: Journal of Business Ethics; African Journal of Business Ethics; Turkish Journal of Business Ethics.
  1. **Committee membership**
* Prof Woermann continued to represent the CAE on the governing committee of the Centre for Corporate Governance in Africa; University of Stellenbosch Business School (since 2012).
* In her capacity as a business ethicist, Prof Woermann also continues to serve on the Board of the NPO, HOPE Cape Town (HIV Outreach Prevention and Education), which is affiliated with the Tygerberg campus of Stellenbosch University.
* Dr Engelbrecht is a member of the Institute of Commercial Forensic Practitioners (ICFP) Standards Committee, developing the attribute- and professional standards for members of the Institute.
  1. **Examination, reviews and moderation**
* Dr Engelbrecht
  + Reviewer: Development Southern Africa (2019)
* Prof Woermann
  + Examination
    - Hatami, A.: ‘Keep Others in mind: A way to proceed with ethical decisions under uncertainty’, PhD, University of Oulu Business School, Finland, February and October, 2019.
    - Hartley, A.: ‘Discrimination and human dignity’, MA (Applied Ethics for Professionals). University of the Witwatersrand. 2019.
    - Manuel, R. ‘Ubuntu ethics and state-owned entities’, MPhil (Applied Ethics), SU, March 2019.
  + Moderation
    - Masters module in Visionary Leadership and Change Management, Department of Industrial Psychology and People Management, University of Johannesburg (2019).
    - Third year Philosophy module, University of Pretoria (2019).
  + Peer review
    - Reviewer for a NRF research rating (2019)
    - *South African Journal of Philosophy* (2019)
    - *Phronimon* (2019)

*Ethics and Politics* (2019).



Prof. M. Woermann

Head: Unit for Business Ethics and Public Integrity

25 June 2020

**UNIT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL ETHICS**

**ANNUAL REPORT 2019**

1. **Research** 
   1. **Research Outputs**
      1. **Publications**
2. TUROK, I., SEELIGER, L. and VISAGIE, J. Restoring the core? Central city decline and transformation in the South. *Progress in Planning*, 26 July 2019, available online at: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.progress.2019.100434>
   * 1. **Conference papers**
3. HATTINGH, JP. Implementing climate change ethics as a global ethic:  
   Prospects and constraints. Invited Keynote Address in the parallel session on Climate Change Ethics under the theme of "Towards Climate Change Ethics Implementation” at the **Conference on the Ethics of Science & Technology and Sustainable Development** in conjunction with the **26th (Ordinary) Session of the International Bioethics Committee of UNESCO (IBC) / 11th (Ordinary) Session of the World Commission on the Ethics of Scientific Knowledge and Technology (COMEST),**5 July 2019, Bangkok, Thailand.

**1.2 Current Research**

1. Prof. Johan Hattingh is continuing with his research in different areas of environmental ethics, focusing on the interface between, and overlap of environmental ethics, climate change ethics, and development ethics.
2. Dr. Leanne Seeliger, Research Fellow of the Unit for Environmental Ethics works in the area of water ethics, and the ethics of sense of place.
   1. She received funding from the Water Research Commission for a two-year research project on the topic of *Water Issues in Ethical Perspective: A pilot study in the Philippi Horticultural Area (PHA)*. Work on this project, including fieldwork in Philippi was brought successfully to a conclusion towards the end of 2019.
   2. Dr. Seeliger also prepared a further follow-up research project building on the one mentioned in 2.1, for which she received funding to the value of R1.3m in total for three years until 2022.
3. Prof. Louise du Toit is continuing with her research into environmental philosophy (or ‘philosophy of nature’) in which she focuses on environmental issues from a humanities’, and more specifically, from a phenomenological perspective. In this regard the field of traditional ‘environmental ethics’ is broadened to incorporate fundamental philosophical questions related to fields such as epistemology, metaphysics, ontology, and theology.
4. **OTHER ACTIVITIES**
   1. **Doctoral Projects Completed**
5. CRUISE, A.J. Conserving the wildness of being: An ethical critique of the domestication of wild animals.PhD (Philosophy). Supervisor: Prof. Louise du Toit. (Graduated in December 2019.)
   1. **Continuing Doctoral Projects**
6. HAGAN, K. Non-human Life and the Development of Superintelligence: Moral Challenges and Responsibilities. PhD (Applied Ethics). Supervisors: Dr Susan Hall and Prof Johan Hattingh.
   1. **Master’s Projects Completed**
7. STEYN, A. Developing an understanding of agricultural sustainability in Sub-Saharan Africa through African Relational Environmentalism. December 2019.

