CENTRE FOR APPLIED ETHICS

ANNUAL REPORT 2021

1. **ABOUT THE CENTRE: GENERAL REMARKS**

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 in its own right, but mainly works via five units which it accommodates, viz.

* the Unit for Bioethics,
* the Unit for Business Ethics and Public Integrity,
* the Unit for Environmental Ethics,
* the Unit for Political and Social Ethics (also known as PROSPER: Promoting Social and Political Ethics Research), and
* the Unit for the Ethics of Technology (created in the course of 2021).
  1. **Revised Constitution**

The revised constitution of the Centre has been operational since 2019, and has only slightly been adapted to accommodate the new Unit for Technology in the course of 2021. The Governing Body has been informed and has approved these changes.

* 1. **Succession Plan**

The current director (de facto founder) of the Centre, Prof. AA van Niekerk, has been invited by Stellenbosch University to postpone his retirement until the age of 70. That will occur at the end of 2023, health permitting. It is necessary and important that the issue of his succession as director of the Centre be investigated in a rational and efficacious manner. Since:

* the Centre is a creation of the Philosophy Department (and not the other way around);
* all personnel of the Department are also personnel of the Centre, and
* the director of the Centre may facilitate the orientation and training of his successor, but cannot be part of the decision-making process for a successor,

the initiative for such a succession plan rests within the department. The Management Committee of the Centre therefore strongly advises that the Philosophy Department, if necessary in consultation with the Dean, take the required steps in this regard. The constitution of the Centre currently requires that the Chair of the Philosophy Department or his/her representative acts as director of the Centre. The management committee recommended in the report of 2020 that this matter be discussed in the Department, and that the committee be advised about the most suitable and available candidate. In the meantime a new chair of the Department has been appointed (since 1 January 2022), in the aftermath of the process of creating the new Unit for the Ethics of Technology. Consequently, no definitive progress has been made with the appointment of a new Director from 1 January 2024. The Department is again advised to pursue this matter as soon as possible.

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. 1-8**

**Report of the Unit for Bioethics pp. 9-15**

**Report of the Unit for Business Ethics and Public Integrity: pp. 16-24**

**Report of the Unit for Environmental Ethics: pp. 25-30**

**Report of the Unit for Ethics of Technology: 31-34**

**Report of the Unit Promoting Social and Political Ethics Research (PROSPER): 35-38**

1. **GOVERNING BODY 2021**

Prof. **P Fourie** (Vice-Dean: Learning and Teaching and Representative of the Centre for International and Comparative Politics; **chair of the Management Committe**e[[1]](#footnote-1)), Prof. **AJ Leysens** (Dean), Prof. **AA van Niekerk** (Director of the Centre and Head: Unit for Bioethics), Prof. **M Woermann** (Chair, Philosophy Department and Head: Unit for Business Ethics and Public Integrity), prof. **HL du Toit**, Head of the Unit for Environmental Ethics), [[2]](#footnote-2) Dr. **C Maasdorp,** representative of the Centre for Knowledge Management and Decision-making), Prof. **Mariana Kruger** (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), Mr **Martin Rossouw**, representative of the Centre’s main sponsor, Prof. **Vasti Roodt** (Head of PROSPER) and Prof. **Petrie Meyer** (Representative of the Faculty of Engineering).

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 refereed, accredited journals)**

1. Van Niekerk, A.A. 2021. “Knowledge, science and rationality: In conversation with Wentzel van Huyssteen”. *Verbum et Ecclesia****\****, 42 (2), a2306. ISSN () 2074-7705. (Print) 1609-9982.<https://doi.org/10.4102/ve.v42i2.2306>. <https://verbumetecclesia.org.za/index.php/ve/article/view/2306/4997>
2. Van Niekerk, A.A. 2021. Interdisciplinary perspectives on the traditional ‘big’ questions of philosophy – a discussion of Dan Stein: Problems of Living. Cambridge: Academic Press, Cambridge, MA. In: *South African Journal of Science\**. Vol. 117 (11/12), 2021.
3. Van Niekerk, A.A. 2021. Intersex rights and human rights (with B. Earp et al – The Brussels Collaboration on Bodily Integrity). *The American Journal of Bioethics*.\*

**3.1.2 Book Chapters**

Van Niekerk, A.A. 2021. “Structural violence”, in C Jones (ed.) *Violence: A South African Perspective*. Stellenbosch: African Sun Media, pp. 191-208.

**3.1.3 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 ***written in 2021***. The Centre for Applied Ethics was mostly indicated as Van Niekerk’s institutional affiliation.

1. Van Niekerk, A.A. “2021 noop ons om the bly hoop”, 5 January 2021, *Die Burger*, p. 11; *Beeld* p. 10.
2. Van Niekerk, A.A. “Vry van ‘n vrees vir ander mense”, *Die Burger* (p. 10) & *Beeld* (p. 8), 2 February 2021; “Om bevry te word van ‘n vrees vir ander mense, *Volksblad*, 3 February 2021, p. 9, [Free from a fear of other people]
3. Van Niekerk, A.A. “Rassisme is nog steeds met ons”, *Die Burger* (p.10), *Beeld* (p. 8), 16 March 2021. [Racism is still with us]
4. Van Niekerk, A.A. “Wat doén ons aan rassisme?”, *Die Burger* (p. 14) & *Beeld* (p. 16), 30 March 2021. [What do we do about racism?]
5. Van Niekerk, A.A. “Hy het filosofie gedóén”, *Die Burger* (Forum article), 8 April 2021, p. 15. [He did philosophy, rather than study philosophy]
6. Van Niekerk, A.A. “Wag Nirvana of Armageddon?”, *Die Burger* (p. 10) & *Beeld* (p. 12), 13 April 2021. [What awaits us: Nirvana or Admageddon?]
7. Van Niekerk, A.A. Dink nog ‘n keer oor Universiteit”, *Die Burger/Beeld* (p.10), 11 May 2021 [Think again about the university]
8. Van Niekerk, A.A. “Tutu se versoek is steeds geldig”, *Die Burger* (p. 8) & *Beeld* (p. 12), 22 June 2021. [Tutu’s request still valid].
9. Van Niekerk, A.A. “’n Winter van misnoegdheid”, *Die Burger* (p. 10) & *Beeld* (p. 8), 20 July 2021. [A winter of discontent]
10. Van Niekerk, A.A. “Pasop vir Suid-Afrika as ‘n lekker land”, *Die Burger* (p. 10), *Beeld* (p. 8), 3 August 2021 [Beware of SA as a nice country]
11. Van Niekerk, A.A. “Daar is rede in bizarre wêreld”, *Die Burger* (p. 10) & *Beeld* (p.12), 31 August 2021, [There is reason in bizar world]
12. Van Niekerk, A.A.”Waarheen met die bedelaars?”, *Beeld/Die Burger*, 14 September 2021, p. 10. [What are we to do with the beggars?]
13. Van Niekerk, A.A. “Waar is vandag se Bart Nels?”, *Die Burger* (p. 10) & *Beeld* (p.12), 28 September 2021. [Where is today’s Bart Nels?]
14. Van Niekerk, A.A. “Stemreg behels veral ook plig”, *Die Burger* (p. 10) & *Beeld* (p. 8), 9 November 2021. [The right to vote also entails a duty].
15. Van Niekerk, A.A. “FW: Skepper van geskiedenis”, *Die Burger & Beeld*, 23 November 2021, p. 12 [FW de Klerk: Creator of history].
16. Van Niekerk, A.A. “Die ewige stryd om ware geloof”, *Die Burger*, 7 December 2021, p. 10, *Beeld*, p.8. [The everlasting battle for true faith].
17. Van Niekerk, A.A. “Ons planeet ‘n gevaarlike plek”, *Die Burger* (p. 8) & *Beeld*(p. 10), 21 December 2021. [Our planet – a dangerous place].
    * 1. **Publications in Press (for 2022)**
18. Van Niekerk, A.A. “Can human extinction be morally desirable? A critique of David Benatar’s anti-natalism. *Stellenbosch Theological Journal*\*, 2022, vol. 8, no. 1, pp. 1-15. DOI: http//dx.doi.org/10.17570/stj.2022.v8nl.a2.
19. Van Niekerk, A.A. “Response to Chris Jones & Vincent Brümmer: ‘n Filosofiese gesprek oor die dood en die sin van die lewe”. *Tydskrif vir Geesteswetenskappe*\*, pp. 15-39. [A philosophical conversation about death and the meaning of life][[3]](#footnote-3), Vol. 62, no. 1. March 2022. doi.10.17159/2224-7912/v62n1a2
    1. **Presentations**

**International**

Van Niekerk, A.A. *Future ethics: Robots, algorithms and biases*. Invited Speaker at International University Library Symposium, Stellenbosch, 13 October 2021,

**Local**

Van Niekerk, A.A. Book launch analysis of aspects of D. Stein: *Problems of living*.

University of Cape Town Medical School, 23 September 2021. Cambridge: Academic

Press, Cambridge, MA.

