



# JANUS

December  
Desember  
2021  
Uitgawe  
Edition  
20



## CROZIER STREET'S EXCELLENCE

Drs Gawie Botma and Marenet Jordaan ended 2020 on a high note: both received an award for their contribution towards excellence: Gawie, in research, and Marenet in teaching. Both awards were handed over at virtual events.

Dr Gawie Botma, senior lecturer, was one of the recipients of the 2020 Research Output Awards, and Dr Marenet Jordaan, received her Institutional Teaching Excellence Award in the category for developing teacher.

The 2020 Research Output Awards were made in January this year by the Vice-Rector: Research, Innovation and Postgraduate Studies, Prof Eugene Cloete. This award goes to Stellenbosch University researchers who made the biggest contribution to accredited publications. This is based annually on audited publication statistics of the 2018-output year.

Gawie, convener of the Department's MA and PhD programmes, published the book *Race talk in the South African media* in 2019 at Sun Press. Other publications from his pen are *Brothers in armchairs*:



The photographs that were used during the two virtual events of both Drs Botma (left) and Jordaan (right).

*Cultural struggles at Die Burger* (2014, Sun Press), based on his PhD dissertation (2011) titled "Manufacturing cultural capital: Arts journalism at Die Burger (1990-1999)". He has also published the book *Polemieke: Bekgevegte in Afrikaans* in 2018 at Zebra Press. His research articles are published in prominent journals, such as *African Journalism Studies*, *Critical Arts*, *Communication* and *Journalism and Mass Communication Educator* in the fields of

political economy, cultural studies and journalism education. Until his appointment at SU he was arts editor and theatre critic of *Die Burger* in Cape Town.

Of Marenet's award for Teaching Excellence the judging panel said of her teaching portfolio that a central element of her teaching philosophy is affirming students "as co-creators of knowledge", emphasising reciprocity in teaching methods.

This is what Marenet said in response at the awards ceremony:

"About 10 years ago I left my professional journalism career behind and joined the higher education sector. I really believed I could make a difference as mentor for a new generation of media workers.

"This award affirms my belief that I'm in the right place. I am grateful to Stellenbosch University for this recognition – and for all the opportunities to enrich my knowledge of teaching and learning ... I will always maintain that I learn as much from my students as they might learn from me. As such, teaching is an honour and a privilege for me. I don't think I will ever get tired of it." ■

**Welcome!** This edition of *Janus* is meant to be the textual and visual epitome of the Roman god of transitions, looking to the past, but of course also to the future, because we are on the brink of the old and the new. In this case, hoping that 2022 will, indeed, be much better than 2020 and 2021. But sadly, also, it is the end of a special era: The Rykie van Reenen Fellowship will come to an end in December this year (also see page 20).

The Fellowship, since 1998 a secondment from Naspers, later Media24, meant that we always had a practitioner brimming with the latest newsroom practices as our Honours students' Journalism Practice lecturer. (Plus all the trials and tribulations of being in 24/7 contact with a super-dedicated group of beginner-journalists).

We extend our deepest gratitude to Naspers/Media24 for the support through the Rykie Fellowship over these just more than two decades, although we are sad that it has come to an end.

But then, looking towards the future: thank you to Henriëtte Loubser, editor of *Netwerk24*, and Wicus Pretorius, in his role as

Afrikaans synergy manager at Media24, for the support that we will still be getting through the company in teaching, learning, and educating beginner-journalists that are well-trained in all the demands and expectations of multimedia work.

And then, of course, let's all hope 2022 will, indeed, be much better than the past and previous years...

As always, our annual newsletter is packed with an overview of the year's programme, including exciting book publications by our alumni. Enjoy, and please let us know what we have missed, we will gladly catch-up. Also: Please ask classmates to send their email addresses to our Alumni Office at [alumni@sun.ac.za](mailto:alumni@sun.ac.za) in order for the Journalism Department's alumni contacts to be updated. Please also send news snippets to [journalism@sun.ac.za](mailto:journalism@sun.ac.za).

Take care, stay safe,  
en bly goede moede, 2022 móét eenvoudig beter wees as 2021.

Lizette Rabe  
Chair

# (CROZIER'S) AINSLEY NOW LEADS SU'S COUNCIL

*Ainsley Moos (Class of 2001) has been appointed as the new chair of Stellenbosch University's Council.*

Ainsley Moos, member of the executive team of the financial services company African Rainbow Capital (ARC), has been appointed as the new Chair of the Council of Stellenbosch University (SU). He has served on the Council since 2014 and has been Vice-Chair since 2018.