**2.4 Continuing Master’s Projects**

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1. VAN DER MERWE, C. *The contribution of corporate environmental codes of conduct to sustainable development in the mining sector.* Supervisor: Dr. Susan Hall.
2. OLIVIER, J. *Fragility of Natures on the Civic Threshold* (M.Phil Environmental Ethics). Supervisors: Proff. Louise du Toit and Johan Hattingh.

**2.5 M.Phil in Environmental Management**

Prof. Hattingh is member of an interfaculty Programme Committee that has launched a MPhil Programme in Environmental Management in January 2001 (which has since then been adapted to a Postgraduate Diploma Programme in order to comply with University stipulations about postgraduate programmes. Departments participating in the programme are Philosophy (Environmental Ethics), Geology, Geography and Environmental Studies, Public and Development Administration, Public Law, and Conservation Ecology. Since December 2002 a steady stream of students graduated from this programme.

Within the framework of this programme Prof. Hattingh, Prof. Du Toit and Dr Hall took responsibility for a module in Environmental Ethics in various years.

**2.6 Postgraduate Diploma in Sustainable Development**

In February 2003 the Sustainability Institute under the leadership of Prof. Mark Swilling and Ms. Eve Annecke launched an innovative MPhil Programme in Sustainable Development (also converted into a Postrgraduate Diploma Programme) in collaboration with the Department of Public and Development Management of the University of Stellenbosch. Having been part of the team planning the Programme, Prof. Hattingh is currently one of the co-teachers in the module on Leading Transitions and Socio-ecological Ethics. This module was taught again in 2019.

**2.7 Membership of Editorial Boards**

1. Prof. Hattingh currently serves on the Editorial Board of *Journal for Ethics Education* (This is a Springer on-line journal that was established by Prof. Henk ten Have, Director of the Center for Healthcare Ethics, Duquesne Universiteit, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He was invited to become member of Editorial Board in 2011, and the Journal was established in 2012.)

**2.8 Research Fellows**

1. Dr. Leanne Seeliger: Water Institute, Stellenbosch University.
2. Dr. Almas Mazigo: Department of History, Political Science and Development Studies, Dar es Salaam University College of Education (DUCE), Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

**2.9 Other activities**

*Prof Johan Hattingh*

1. Continues to advise the Headquarters of UNESCO in Paris and the Regional Office of UNESCO for Southern Africa in Harare on the Declaration of Ethical Principles in Relation to Climate Change (adopted by the General Conference of UNESCO in November 2017).

Johan Hattingh, Louise du Toit, Susan Hall, Leanne Seeliger

1 July 2020

**UNIT FOR SOCIAL AND POLITICAL ETHICS (PROSPER)**

**ANNUAL REPORT 2019**

**1. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE UNIT**

2019 saw the establishment of a new Unit for Social and Political Ethics, known under the acronym PROSPER (PROmoting Social and Political Ethics Research). The Unit focuses on ethical issues relating to social norms, public policy, the functioning of public institutions, economic systems, the obligations of the state towards citizens, the obligations of citizens towards one another, and the collective obligations of members of society towards culturally and/or geographically distant others. PROSPER aims to deliver innovative research and teaching on these and related ethical questions, and to provide a platform for public engagement on ethical issues that affect our social and political lives.

The research programme of the new unit includes, but is not be limited to, the following focus areas:

* Our ethical responsibility for what we know and for what we do with this knowledge, including ethical issues surrounding the impact of technology on our access to information.
* Conceptual ethics: the adequacy of the ethical concepts by means of which we reason about political and social issues.
* The ethics of immigration and the problem of xenophobia.
* The ethics of reparations for past injustice: who owes what to whom?
* The ethics of resistance: when is it justified to resist the laws of a democratic society and what are the legitimate forms of such resistance?
* The ethics of institutions: how should we design social and political institutions so that they promote virtuous action on the part of those whose conduct it regulates?