1. **SOCIAL IMPACT**

As is usual, there were a number of occasions during which the director participated in radio and television programs (besides the number of popular articles that he wrote and that were already mentioned). The following can be noted (in all cases, prof. van Niekerk participated or was interviewed). Programs related to bioethical topics are mentioned in the Report of the Unit for Bioethics:

* Radio (Monitor) Interview with Anita Visser and Gustav Greyling about extreme violence and cencorship in films. *RSG*, 26 May 2021.
* *TV**(Channel 150 of Woordfees 2021*), participant in Filosofiekafee [Philosophy Café].

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

**5.1 Teaching**

We were fortunate and very happy to be able to offer the MPhil (Applied Ethics) degree program in the traditional (face-to-face) format in 2021. In 2021 we saw the twelfth intake of the one-year MPhil (in Bioethics or Business Ethics or Environmental Ethics or Social and Political 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.

Proff. Woermann, Smit and Dr. Hall 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.

**5.2 First Short Course**

Under the leadership of Dr. De Villiers-Botha, a first introductory, though comprehensive short course on ethical issues was offered online during October 2021. More about this in the report of the relevant unit.

**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 continued as chair of the Senate Research Ethics Committee (SREC) 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 have been proposed.

The most challenging issue in the field of research ethics during 2021 was the continuance of research on human subjects in the midst of the COVID 19 pandemic. This matter commanded most of the time spent in meetings of this committee.

Note can also be taken of the following:

* Prof. van Niekerk is a member of the governing board of the Centre for Medical Ethics and Law (CMEL) in the FMHS. The director of that Centre is, in turn, a member of the governing body of the CAE. In spite of small differences that very seldom occur, co-operation between the two structures is excellent.
* Dr Palk continues to serve as a member of the Africa Ethics Working Group (AEWG), comprising bioethicists from Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda and South Africa. The AEWG is part of the NeuroGenE project ([www.neurogene.org](https://protect-za.mimecast.com/s/SBG6CO7Xr8sqJG6VcE2oc0)) which is led by Oxford University and funded by the Stanley Centre at the Broad Institute of Harvard and MIT. This group focuses on the goal of addressing ethical issues associated with the collection of genetic samples on the NeuroGAP-Psychosis (Neuropsychiatric genetics in African populations) and NeuroDEV (Neurodevelopmental disorders in sub-Saharan Africa) projects. The group also serves as a platform to increase collaborative outputs between bioethicists and scientists from various African countries.
* Dr Palk also served on the **conference organizing committee (scholarship and scientific selection committees) and chaired two sessions for the conference) for The 16th Annual International Conference on Clinical Ethics & Consultation (ICCEC). Dec 1-3 2021 (**[**https://iccec2020.co.za/committee/**](https://iccec2020.co.za/committee/)**).** 
  1. **Visitors to the Centre in 2019**

Due to the travel and social gathering restrictions brought about by the COVID 19 pandemic, hardly any scholars visited the Centre in 2021. Visits nevertheless were made by the ex-theologian **Dr Ben du Toit**, following his highly controversial book about the desirability of atheism and its implications for ethics, as well as by **Prof. Jonathan Jansen**, on a couple of matters of mutual interest.

The Centre was also approached by **Prof. Fanie Cloete**, former professor of Political Science at Stellenbosch University and UJ, to investigate the possibility of a historical tract about the life and times of emeritus professor Willie Esterhuyse, who retired from our department in 1998, and was the founder of the Unit for Business Ethics and Public Integrity. This possibility is still being investigated. Prof. Esterhuyse’s health unfortunately recently took a turn for the worse, significantly complicating his capacity to co-operate in such a venture. The matter continues to receive attention.

The Centre (and in particular the Unit for Bioethics) was also visited by **Prof. Jan Lotz** in order to, on his initiative, arrange for a very generous grant for work being done in that Unit. More about that in the report of the Unit for Bioethics.

The Moderator of the Dutch Reformed Church in SA, **Ds. Nelis Janse van Rensburg**, requested Prof. van Niekerk to participate in an extensive interview about matters pertaining to values and ethics in the SA society. The interview was conducted on Teams in view of ds. Van Rensburg’s recent bout of COVID 19.

**Prof. Dan Stein**, head of psychiatry at UCT consulted intensively with Prof. van Niekerk about the content and writing of his most recent and highly acclaimed book *Problems of Living: perspectives form philosophy, psychiatry and cognitive-affective science* (Elsevier 2022). Prof van Niekerk was consequently asked to give a talk at the launching of this book by his ex-doctoral student on 23 September 2021.

**5.5 Personnel**

**Prof. Johan Hattingh** retired from his position at the end of 2021. He was the founder of the Unit for Environmental Ethics, and responsible for developing this structure into something unique in the South African philosophical landscape. We extend a word of sincere gratitude to him for his contribution to the activities of the Centre and Unit over a period of more than 30 years, and wish him well for his time of retirement.

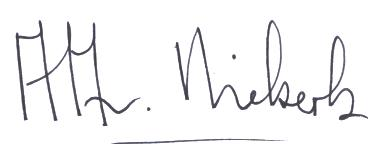
**Ms Sarah Gardner** was again appointed as a research assistant in the Centre and Unit for Bioethics. She also acted as a temporary lecturer and research assistant in the Unit for Bioethics. She continues to add considerable value to the functioning of the Centre, particularly as prof. van Niekerk’s research assistant.

1. **SPONSORSHIP**

Mediclinic’s highly appreciated sponsorship of R200 000 per year continued in 2021. Assurance was also given that the sponsorship will continue in 2022. We thank Mediclinic, 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.

The Unit for Bioethics was very fortunate in being bestowed a substantial, once-off grant of support in the course of 2021. More will be said about that in the report of the Unit for Bioethics.



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Prof. L. Heineken Prof.. A.A. van Niekerk

Chair: Governing Body Director: Centre for Applied Ethics

**UNIT FOR BIOETHICS**

### Annual Report 2021

**1. RESEARCH**

**Completed research projects**

1. *Intersex rights and human rights* (part of Brussels Collaboration on bodily integrity). Article with B. Earp et al published in accredited journal. (AA van Niekerk
2. *Structural violence.* Book chapter published. (AA van Niekerk)
3. *Ethical issues related to mental disorders.* (A. Palk)

**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*. (AA van Niekerk & L. Franken)Work on this PhD project is progressing well. Peer-reviewed book chapter accepted for publication.
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. Models of clinical ethics consultation services in SA: a critical appraisal (S. Kling; PhD project)
8. The ethics of suicide (S. Heymans)
9. Does significantly prolonged human longevity make (moral) sense? (AA van Niekerk)
10. **RESEARCH OUTPUTS**
    1. **Articles in peer-reviewed journals; (\*) indicates accredited journals**
11. **Van Niekerk, A.A.** 2021. Intersex rights and human rights (with B. Earp et al – the Brussels Collaboration on Bodily Integrity). *The American Journal of Bioethics*.\*
12. **Palk, A.C**. 2021. Stein, D.J.,Kendler, K.S**.** What is a mental disorder? An exemplar-focused approach. *Psychological Medicine\*,* 51(6): 894-901. 2021. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0033291721001185>.
13. **Palk, A.C**., Kamuya D, Bitta MA, Addissie A, Naanyu, V. et al. 2021. The Africa Ethics Working Group (AEWG): a model of collaboration for psychiatric genomic research in Africa. Wellcome Open Research, 6:190. <https://doi.org/10.12688/wellcomeopenres.16772.1>
14. De Roubaix, M. 2021. Human reproduction: right, duty or privilege? A South African Perspective. *South African Journal of Bioethics and Law\*.* 14 (2), pp. 55-61.
15. Ewuoso, C., **Hall, S**. & Dierickx, K. 2021. ‘How do healthcare professionals respond to ethical challenges regarding information management? A review of empirical studies’, *Global Bioethics*,\* 32 (1): 67-84
    1. **Publications in press (for 2022)**

Van Niekerk, A.A. Significantly increased longevity: does it make sense? Accepted for publication after peer-review in C. Jones et al: *Challenges in medical ethics*. (2022)

* 1. **Papers delivered at scientific conferences, seminars and/or other meetings**

**International**

1. Van Niekerk, A.A. 2021. *Clinical Ethics in SA: History, Developments and Challenges.* Key note speaker at the International Conference of Clinical Ethics and Consultation (ICCEC), Stellenbosch, December 2021.
2. Palk, AC. Invited speaker (*Neuropsychiatric Ethics and vulnerability in research*) for the scientific advisory board of the NeuroGAP consortium (Stanley Centre at the Broad Institute: Harvard/MIT) – 11 March 2021.
3. Palk, A. Invited speaker (*Investigating assumptions of vulnerability – a case study*) for thePUMAS group (genetics of ancestral populations) which is part of the Stanley Centre at the Broad Institute: Harvard/MIT) – 2 Nov 2021
4. Hall, S. 2021. ‘Treatment, Fair Equality of Opportunity, and the IAAF Eligibility Regulations for Female Classification’. Presented at: 16TH ICCEC Congress, Asara, Stellenbosch, 30 November - 3 December 2021.

**National**

Van Niekerk, A.A. 2021. *Talk at launch of D. Stein: “Problems of living”*. 18 October 2021, UCT.

Van Niekerk, A.A. 2021. *Pandemic ethics: How have we done?* Paper delivered to webinar arranged by Centre for Medical Ethics and Law, Stellenbosch.

Hall, S. Presentation of a seminar for Metropolitan Life on Ethics and Technology. 25 March 2021.

1. **TEACHING**
2. 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 again offered in 2021. A group of 12 students were admitted, many of whom earlier 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).
3. 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 online.
4. Prof. van Niekerk, seconded by Dr. Hall, assists with the teaching of Medical Ethics to MB ChB second as well as fifth year students. Dr Palk was also extensively involved with teaching, facilitating large group discussions and supervision of one of the small group assignments during the fifth year MBChB ethics module at Tygerberg in 2021.
5. **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:

* 1. **Completed Doctoral Dissertations**

1. 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 2021. Supervisor: Prof. AA van Niekerk
   1. **Completed Masters Theses**
2. Raal, L. *Better Never to Have Been in the Wild: A Case for Weak Wildlife Antinatalism.* MPhil (Applied Ethics). Graduation in March 2022 (*cum laude*). (Supervisor: Dr. Susan Hall)
3. Munkanda, W. *The Nurse Educator’s Perspective on Ethics in Nursing Education: A Namibian Case Study.* MPhil (Applied Ethics). Graduation in March 2022. (Supervisor: Dr. Susan Hall)
4. Kheswa, S. *An Ethical Analysis of Dental Bleaching*. MPhil (Applied Ethics). December 2021. (Supervisor: Dr. Susan Hall)
5. Lotz, J. *Ethical issues related to perinatal hypoxic ischemic injury*. MPhil (Applied Ethics). March 2021 (*cum laude*). (Supervisor: Dr. Susan Hall)
6. Van der Merwe, C. *The contribution of corporate environmental codes of conduct to sustainable development in the mining sector*. MPhil (Applied Ethics). March 2021. (Supervisor: Dr. Susan Hall)
   1. **Continuing doctoral projects**
7. Franken, L. *Morality and immortality: assessing the ethical implications of the idea of radical life extension*. PhD. Supervisor: Prof. A.A. van Niekerk.
8. Nyamadzawo, E. *Health Technology Assessment: applied and professional ethics perspectives*. PhD. Supervisor: Prof. A.A. van Niekerk.
9. Kling, S. *Models of clinical ethics services in SA: a critical appraisal*. PhD. Supervisor: Prof. A.A. van Niekerk; Co-supervisor: Prof. K Moodley.
10. Gray, B. *Shared decision-making and neo-liberalism: the origins and unintended consequences of patient-centred care*. PhD. Supervisor: Prof. A.A. van Niekerk
11. 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)
12. Heymans, S. *Moral perspectives on suicide*. PhD. Supervisor: Prof. AA van Niekerk.
13. Boitumelo Mokgatla *The Next Frontier: Ethical Complexities of using Artificial Intelligence in Healthcare and Medical Research – A Botswana Case Study*. PhD. Supervisor: Dr AC Palk, cosupervising with Prof Keymanthri Moodley).

**4.4 Continuing Master’s projects**

1. Biyela, I.M. *People living with disabilities’ competition for employment and career advancement: moral perspectives*. MPhil. Supervisor: Prof. AA van Niekerk.
2. Botha, G. *Morele kwessies rondom sub-akute sorg*. Supervisor: Prof. AA van Niekerk
3. Davids, R. *Sedation and analgesia in the intensive care unit in South Africa- is it a synonym for euthanasia?* Supervisor: Dr M de Roubaix
4. Duncan, R. *Psychedelic Therapy*. Supervisor: Dr S Hall.
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. 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.
8. Mafanya, A. *Informed consent issues in Eastern Cape*. Supervisor: Prof. AA van Niekerk.
9. Makola, N. *Moral issues in public health*. Supervisor: Dr. N Barsdorf.
10. Mashele, T.S. *An exploration of ethical challenges related to the management of drug resistant Tuberculosis in South Africa.* Supervisor: Dr. L. Horn.
11. Maswanganyi, J.V. *An exploration of the plausibility of human rights and communitarian approaches in guiding public health interventions.* Supervisor: Dr. L. Horn.
12. Mphelo, D. *Voluntary Ceding of Autonomy*. Supervisor: Dr S Hall.
13. Nkomo, P. *An Evaluation of the Batho Pele Principles in Healthcare*. Supervisor: Dr S Hall.
14. Odell, S. *The Ethics of Palliative Sedation*. Supervisor: Dr S Hall.
15. Patel, F. *The nature of the moral obligation underlying global bioethics*. MPhil. Supervisor: Prof. A.A. van Niekerk.
16. 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.
17. Seedat, S. *Therapeutic prevention of Posttraumatic Stress Disorder: Ethical analysis and proposal of a bioethical framework*. Supervisor: Prof. AA van Niekerk.
18. Sehlabaka, G. *Evaluating ethics compliance challenges engendered by strained health sector systems in South Africa*. Supervisor: Dr S Hall.
19. Shirah Theron *Conceptual and ethical challenges related to the distinction between sex addiction and dependence in the broader context of the pornography industry.* Supervisor: Dr. AC Palk. (MA)

**The following MPhil students are supervised by dr. Palk. Their topics are yet to be finalized.**

1. Sheridan Walter
2. Dr Emmanuel Obasa
3. Dr Michele Grantham
4. Dr Aneeka Domingo
5. Otto, Anri

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

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

Because of Covid, the traditional “Woordfees” was, in 2021, in may instances conducted in the format of television performances on a specially provided TV channel. Mediclinic in co-operation with dr Edwin Hertzog have, for the past decade, sponsored a bioethics related event. In 2021, prof. van Niekerk conducted an hour long television interview about moral issues emanating from the COVID-19 pandemic. The other participants were Prof. Mariana Kruger (Head of the Department of Paediatrics in the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences and member of the Centre’s governing body) and Dr Chris Jones, head of the Unit for Moral Leadership in the Faculty of Theology. The event was broadcast and was widely acclaimed as a big success.

**5.2 The Bioethics Discussion Group**

The Covid pandemic continued to place significant restrictions on our ability to continue the work of this group. It will hopefully be revived in the course of 2022.

1. **SOCIAL IMPACT**

6.1 The following popular articles on bioethics-related topics were published in a fortnightly column that Prof. van Niekerk wrote (and continues to write) in *Netwerk 24*, *Die Burger* and *Beeld*.

1. “Gryp ‘n entstof met albei hande”, *Die Burger*, 19 January 2021, p. 10; *Beeld* p. 8., *Volksblad* 20 January p. 9. [Grab a vaccine with both hands]
2. “Vry van ‘n vrees vir ander mense”, *Die Burger* (p. 10) & *Beeld* (p. 8), 2 February 2021; “Om bevry te word van ‘n vrees vir ander mense, *Volksblad*, 3 February 2021, p. 9, [Free from a fear of other people]
3. “Solank dit die virus behaag”, *Die Burger/Beeld* (p.10). 25 M ay 2021. [As long as it pleases the virus]
4. “Inent: oorlewing vereis vertroue.” *Die Burger/Beeld* (p. 10) 8 June 2021.
5. “Hoe lank moet ons dit verduur?, *Die Burger* (p. 10), *Beeld* (p. 8) 6 July 2021. [How long must we suffer this?
6. “Onderweg na onsterflikheid? *Die Burger* (p. 10) & *Beeld* (p. 12), 17 August 2021. [On our way to immortality?4 September 2021

“Inenting ‘n saak van moraliteit”, *Die Burger* (p.10) & *Beeld* (p. 8*)*, 12 October 2021, p. 10 [Vaccination is a matter of morality]

1. “Ons planeet ‘n gevaarlike plek”, *Die Burger* (p. 8) & *Beeld* (p. 10), 21 December 2021. [Our planet – a dangerous place].

**6.2 Radio programs**

Prof. van Niekerk participated in a number of radio programs (particularly *Monitor, Spektrum* and *Praat Saam*) in the course of 2021, mainly on topics related to moral aspects of policy-making during the Covid-19 pandemic.

1. **DONATION BY THE INGE LOTZ FOUNDATION TRUST**

The Unit for Bioethics was very fortunate to receive in the course of 2021 and without any solicitation from our side, a donation of R1 million form the *Inge Lotz Foundation Trust*. This was initiated by the chair of the Trust, Prof. Jan Lotz, a radiologist employed earlier by both Stellenbosch University and UFS. He is the father of Inge Lotz, a brilliant young woman who was brutally murdered in her flat in 2005. There are no conditions attached to this donation, save the expectation that the money will be utilised for work in bioethics.