**2. RESEARCH**

**2.1 Publications**

**2.1.1 Journal articles**

Hartford, A. 2019. ‘How Much Should a Person Know: Moral Inquiry & Demandingness.’ *Moral Philosophy and Politics* (Special issue on “Demandingness in Practice”, Volume 6, Number 1, pp. 41-63.\*

Hartford, A. 2019. ‘Moral & Factual Ignorance: A Quality of Will Parity.’ *Ethical Theory & Moral Practice*, Volume 22, pp. 1087- 1102.\*

**2.1.2 Book chapters**

Roodt, V. 2019. ‘Violence as Metaphor.’ In Lauwaert L. &Smith, L. & Sternad, C. (eds.) *Violence and Meaning*. Palgrave, Macmillan, pp. 3-26.

Roodt, V. 2019. ‘Politics Between Past and Future.’ In J. Duyndam & M. Poorthuis(eds.). *Einde van de politiek? Over populisme, democratie en staatsgeweld*, Amsterdam: Damon, pp. 11-22.

**2.1.3 Publications in press**

Cilliers, J. ‘Review: Agringada: Like a Gringa, Like a Foreigner.’ *Tydskrif vir Letterkunde* (Accepted: forthcoming in 2020)\*

Hartford, A. ‘Complex Akrasia and Blameworthiness.’ *Journal of Philosophical Research*. (Accepted: forthcoming 2020).\*

Froneman, H. (MA student supervised by V Roodt). ‘The Shortcomings of Fact-Checking tnd The importance of Mindchangeability.’ In Simon Truwant (ed.) *Post-Truth Politics*. (Accepted. forthcoming in 2020.)

Roodt, V. ‘Why Nietzsche is Not a Political Thinker.’ Invited contribution to the volume: *Nietzsche and Politics*, ed. M. Ruehl. Berlin: De Gruyter, 2020. (Accepted. Forthcoming in 2020.)

**2.2. Conferences and symposia**

**2.2.1 National**

Cilliers, J-A. ‘ “But Words Came Before Your Machetes”: Stories From a Xenophobic Life-World’ , *Retrotopia-Utopia-Paradise* Colloquium, Faculty of Theology, Stellenbosch University, August 2019

Hartford, A. ‘Blame & Distance.’ Departmental Seminar, Stellenbosch University, August 2019

Roodt, V. ‘What Do We Talk About When We Talk About Violence?’ Invited seminar at University of Johannesburg, 14 August 2019

Roodt, V. ‘Neither Déja-Vu Nor the End of History: Rethinking Our Political Metaphors.’ Invited talk at colloquium on the topic: *Retrotopia-Utopia-Paradise*, Stellenbosch Faculty of Theology, 22 August 2019.

**2.2.2 International**

Roodt, V. ‘What Do We Talk About When We Talk About Violence?’ Paper presented at KU Leuven as part of the RIPPLE (Research in Political Philosophy Leuven) seminar series, 26 September 2019.

 Roodt, V. ‘Why Nietzsche is not a Political Thinker.’ Keynote address at the international conference, *Nietzsche’s perspectives on the political*, organised by the Nietzsche Gesellschaft. Naumburg, Germany, 17-20 October 2019.

MA student Hanika Froneman was selected as one of 10 speakers at an international conference on Post-Truth Politics at the University of Leuven, in January 2020

PhD student Philbert Komu was co-organiser of the *3rd Biennial African Philosophy World Conference* at the University of Dar es Salaam in October 2019.

**2.2.3 Forthcoming**

Workshop on demandingness objections in ethics, with contributions by Marcel van Ackeren (the Oxford Uehiro Centre for Practical Ethics), Lucy Allais (Wits & San Diego) and Anna Hartford. The workshop was initially scheduled for 18 September at STIAS, but has been postponed on account of COVIC19. We will reschedule when feasible.

International workshop on the ethics of migration, co-organized by Vasti Roodt and Prof Ezster Kollar of RIPPLE at the University of Leuven. Planned for the second half of 2021.

**2.3 International exchanges**

Vasti Roodt was a Research Fellow at RIPPLE (Research in Political Philosophy Leuven) in the Faculty of Philosophy, University of Leuven, September-October 2019.

**2.3.1 Forthcoming**

Research visits to PROSPER by Prof Ezster Kollar (Leuven) and Dr Johan Olsthoorn (Leuven and Amsterdam). These visits were initially scheduled for August and September 2020 respectively, but have been postponed to 2021 due to COVID19.