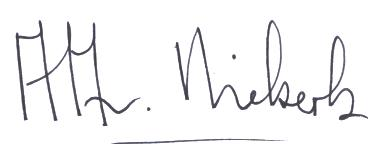
The management committee of the Unit (Van Niekerk, Hall and Palk) decided to first and foremost use some of the money for a substantial bursary for an accomplished new PhD student in the field of bioethics. The grant was advertised and interviews were conducted with a shortlist of three candidates. The award was consequently made to ms. Gaenor Michel, someone who has both an MA (*cum laude*) in philosophy and an LLB degree; she has also recently completed her lawyer’s articles. The grant will enable her to do full-time PhD research for two years on the the topic : *Paternalism and Bioethics: Towards a Coherent Conception of Wellbeing*. She will be supervised by Dr Susan Hall.

The Unit has, in addition, suggested to Prof. Lotz that the money will also be used for work on the moral status of South Africa’s envisioned National Health Insurance System (NHI). He was particularly attracted to the idea of such research.

The Unit is extremely thankful to Prof. Lotz and the Inge Lotz Foundation Trust for creating this exceptional opportunity for further significant research in the Unit. We also wish Ms Michel and her supervisor well in the execution of what will be a mammoth project.

1. **INTERNATIONAL LIASONS**

Prof. van Niekerk was, in the course of 2021, invited by the *Forschungzentrum Internationale und Interdiziplinare Theologie* at the University of Heidelberg, Germany to participate in an international research project about the “Impact of medical/healthcare systems on character formation, ethical education and the communication of values in late modern pluralistic societies”. The event was set to occur in April 2022. Van Niekerk’s topic would be “Are morals ‘taught’ or caught’? Ethics education and character formation in the ambit of the changing SA health system.”



**Prof. AA van Niekerk**

**(Head: Unit for Bioethics)**

**14 July 2022**

**UNIT FOR BUSINESS ETHICS AND PUBLIC INTEGRITY**

**ANNUAL REPORT 2022**

1. **INTRODUCTION**

The members of the Unit are Prof Minka Woermann (Unit Head), Prof Deon Rossouw (Head of The Ethics Institute and Extraordinary Professor of Philosophy), Dr Schalk Engelbrecht (Chief Ethics Officer of KPMG and Research Associate), Ms Liezl Groenewald (Senior Manager at The Ethics Institute and Research Associate), and Dr Julio Andrade (Research Associate).

1. **RESEARCH**

* **Dr Andrade**
  + Monograph
    - *Morally-demanding Infinite Responsibility: The Supererogatory Attitude of Levinasian Normativity*. Springer: Switzerland.
* **Dr Engelbrecht** 
  + Opinion pieces
    - “Global Ethics Day: To question the efficacy of campaigns is dangerously convenient”, *Daily Maverick* (Opinionista), 31 October 2021. Available at: [Global Ethics Day: Do campaigns have an impact? (dailymaverick.co.za)](https://www.dailymaverick.co.za/opinionista/2021-10-31-global-ethics-day-to-question-the-efficacy-of-campaigns-is-dangerously-convenient/) [Accessed: 7 July 2022]
    - “On fake news and information hygiene – the role of accountants” *Accountancy SA* October 2021. Available at: <http://magazine.accountancysa.org.za/articles/on-fake-news-and-information-hygiene> [Accessed: 7 July 2022]
  + Industry Research
    - “Who will watch the robots? Ethics, Insurance and Artificial Intelligence” in *KPMG South African Insurance Survey* (2021). Available at: [the-south-african-insurance-industry-survey.pdf (assets.kpmg)](https://assets.kpmg/content/dam/kpmg/za/pdf/2021/the-south-african-insurance-industry-survey.pdf) [Accessed: 7 July 2022]
* **Ms** **Groenewald** 
  + Opinion pieces
    - Whistleblower protection – are we huffing and puffing in the right direction? 19 Oct 2021, News24.
  + Handbook
    - Van Vuuren, L. and Groenewald, L. 2021. Institutionalising Ethics Handbook. Pretoria: The Ethics Institute.
  + Standard setting
    - Redevised SafeLine-DigEX, the industry standard for independent digital whistleblowing service providers.
* **Prof Rossouw** 
  + Opinion pieces
    - Organisational ethics likely to remain high on the agenda after the pandemic
    - Ethical Leadership – remotely
    - Whistleblowers needs more than our applause
    - State capture era hangover has impacted South African business ethics – with good and bad consequences
  + Conference presentations
    - 15th Annual Smart Procurement Indaba
    - Ethical Leadership Symposium
    - 6th African Conference of Accountants
  + Surveys
    - 2021 Social and Ethics Committee Trend Survey Report
* **Prof Minka Woermann** 
  + Textbook chapter
    - Woermann, M. 2021.The components of ethical business. In T. Brevis and M. Vrba (eds.). *Contemporary Management Issues*, Cape Town: Juta.

**3. TEACHING**

**3.1.** **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 online, in which prominent business ethics themes and local business ethics challenges were addressed.

The specialisation programme is primarily lectured by Prof Woermann. Prof Rossouw also assists in this task, as does Dr Engelbrecht. Part of the success of the Programme is attributable to the combination of theoretical insight and practice-based insight that the teaching offers.

**3.2. Undergraduate teaching**

Philosophy and Ethics 314 and 474 (service modules for the Engineers lectured by Dr Susan Hall and Dr Andrea Palk)

* 1. **Additional teaching and public engagements**
* **Dr Engelbrecht**
  + Continued as a lecturer for the short course “Practice and Fraud Risk Management” aimed at students in Forensic Accounting (a course presented by North-West University for the Institute of Commercial Forensic Practitioners).
  + Continued as lecturer of a section on Data Ethics for the module Data Science 141 (hosted by the Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science, University of Stellenbosch).
  + Presented at the following events:
    - SAICA Trainee Summit – “Developing Moral Courage”, 30 September 2021 [see article, [Courage, audits and making the world a safer place - SAICA (bizcommunity.com)](https://www.bizcommunity.com/Article/196/511/222223.html)]
    - Facilitated a workshop on ethics for Sanlam’s Group Internal Audit team (17 September 2021).
    - Invited panellist for an online SAICA event entitled “SAICA Ethics Series: Current ethical climate in the profession” (11 October 2021)
    - Facilitated a workshop on ethics for the Auditor General South Africa’s Information Systems Audit Team (26 October 2021)
    - Invited panellist for the Institute of Internal Auditors (South Africa). “Professionals: In the front line on the fight against Corruption A Study on the Practices of Ethics in South Africa” (9 June 2021)
    - Invited speaker for the South Africa Institute of Professional Accountants, “SAIPA Southern Region Forum “Does ethics add anything to accounting?” (11 June 2021)
    - Invited panellist for an online SAICA event entitled “Ethics Best Practice in the Training Office Environment” (24 June 2021)
    - Co-facilitator for a SAICA train-the-trainer webinar, “Facilitating ethics discussions and reflection” (22 July 2021)
* **Ms Groenewald**
  + Guest/international lecturer
    - University of Applied Sciences, Management Centre Innsbruck (Austria) – Masters students - Corporate Governance
    - University of Applied Sciences, Management Centre Innsbruck (Austria) – Bachelor students – Business Ethics and Applied Business Ethics.
  + Paper/article inputs
    - PEBC (the national certification body for the profession of pharmacy in Canada)– input in White paper regarding whistleblowing
    - The Citizen about corruption in SA x 2
    - JSE Magazine – input regarding greenwashing and its impact on society – from an ethical and governance point of view
  + Panels
    - Panellist: NewsRoom Africa – Whistleblowing and whistleblower protection Panel moderator: SAB-Miller: Whistleblowing
    - Panellist: UJ's Institute for the Future of Knowledge – Whistleblowing
  + Radio and television interviews
    - ChaiFM: Killing of Babita Deokaran
    - SAfm: Killing of Babita Deokaran
    - Radio 786: Killing of Babita Deokaran.
    - RSG: Lynette Francis-Puren: Praat Saam – x 4 – business and societal ethics related topics, whistleblowing, and mandatory vaccinations.
    - eNCA News – Whistleblowing
    - Discussion on the protection of whistleblowers, 27 Aug 2021, @ The Agenda SABC.
* **Prof Rossouw**
  + Postgraduate teaching
    - Training of ethics educators in tertiary institutions’ accounting departments (coordinated by SAICA)
  + Additional teaching and public engagements
    - Lectured on the Corporate Governance Certificate Programme at University of Johannesburg (2 intakes)
    - Lectured on the Governance of Ethics Certified Director Programme of the Institute of Directors in South Africa (8 intakes)
    - Lectured on the Social and Ethics Committee Programme of the Institute of Directors in South Africa (6 intakes)
  + Presentations
    - Ask the Experts session on Social and Ethics Committees (Institute of Directors)
    - Building a sustainable future for Mozambique
    - Collective Action for a sustainable future in Mozambique
    - Conflicts of Interest - Legalities and Leadership
* **Prof Woermann**
  + Presented a lecture on technological singularity in the SU Data Ethics short course (hosted by the CAE in partnership with the School for Data Science and Computational Thinking)
  + Taught in the PGD Programme in Future Studies, Institute for Future Studies, University of Stellenbosch Business School.

1. **POSTGRADUATE SUPERVISION**

In 2021, there were approximately 20 active MPhil thesis projects and one active PhD dissertation project (Liezl Groenewald) within the Unit. Ms Groenewald is set to graduate in March 2023. Below, I report on completed projects:

* **Graduated in 2021:**
  + Cornelissen, S.: ‘Transnational business corporations, human rights, and global justice’, MPhil (Applied Ethics), December 2021. Supervisor: M. Woermann.
  + Dall, Y.: ‘Incentives, Virtues and Big Data Organisations’, MPhil (Applied Ethics), University of Stellenbosch, March 2021. Supervisor: J.P. Hattingh.
  + Dube, X.: ‘An assessment of the relationship between integrated reports and environmental, social and governance disclosures in the mining sector in South Africa’, MPhil (Applied Ethics), December 2021. Supervisor: M. Woermann.
  + Khubana, M.I.: ‘Crisis, opportunity & virtue: the role of virtue ethics in corporate crisis management’, MPhil (Applied Ethics), March 2021. Supervisor: A. Hartford
  + Makhura, P.: ‘A critical analysis of whether ethics and compliance functions should be combined or separated in organisations’, MPhil (Applied Ethics), December 2021. Supervisor: M. Woermann.
  + Martin, M.R.: ‘Bitcoin Versus Fiat Currency: An Ethical Perspective’, MPhil (Applied Ethics), December 2021. Supervisor: J.P. Smit.
  + Sefako, J.M.: ‘Towards responsible leadership within the South African National Parks’, MPhil (Applied Ethics), December 2021. Supervisor: M. Woermann.
  + Seshoka, M.D.: ‘Blind loyalty in organisations: contributing factors and preventative measures. A theoretical analysis’, MPhil (Applied Ethics), December 2021. Supervisor: M. Woermann.
* **Submitted for examination in 2021 (graduation: 2022)**
  + Bezuidenhout, S. ‘An Explanation for the Shift from Compliance Culture to Ethical Culture in the Financial Industry’, MPhil (Applied Ethics). Supervisor: D. Rossouw.
  + Deister, P.: ‘Introducing a relational approach when theorising the organisation’, MA (Philosophy), 100 % thesis. Supervisors: J.P. Smit and M. Woermann.

1. **SERVICE DELIVERY**
   1. **Appointments and designations**

* **Dr Andrade** served as Secretary General of the Business Ethics Network Africa (BEN-Africa)
* **Prof Rossouw** retained professional designation as Chartered Director South Africa
* **Prof Woermann**
  + was appointed as Vice-Chair of the Social and Business Ethics Committee of Council.
  + continued to serve as Chair of the Philosophy Department.
  + continued to serve as a member of the core expert team for developing a Code of Conduct for Stellenbosch University
    - In 2022, and due to a lack of progress with the Code, Prof Woermann was asked to take full responsibility for the drafting of the Code under the auspices of the Unit (a task that she completed with Ms Groenewald and with input from Dr Engelbrecht) – full reporting to follow in 2022.
  1. **Representation on editorial boards**
* **Dr Andrade** was appointed to the editorial board of the *Journal of Business Ethics.*
* **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 and positions**
* **Dr Engelbrecht**
  + Dr Engelbrecht was appointed to the South African Institute of Chartered Accountants’ (SAICA’s) Ethics Committee on 3 September 2021 for a term of 3 years.
  + 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.
  + As part of his role as Chief Ethics Officer, Dr Engelbrecht serves on KPMG South Africa’s Public Interest, Social and Ethics Committee as well as the Audit Quality Committee.
* **Ms Groenewald**
  + Advisory Board member of the Business Ethics Network of Africa
  + Advisory Board member – Visslan (Sweden)
  + EXCO member of the Business Ethics Network of Africa
  + Council member – CPUT
  + Chair of Governance and Ethics Committee – CPUT
  + Member of Council HR Committee – CPUT
  + Member of Council Senior Appointment Search and Selection Committee - CPUT
  + Member of Council Honorary Award Committee – CPUT
  + Member of Inaugural Committee of the International Society for Military Ethics in Africa (Afro-ISME)
  + SA representative on global ISO technical working group on whistleblowing – ISO 37002
  + SA representative on global ISO technical working group on the governance of organisations – ISO 37000
  + SA representative of global ISO Technical Working Group 309 – Communication Advisory Group (this is the group responsible for advising on the communication methods/activities for ISO37000, 37001 and 37002
  + Part of SA team on global ISO technical working group on governance of organisations maturity – ISO 37004
  + Co-founding director of The Whistleblower House NPC
* **Prof Rossouw** 
  + Serves on the following boards and committees:
    - Executive director on the board of directors of The Ethics Institute
    - Member of the King Committee on Corporate Governance of South Africa
    - Chairperson of the Social and Ethics Committee sub-committee of the King Committee on Corporate Governance of South Africa
    - Chairperson of the Social and Ethics Committee Forum of the Institute of Directors
    - Chairperson of the SAIPA Social and Ethics Committee
    - Chairperson of the Advisory Board of the Business Ethics Network of Africa
    - Non-executive director on the board of ATKV
    - Chairperson of the ATKV Social and Ethics Committee
    - Non-executive director on the board of Ethics Africa (NPC)
    - Member of the King Committee Thought Leadership Workgroup
* **Prof Woermann**
  + Prof Woermann continues to represent the CAE on the governing committee of the Centre for Corporate Governance in Africa; University of Stellenbosch Business School.
  1. **Examination, reviews, and moderation**
* **Dr Andrade**
  + - Peer Review
      * *Journal of Business Ethics*
      * *South African Journal of Philosophy*
      * *African Journal of Business Ethics*
    - Examination
      * Makhura, P.: ‘A critical analysis of whether ethics and compliance functions should be combined or separated in organisations’, MPhil (Applied Ethics), 50% thesis. December 2021.
    - Moderation
      * Module ‘Business in Society”, MBA, Nelson Mandela University Business School (2020-1)
  + **Dr Engelbrecht**
    - Peer Review
      * *Business Perspectives and Research*
  + **Prof Rossouw**
    - Examination
      * Cornelissen, S.: ‘Transnational business corporations, human rights, and global justice’, MPhil (Applied Ethics), 50% thesis, December 2021.
    - Peer review
      * *Journal of Business Ethics*
  + **Prof Woermann**
    - Examination
      * Schultz-Knudsen, M. ‘The complex interplay between national law and practiced Islam: investigating emergent behaviours in Denmark’, PhD, Faculty of Law, University of Copenhagen.
        + External commentator on PhD research at Faculty seminar, 22 April 2021, virtual.
      * Groenewald, A.: ‘The ethics of personalising risk using big data in the pricing and underwriting of life insurance’, MA (Applied Ethics for Professions). University of Johannesburg. 2021.
      * Beale, T.J. ‘Integrating Business and Society’s five frameworks: a critical appraisal of Schwartz and Carroll’s proposal in the context of South African corporate governance and business ethics’, MPhil (Applied Ethics), March 2021.
      * Bawa, K. ‘From self to citizenry: an exploration of the construction and destruction of trust when a police officer rapes’, MA (Philosophy), March 2021.
    - Moderation
      * MPhil in Responsible Leadership, Albert Luthuli Centre for Responsible Leadership, University of Pretoria (2021).
      * Masters module in Visionary Leadership and Change Management, Department of Industrial Psychology and People Management, University of Johannesburg (2019; 2020; 2021).

Compiled by Prof Minka Woermann

10 July 2022

**UNIT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL ETHICS**

**ANNUAL REPORT 2021**

1. **Research** 
   1. **Research Outputs**
      1. **Publications**
      2. **Conference papers**
2. Prof JP Hattingh: Invited speaker on the theme of Towards *an ethical framework for a just transition “beyond” climate change in Africa* in the African Regional Dialogue on “**Positive Peace in Africa – The Environment We Need**”, presented (on-line) at the 2021 Nanjing Peace Forum (on the theme: **Living in Harmony with Nature for Peace**) that was jointly hosted by the UNESCO Beijing Office, the Chinese National Commission for UNESCO and the Nanjing Municipal Government, 22 October 2021.
3. Prof JP Hattingh: Invited speaker on the theme of *Professional Work* *Ethics for Environmental Health Practitioners* at an interest group meeting for Environmental Health Practitioners of the Northern Cape organized by the Professional Board for Environmental Health Practitioners of the HPCSA, 12 November 2021.
4. Prof JP Hattingh: Ethical principles in relation to climate change in Small Island Development States (SIDS) in the context of deep uncertainty. Panel discussion (on-line) at the **LUANDA BIENNALE**, 25 November 2021.
5. Dr. Almas Mazigo participated in the International Symposium on Climate Change in Coastal Cities (August 2021) and presented a paper titled ***Persistent Floods and Consequential Displacement of Urban Residents in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania: Who is Responsible?***
   1. **Popular Articles**

All by Dr. Tristen Taylor:

1. [“A lesson still not learnt”](https://www.litnet.co.za/a-lesson-still-not-learnt/), *Litnet*, 19 August 2021

2. [https://www.dailymaverick.co.za/article/2021-08-17-san-lands-invaded-by-cattle-in-namibia/"San lands ‘invaded’ by cattle in Namibia"](https://www.dailymaverick.co.za/article/2021-08-17-san-lands-invaded-by-cattle-in-namibia/), *Daily Maverick*, 17 August 2021 [Photo story]

3. [“Hoe de EU-miljoenen voor de Donaudelta weglekten”](https://www.nrc.nl/nieuws/2021/05/09/hoe-de-eu-miljoenen-voor-de-donaudelta-weglekten-a4042845), NRC Handelsblad, 9 May 2021

1. [“SA must not be an accomplice to the dirty war brewing in Mozambique”](https://www.timeslive.co.za/sunday-times/opinion-and-analysis/2021-04-11-sa-must-not-be-an-accomplice-to-the-dirty-war-brewing-in-mozambique/), Sunday Times, 11 April 2021
2. [“INVESTIGATION: Where did the European Union’s billion euros for the Danube Delta actually go?”](https://www.info-sud-est.ro/investigation-where-did-the-european-unions-billion-euros-for-the-danube-delta-actually-go/), Info-Sud-Est.ro, 5 March 2021 [Shortlisted for the Fetisov Journalism Awards 2020]
3. [“Karima Brown (1967–2021) – We’ve just lost a bit of South Africa’s courage”](https://www.litnet.co.za/karima-brown-1967-2021-weve-just-lost-a-bit-of-south-africas-courage/), Litnet, 5 March 2021
4. [“Im Sumpf”](https://projekte.sueddeutsche.de/artikel/gesellschaft/eu-geld-in-rumaenien-geheimnisse-im-donaudelta-e888360/?reduced=true), Süddeutsche Zeitung, 28 February 2021
5. [The rich legacy of rooibos - CSMonitor.com](https://www.csmonitor.com/Photo-Galleries/In-Pictures/The-rich-legacy-of-rooibos/(photo)/1116007), Christian Science Monitor, 26 February 2021 [Photo story]

**1.3 2021 Podcasts**

*Dr. Tristen Taylor:*

[Rooibos Tea - South Africa's Indigenous Peoples Reclaim Their Birthright](https://rights.culturalsurvival.org/rooibos-tea-south-africas-indigenous-peoples-reclaim-their-birthright)

Material from above reused in external production: [Rooibos Restitution - An Interview with Sylvia Vollenhoven](https://rights.culturalsurvival.org/rooibos-restitution-interview-sylvia-vollenhoven)

**1.4 Current Research**

1. Prof. Johan Hattingh (outgoing Head of the Unit) 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. Almas Mazigo (Research Fellow of the Unit) is the Principal Investigator (PI) of a research project that won a **Social Science Research Council (SSRC) Transregional Grant** to continue research on the topic of *Transformative Social Innovations in the Governance of Small-scale Fisheries in the Indian Ocean Region*. Members of this Transregional collaborative research team are Dr Almas Mazigo (DUCE, Tanzania) (PI), Prof Johan Hattingh (SU, South Africa) (Co-PI), Prof Kyoko Kusakabe (AIT, Thailand), Prof Mohammad Islam (SAU, Bangladesh) (Co-PI), Ms Sariaka Rakotondrazafy (Madagascar), Prof Sunil Santha (TISS, India), Dr Julius Mngumi (DUCE, Tanzania) and Prof Moenieba Isaacs (UWC, South Africa).
3. Dr. Almas Mazigo is **Principal Investigator (PI)** for the research project:*Towards Cultural-Rooted Climate Change Interventions in the Coastal Communities of Tanzania,* April 2021 to January 2023
4. Dr. Almas Mazigo is **Co-Principal Investigator (Co-PI)** for the research project: *Examining Useful African Evaluative Insights and Moral Resources for Democratizing Evaluation Practices and Learning*, October 2020 to October 2022.
5. Dr. Almas Mazigo is **Principal Investigator (PI)** for the research project: *Research and Documentation of Life Stories, Achievements, Lessons Learnt and Challenges of Selected Women Councillors in Tanzania Mainland,* October to December 2021, **Commissioned by Tanzania Gender Networking Programme (TGNP).**
6. 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. In 2020 she received further funding from the Water Research Commission to the value of R1.3 million in total for three years until 2022 to continue her studies on water justice. (In 2019 she completed a two-year research project on the topic of *Water Issues in Ethical Perspective: A pilot study in the Philippi Horticultural Area (PHA)*.
7. Prof. Louise du Toit (incoming Head of the Unit) 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. Her research finds expression in undergraduate (Critical Social Theory) and postgraduate (Environmental Ethics as part of a PGD in Environmental Management at the School for Public Leadership, and as a free-standing MPhil degree) teaching.
8. Dr. Tristen Taylor (Research Fellow of the Unit) was nominated for the Fetisov Journalism Awards 2020 for his work (published in 2021) on exposing corruption at a UNESCO world heritage site in Romania (Danube Delta). In 2021, he also worked with Khoi communities (Western Cape, South Africa) in connection with restitution for theft of indigenous knowledge: he produced a podcast on this. He worked with San communities in Namibia on land invasion, photo story published in *Daily Maverick*. See publications. The bulk of his 2021 field research efforts were in Ukraine and Romania, where he researched the vanishing cultures of the Danube Delta.
9. **OTHER ACTIVITIES**
   1. **Doctoral Projects Completed**
   2. **Ongoing Doctoral Projects**
10. 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.
11. THOLE, A.: *Rethinking Water and Sanitation Technologies in Informal Settlements: A Socio-Ecological Case Study in Enkanini, Stellenbosch* (Supervisor: Dr Leanne Seeliger, Stellenbosch University, Department of Philosophy; Co-supervisor Prof Shayne Jacobs, Conservation Ecology, Faculty of Agriculture).
12. MORRIS, K: *Using "Problem Representation" as a Means of Unpacking the Politics of Policy-Making and Implementation in the Philippi Horticultural Area*. (Supervisor 1:  Dr Ubanesia Adams-Jack Supervisor 2 Dr Jana Fried Coventry University & Stellenbosch (Dual Programme), United Kingdom Co-supervisor: Dr Leanne Seeliger, Stellenbosch University, Department of Philosophy).
    1. **Master’s Projects Completed**

VAN ROOYEN, M. *An investigation of environmental and biosafety research ethics committees*. (M.Phil Environmental Ethics) Supervisor: Prof. Johan Hattingh. Graduated December 2021.

**2.4 Ongoing Master’s Projects**

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1. OLIVIER, J. *Fragility of Natures on the Civic Threshold.* (M.Phil Environmental Ethics). Supervisors: Proff. Louise du Toit and Johan Hattingh.
2. NTJIRAUKA, D. *Farming is Business: Rethinking Intensive Cattle Farming on Communal Land in the District of Aminuis, Namibia.* (M.Phil Environmental Ethics) Supervisor: Prof. Johan Hattingh.
3. GEVERS, N. *Environmental Ethics and the Mining Industry in South Africa: Moving Beyond Compliance and Sustainability*. (M.Phil Environmental Ethics) Supervisor: Prof. Johan Hattingh.
4. MOODLEY, N. *Water Service Delivery in an Informal Settlement: A case study of Municipal Governance in Stellenbosch*. (Supervisor: Dr Leanne Seeliger, Stellenbosch University, Department of Philosophy, Co-supervisor Dr Jantjie Xaba, Stellenbosch University, Department of Sociology and Social Anthropology)
5. NHLAPO, T: *Adaptive Collaborative Water Governance and Digitalisation: Is it an Enabler? Possibilities, Perils and Pathways of Participatory GIS in the Philippi Horticultural Area*. (Supervisor: Prof Helen de Klerk, Department of Geography, Co- supervisors Dr Leanne Seeliger, Department of Philosophy, Stellenbosch University; Dr Zahn Munch, Department of Geography, Stellenbosch University).
6. BRAND, O. *Our Nature of Nature: The Normative Implications of an Eco-phenomenological Outlook.* (MA Philosophy) Supervisor: Prof Louise du Toit
7. GXAVU, A. *The Green Economy and its Implications for Social Justice in South Africa.* (M.Phil Environmental Management) Supervisor: Prof Louise du Toit
8. DE VILLIERS, A. *Finding Their Forever Homes: An ethical policy for the rehoming of racehorses in South Africa*. (M.Phil Environmental Ethics) Supervisor: Prof Johan Hattingh.
9. FOURIE-BASSON, W. *The Orphic Voice in Hadot’s* The Veil of Isis. (M.Phil Environmental Ethics) Supervisor: Prof Louise du Toit
10. WOLFENDEN, J. *The environmental ethics embedded in Bakhti Yoga.* (M.Phil Environmental Ethics) Supervisor: Prof Louise du Toit.
11. ROZANI, A. Child Labour in Mining in India and The DRC: Two Case Studies. M.Phil (Environmental Management) Supervisor: Prof. JP Hattingh.
12. LOUW, E. Foucault in the Epidemic: (Re)reading Gay Subjectivity in a Post-AIDS Landscape. MA (Philosophy) Supervisor: Prof. JP Hattingh.