**3. TEACHING**

**3.1 Undergraduate teaching in 2019**

A Hartford: Introduction to Philosophy 114

J-A Cilliers: Political Philosophy 364 (half of the module)

**3.2 Postgraduate teaching:**

V Roodt: Lecture on theories of justice to MA students in Future Studies at US Business School. July 2019.

**3.3 Forthcoming**

New MPhil specialisation in Social and Political Ethics. Registration opens in 2020, first intake in 2021. Draft syllabus available upon request.

**4. POSTGRADUATE SUPERVISION**

**4.1 PhD projects**

**4.1.1 Completed in 2019**

J-A Cilliers: *Stories of Us and Them: Xenophobia and Political Narratives* (Supervisor: V Roodt)

**4.1.2 Continuing**

E Phiri: *In Defence of the Public-Private Distinction With Regard To Sexual Orientation: Zambia as a Case Study* (on track for graduation in March 2021) (Supervisor: V Roodt)

P Komu: *Being Harmed and Harming: Government Responsibility for Inadequate Healthcare* (on track for graduation in December 2021). (Supervisor: V Roodt)

**4.2 MA/MPhil projects**

**4.2.1 Completed in 2019**

N Pschorn: *Civil Disobedience as a Democratic Practice* (cum laude) (Supervisor: V Roodt)

**4.2.2 Continuing**

H Froneman: *Post-Truth Politics and Democratic Deliberation (*submitting November 2020; supervisor: V Roodt)

D Suter. *Beyond Ressentiment: An Exploration of the Relationship Between Resentment, Punishment And Forgiveness* (submitting November 2020; supervisor: V Roodt)

MPhil (Business Ethics): Isaac Mukondeleli Khubana on corporate crisis management and virtue ethics (submitting September 2020; supervisor: A Hartford)

**5. SOCIAL IMPACT**

**5.1 Opinion pieces**

* A Williams: Criminal justice after corporate corruption is just the beginning, *Business Day*, 19 Februarie 2019.
* A Hartford: On How Much the Internet Should Remember, *Business Day* (September 2019)
* A Hartford: On Our Duty to Future Generations, *Sunday Times* (October 2019)
* A Hartford: On Animals and Anthropomorphism, *Sunday Times* (November 2019)
* A Hartford: On Boredom in the Age of Distraction Technologies, *Business Day* (December 2019)
* V Roodt: The quest for unity in South Africa, *The Conversation* (November 2019)

**5.2 Interviews**

* V Roodt: What is wrong with inequality?, *Cape Talk*, 17 November 2019
* A Hartford: Radio interviews (on boredom), Cape Talk and SAfm (December 2019)
* V Roodt: Interview on COVID19 and Rawls’s theory of justice on the One-Eyed Man Podcast (April 2020)

**5.3 Talks**

* V Roodt: How to be a good nihilist. Talk at the UCT Philosophical Society (March 2019).
* Presentation on social justice in die ‘Leadership for Social Justice Programme’ of the *FVZS Institute for Student Leadership* (May 2019).
* Presentation on democracy and the social contract in die ‘Programme on Democracy and Citizenship’ of the *FVSZ Institute* (July 2019).

**5.4 Philosophy Retreat**

*Philosophy Retreat for Business Executives*, Boschendal Estate, 1-3 November 2019. Highly successful 3-day applied philosophy workshop for non-philosophers. Interactive sessions were facilitated by members of the SU Department of Philosophy and USB. Initiated and organised by V Roodt.

**6. ACADEMIC SERVICE**

Prof Roodt:

* Member of the editorial board of the *Tijdschrift voor Filosofie.*
* Reviewer for *Theoria*, *SA Journal of Philosophy*
* Reviewer of book chapter on digital pictures as misinformation for Pan Macmillan
* Reviewer for the *Fonds Wetenschappelijke Onderzoek Vlaanderen*
* Internal examiner of PhD dissertation (C Westman) and MA thesis (I Bock).
* External examiner for Philosophy 3A (Univ. Johannesburg) and Phil 310 (Univ. of Pretoria)
* Member of the Programme Renewal Committee of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
* Convenor of the PPE programme

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**Prof Vasti Roodt: Head: Unit for Social and Political Ethics (PROSPER). 17 June 2020**