**2.5 PGD and M.Phil in Environmental Management and M.Phil in Applied Ethics (Environmental Ethics)**

The M.Phil Programme in Environmental Management was launched in January 2001. Since then, it has been adapted to a Postgraduate Diploma Programme preceding the M.Phil, in order to comply with University stipulations about postgraduate programmes. Departments participating in the programme are Philosophy (Environmental Ethics), 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. From time to time, M.Phil students do their theses in Environmental Ethics and are supervised by our staff members. See supervision lists above.

Within the framework of this PGD programme, Prof. Hattingh, Prof. Du Toit took responsibility for the 15-credit module in Environmental Ethics in 2021, completing the teaching in a 100% on-line mode because of lockdown regulations in response to Covid 19. They also taught the M.Phil in Applied Ethics, and are busy supervising those theses.

**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 August 2021, in a fully on-line format because of Covid 19 restrictions.

**2.7 Membership of Editorial Boards**

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. Prof Hattingh was invited to become a 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.
3. Dr. Tristen Taylor, freelance investigative journalist and environmental activist.

**2.9 Other activities**

Prof. Johan Hattingh:

1. Continues to collaborate with 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).

Prof Louise du Toit:

1. Supervised an Honours research essay by Sian Lee Smith on *Ignorance is Vice: Re-thinking Human Mistreatment of Animals*.
2. Acted as external examiner for a PhD from the University of New South Wales in Australia. Samuel S Olusegun’s topic was *Addressing Fragmented Relationships and Dislocations in Environmental Thinking: Ubuntu insights on Human and Non-human Well-being.*
3. Together with Prof Hattingh, entered into discussions with staff at the new School for Climate Studies (established in July 2021), with the aim to further collaboration between the Unit and the School.
4. Attended a webinar organized by the Norwegian Centre for Human Rights, University of Oslo, on environmental law (January 2021).
5. Attended the launch of the popular environmental book, *It’s Not About the Bats: Conservation, the coronavirus and how we must re-set our relationship with nature*, by Adam Cruise. The book is largely based on the PhD he completed under her supervision, with the title, *The Value of Being Wild: a phenomenological approach to wildlife conservation* (2020).

Dr. Almas Mazigo

1. Facilitated Governance and Business Ethics module of The Mastery in Directorship (MDir) program run by the Institute of Directors in Tanzania (IoDT).

Louise du Toit, Johan Hattingh

7 July 2022

**UNIT FOR THE ETHICS OF TECHNOLOGY**

### Annual Report 2021

**1. RESEARCH**

**Completed research projects**

1. *The morality of the online hypernudging of children* (J Smith and T de Villiers-Botha) Article published in accredited journal.
2. *The ethics of AI from an African perspective* (ST Segun) Joint postdoctoral position with the School for Data Science and Computational Thinking. Article published in accredited journal; book chapter in press
3. *The moral status of autonomous systems (*F Tollon*)* Five articles published in accredited journals
4. *The contemporary value of privacy* (J Roux) MA Thesis completed
5. *The Ethics of Data Visualization* (L Smith) Honours paper completed

**Ongoing projects**

1. *The Soft Impacts of Emerging Technologies* (F Tollon) F Tollon is now a Research Associate (2022-2025) with the Unit and is also a PhD candidate at Bielefeld University
2. *Implications of Big Data variety for privacy* (J Smith; MA project)
3. *Stiegler and AI Ethics: A critical discussion* (J May; joint PhD project with Erasmus University Rotterdam)
4. *Evaluating Google as an epistemic tool* ( T de Villiers-Botha)
5. **RESEARCH OUTPUTS**
   1. **Articles in peer-reviewed journals; (\*) indicates accredited journals**
6. Smith, James and De Villiers-Botha, Tanya (2021) Hey, Google, Leave Those Kids Alone: Against Hypernudging Children in The Age of Big Data. *AI & Society*\*
7. Tollon, Fabio (2021) The artificial view: toward a non-anthropocentric account of moral patiency. *Ethics Inf Technol* \*23**,** 147–155 (2021).
8. Tollon, Fabio (2021) Do others mind? Moral agents without mental states, *South African Journal of Philosophy*,\* 40:2, 182-194.
   1. **Book**
   2. **Book chapter**
   3. **Publications in press (for 2022)**
9. Segun, S.T. “Framing the Africa’s Narrative on Artificial Intelligence” in Dihal, K. and Cave, S. (eds). Imagining AI: How the World Sees Intelligent Machines (Oxford University Press, 2022)
   1. **Papers delivered at scientific conferences, seminars and/or other meetings**

**International**

1. Segun, ST, “The Future of AI in Emerging Economies” G20 Interfaith Forum Workshop on Artificial Intelligence, 12 May 2021

**National**

1. Tollon, F, ‘From Responsibility Gaps to Responsibility Maps’, Data and Computational Ethics Research Group, Department of Philosophy, Stellenbosch University, 13 May 2021.
2. Conradie, N, ‘On Why There is No Responsibility Gap’, Data and Computational Ethics Research Group, Department of Philosophy, Stellenbosch University, 13 May 2021.

**TEACHING**

1. Guest lecture: MPhil Applied Ethics: Social and Political Ethics, *Introduction to Data Ethics* (T de Villiers-Botha) July 2021
2. Guest lecture: University of Pretoria, *Artificial Intelligence and Moral Values* (ST Segun) August 2021
3. Guest lecture: The GovLab - AI Ethics Course, Computational Possibilities of Embedding Ethics in Artificial Intelligence Systems (ST Segun) October 2021
4. Short course: *Introduction to Data Ethics*. Short course presented for the School for Data Science and Computational Thinking (designed by T de Villiers-Botha; presented by T de Villiers-Botha, S Hall, JP Hattingh; A Palk, V Roodt, ST Segun, JP Smit, AA van Niekerk, M Woermann), October 2021

**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:

* 1. **Completed Doctoral Dissertations**
  2. **Completed Masters Theses**

1. Josie Roux, “Josie Roux, “Privacy as a Common Good in the Age of Big Data” (*cum laude*), 2021
   1. **Continuing doctoral projects**
2. Johan May, “Pharmacology and the Anthropocene: Towards a Critical Elaboration of the Philosophy and Ethics of AI”, (Supervisor) (Joint degree with Erasmus University Rotterdam—Prof. Hub Zwart is the EUR supervisor)
   1. **Continuing Master’s projects**
3. Sam Timson, “A Critique of Current Tests for Consciousness in AI”
4. **OTHER GENERAL ACTIVITIES OF THE UNIT**

**5.1 Popular talks**

1. “Whose responsibility is it anyway? Truth and social media”, Mensa Winelands Virtual Speaker Evening, 18 November 2021 (T de Villiers-Botha)
2. “Whose responsibility is it anyway? Truth and social media” Stellenbosch Forum, 30 September 2021 (T de Villiers-Botha)

**5.2 Data and Computational Ethics Research Group**

Informal research group, consisting of staff and students of the Philosophy Department and Centre for Applied Ethics and external collaborators, aimed at connecting researchers specialising in Data and Computational Ethics and closely related subjects, such as the metaphysics and epistemology of data and computational technologies.

**5.3 Publications in blogs**

1. Fabio Tollon, “‘Responsible’ AI”, 3 Quarks Daily, https://3quarksdaily.com/3quarksdaily/2021/04/responsible-ai.html
2. Fabio Tollon, “More Than Just Design: Affordances as Embodying Value in Technological Artifacts”, 3 Quarks Daily, https://3quarksdaily.com/3quarksdaily/2021/03/more-than-just-design-affordances-as-embodying-value-in-technological-artifacts.html
3. Fabio Tollon, “GPT-3 Understands Nothing”, 3 Quarks Daily, https://3quarksdaily.com/3quarksdaily/2021/02/gpt-3-understands-nothing.html
4. Fabio Tollon, “Towards Responsible Research and Innovation”, 3 Quarks Daily https://3quarksdaily.com/3quarksdaily/2021/01/towards-responsible-research-and-innovation.html
5. James Smith and Fabio Tollon, I Run. I Think <https://ftollon.wordpress.com/2021/01/13/sending-the-right-signal-why-switching-to-signal-matters/>

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**Dr T de Villiers-Botha**

**(Head: Unit for the Ethics of Technology)**

**13 July 2022**

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

**ANNUAL REPORT 2022**

**1. OVERVIEW**

The Unit for Social and Political Ethics, known under the acronym PROSPER (PROmoting Social and Political Ethics Research), 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 unit includes, but is not limited to, the following fareas:

* 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?

In 2021, we successfully launched our new MPhil Programme in Social and Political Ethics, which drew a group of outstanding students with backgrounds in law, advertising, nuclear medicine, IT and government. Out of the initial group, four are about to submit their MPhil theses in 2022 and we expect excellent results for all of them.

Apart from teaching, research and supervision, members of PROSP˜ER have also been involved in various social impact initiatives, ranging from participating in civil society initiatives, to talks, interviews and publications in the media.

In short: despite Covid constraints, PROSPER has had a productive and successful 2021.

**2. RESEARCH**

**2.1 Publications**

**2.1.1 Journal articles**

* Hartford, A. “Fellow Strangers: Physical Distance and Evaluations of Blameworthiness,” *Journal of Value Inquiry,* Online 2021; forthcoming in print
* Hartford, A. 2022. “Difficulty & Quality of Will: Implications for Moral Ignorance,” *Philosophical Explorations*, 24, 2, pp. 141-158 (in press).

**Under review**

Hartford, A. “Mental Illness, Exemption and Exclusion,” *Philosophy, Psychiatry & Psychology*:

**2.1.2 Book chapters**

* Roodt, V. “The Near, the Far and the In-between”. In A. Gouws & O. Ezeobi (eds.). *Covid Diaries*. Imbali Academic Publishers, 2021, pp. 59-65.
* Roodt, V. “When Violence is a Bad Metaphor.” In C. Jones (ed.), Violence: South African Perspectives. SUN Press, 2021, 219-231.
* Roodt, V. “Why Nietzsche is Not a Political Thinker.” M. Ruehl & C. Schubert (eds.), *Nietzsche’s Perspectives on the Political*. Berlin: De Gruyter, pp. 209-218 (in press).

**2.2. Conferences, symposia and workshops**

* Cilliers, J. “Nurturing Belonging, Purpose and Identity in the fight against Organized Crime”, *24 Hour Conference on Global Organized Crime*, November 2021
* Cilliers, J. Book interview panel session – *The Stories Within: encounters with South African Prisons and its people*(L van Schalkwyk, 2020), *24 Hour Conference on Global Organized Crime*, November 2021
* Hartford, A. “Mental Illness, Exemption & Exclusion.” *MANCEPT workshop: Ethics of Mental Health & Illness*, September 2021).
* Hartford, A. “Behavioural Genetics & Assessments of Responsibility.”*Responsibility, Psychopathology & Stigma, NeuroEpigenEthics*, University of Antwerp, September 2021.
* Hartford, A. Attended the workshop on Pamela Hieronymi’s book-in-progress *Minds that Matter*, April 2021.

**2.3 International exchanges**

In 2021, Anna Hartford was invited to be a visiting academic at the Wellcome Centre for Ethics and Humanities and the Uehiro Centre for Practical Ethics at the University of Oxford. At the time travel restriction to the UK prohibited visiting. She took up the invitation in June/ July 2022.

**3. TEACHING**

**3.1 Undergraduate teaching in 2021**

* V. Roodt: Introduction to Philosophy 114
* V. Roodt: Political Philosophy 364

**3.2 Postgraduate teaching in 2021**

* J. Cilliers: **MPhil Social and Political Ethics** (July 2021): Migrants, refugees and distant others
* A. Hartford: **MPhil Social and Political Ethics** (February and July 2021): seminars on “Applied ethics and ethical decision-making”; “Individual and collective responsibility”; “Dimensions of moral responsibility”; “Resentment and forgiveness”; “Shame and punishment”; “Culpability, ignorance and the obligation to be informed”; “Memory and forgetting in a digital age”; “What is racism?”; “Obligations to assist: near and far”; “Sex, consent & prejudice.”
* V. Roodt: **Philosophy & Economics 778 & 871** (August-November 2021): seminars on “What is political philosophy?’; “Equality: of what, for whom, and why?”; “Justice and reparations”; “Ethics of risk: decision-making under uncertainty”
* V. Roodt: **MPhil Social and Political Ethics** (February and July 2021): seminars on “Contractualism as a framework of ethical decision-making”; Individual and collective responsibility”; “Risk and ttrust”; Epistemic vices, fake news nd conspiracies”; Generalisation and prejudice”; “Democracy and disagreement”; “Justice, equality and reparations”.

**3.3 Curriculum development**

* A. Hartford & V. Roodt: Developed the syllabus for new MPhil specialisation in Social and Political Ethics. Syllabus available upon request.
* V. Roodt: Initiated, co-designed and co-taught in this postgraduate course for BCom Honours and MCom students in the Department of Economics and BA Hons and MA students in the Department of Philosophy. Course was offered in the Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences. Syllabus available upon request.

**4. POSTGRADUATE SUPERVISION**

**4.1 PhD projects**

* P. Komu: *Being Harmed and Harming: Government Responsibility for Inadequate Healthcare* (graduated December 2021; supervisor: V Roodt)
* E. Phiri: *In Defence of the Public-Private Distinction With Regard To Sexual Orientation: Zambia as a Case Study* (graduated December 2021; sSupervisor: V Roodt)

**On-going**

V. Calitz. *Changing Social Institutions* (co-supervisor: Vasti Roodt, together with L du Toit)

**4.2 MA/MPhil projects**

* Z. Eloff: *Justice and Homelessness* (submission 2023; supervisor: V Roodt)
* H. Froneman: *Post-Truth Politics and Democratic Deliberation* (submitting September 2022 for graduation in December 2022; supervisor: V Roodt)
* M. Khubana. *On Corporate Crisis Management and Virtue Ethics* (graduated 2021; supervisor: A Hartford)
* G. Michalakis. *The Ethics of Expropriation: A Roadmap for Policy in South Africa* (submitting in November 2022 for graduation in March 2023; supervisor: V. Roodt)
* E. Nel (Submitting November 2022; supervisor: A Hartford)
* J. Seynhaeve. *The Ethics of Privacy* (submitting September 2022 for graduation in December 2022; supervisor: V Roodt)
* Z. Sonday (Submitting november 2022; supervisor: A Hartford)

**5. SOCIAL IMPACT**

**5.1 Opinion pieces**

* Hartford, A. “Mental Illness & Moral Responsibility”Talk at theForensic Psychiatry Unit, Department of Psychiatry and Mental Health. Valkenburg Hospital (January 2022)
* Hartford, A. “Small Animals,” essay contributed to *Our Ghosts Were Once People: Essays on Death and Dying*, Bongani Kona (Ed), Jonathan Ball Publishers (August 2021)
* Burger, R. and Roodt, V. 2021. The Need to Counter Vaccine Apartheid begins on Home Turf. In *The Daily Maverick*, 8 July.

**5.2 Talks and interviews**

* J. Cilliers. Statement on the role of civil society organizations in preventing organized crime at 2021 UN Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ) Thematic Discussion on the Implementation of the Kyoto Declaration. Organized by CCPCJ/UNODC. November 2021.
* J. Cilliers, “Adding Up to More,” *NASCEE The Breakthrough Conference*, October 2021
* A. Hartford, “Mental Illness & Moral Responsibility”Talk at theForensic Psychiatry Unit, Department of Psychiatry and Mental Health. Valkenburg Hospital (January 2022)
* V. Roodt, Frederik Van Zyl Slabbert Centre for Student Leadership: Critical engagement session on “moral leadership”, November 2021.
* V. Roodt. Interviewed for article: “Ein Haus mit Geschichte”, on the transformation of Nelson Mandela’s house into a luxury hotel. *Luzemburgur Wort*, 16 July 2021.
* V. Roodt: interviewed by KNA news agency for article: *Schulden Südafrikas Exil-Millionäre ihrer Heimat etwas?*, on whether Elon Musk has a duty to contribute to financially to South Africa, 25 January 2021 (syndicated).

**6. ACADEMIC SERVICE**

Dr A. Hartford:

* Reviewer for *Philosophical Studies, Pacific Philosophical Quarterly*, *Philosophical Explorations*

Prof V. Roodt

* Founder and Chair of the FASS Working Group for Internationalisation
* Member of the editorial board of the *Tijdschrift voor Filosofie.*
* Reviewer for *Theoria*, *SA Journal of Philosophy*
* Reviewer for the *Fonds Wetenschappelijke Onderzoek Vlaanderen*
* Internal examiner for PhD thesis: C Smith
* Evaluated NRF rating application: G Hull
* Member of the Programme Renewal Committee of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
* Convenor of the PPE programme
* Co-ordinator of the Philosophy Café at the 2021 Woordfees

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**Prof Vasti Roodt**

**Head: Unit for Social and Political Ethics (PROSPER)**

**15 July 2022**

1. Since Prof. Fourie is on sabbatical in 2022, he recommended that he be replaced by the new Vice Dean for Research, Prof. Lindie Heineken, also as chair of the governing committee. The Director concurred and requests the committee to concur. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Dr. T de Villiers-Botha is also a member of the Governing Body since 1 January 2022 in view of her appointment as Head of the new Unit for the Ethics of Technology. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. In this article, I will respond comprehensively to an analysis and critique of my 2017 book *Die dood en die sin van die lewe [Death and the meaning of life]* by Chris Jones and Vincent Brümmer. It will be published in the March 2022 edition of the accredited *Tydskrif vir Geesteswetenskappe****.*** [↑](#footnote-ref-3)