Ainsley said: "It remains a privilege to be able to serve on the Council and to liaise with fellow councillors, led by George Steyn as chairperson, and the University's management, led by Prof Wim de Villiers as Vice-Chancellor and Rector – to the benefit of the University and ultimately the larger society. I look forward to both the opportunities and the challenges that the role of chair may bring."

At ARC Ainsley is responsible for corporate and stakeholder relations. He is an SU alumnus who obtained the degrees BA, BPhil (Journalism) and an MBA. He has also completed leadership programmes at GIBS, Wits and Harvard.

He will take over on 3 December 2021 from the current chair, Mr George Steyn, who will chair the last Council meeting of the year the day before. Steyn will remain an ordinary board member until his term expires on 1 April 2022.

Steyn said he was very grateful that Ainsley is prepared to serve as chair. "The SU Council is privileged to have someone of his calibre at the helm for the next term. I am convinced that he will be an extremely capable chairperson and we wish him all the best."

According to the Rector and Vice-Chancellor, Prof Wim de Villiers, Ainsley has already made significant contributions to the Council for several years, not only as Chair of the Council's Remuneration Committee, but also as a member of the Executive Committee of Council and Human Resources Committee. "We are very much looking forward to further benefiting from Mr Moos' management expertise as well as his proven expertise as a communications specialist and manager of stakeholder relations in the corporate world."

Ainsley, after graduating with his honours degree in journalism from Crozier Street, worked in several newsrooms before joining the corporate world. As journalism leader, he also showed his mettle as editor of *Landbouweekblad* from January 2008 to December 2009, and as editor of *Volksblad* from January 2010 to April 2012. He served for a brief period as editor and publisher of *Sake24* before joining the corporate world as Sanlam's group head of communication. [J](#)

\* Compiled from the news release by SU's communication division and news reports on Netwerk24.



# INDEPENDENT JOURNALISM IS 'MAIN VACCINE AGAINST DISINFORMATION'



Prof George Claassen, Professor Extraordinary in the Department of Journalism.

*By Professor George Claassen, Professor Extraordinaire in the Department of Journalism, departmental chair from 1994 until December 2000, ombud for MatieMedia, News24's Public Editor and member of the board of the Organization of News Ombudsmen and Standards Editors (ONO). This is an abbreviated column written for News24 in September this year.\**

"Journalism, Covid-19's collateral victim," is how Reporters without Borders (RSF) summarised its #RSFIndex2021 Report on the worsening position of journalists to report the facts independently.

This independence of the media to report news unhindered from pressure and interest groups, also from politicians and public officials failing to fulfil their duty to act on behalf of the population, has been part and parcel of the woes of News24 and many other local media's journalists, harassed and threatened on a wide variety of topics, lately by conspiracy theorists and anti-vaccination cults.

The pressures Covid-19 has brought on journalists to inform the public about scientific facts are not new. In all fields covered by dedicated journalists worldwide, there is always pressure from someone who wants to interfere with our duty to report the facts fearlessly, evidence-based, and not merely founded on wishful thinking.

What does the South African Press Code say about the media's role in society? In its preamble, it emphasises that the "media ex-

ist to serve society. Their freedom provides for independent scrutiny of the forces that shape society, and is essential to realising the promise of democracy. It enables citizens to make informed judgments on the issues of the day, a role whose centrality is recognised in the South African Constitution."

It further states that the "media's work is guided at all times by the public interest, understood to describe information of legitimate interest or importance to citizens."

To do their work, journalists must be independent, one of the basic pillars of press and media codes in democracies. After years of censorship, harassment, intimidation, and incarceration of journalists during apartheid, section 16 of the Constitution brought freedom of expression, a vital guarantee to sustain and advance democracy.

The self-regulatory Press Code emphasises this independence of the media in section 2. In its 2021 Index of Media Independence, RSF emphasises how difficult the task of journalists has become. RSF has specific concerns about journalists in Africa:

"The coronavirus crisis has made it evident that African journalists' role in nurturing democracies built on fact-based and pluralist public debate is still far from assured. Instead of allowing journalists to do their job of reporting the news, a role that is more essential than ever during such a crisis, authorities sought to control coverage of the pandemic and often facilitated or even directly contributed to hostility

and mistrust towards those trying to provide objective, researched reporting?"

As journalists, we should always protect our independence as if we are in the last trenches of democracy. But it also applies to how we look at ourselves as a profession because that self-examination can only lead to protecting our hard-won independence to serve democracy.

It is worthwhile to take to heart the words of Piet Cillié, former editor of the Cape Town daily *Die Burger*, and then head of the Department of Journalism at the University of Stellenbosch, when he said in 1979, "We in the press, when we so quickly want to quote Lord Acton about the potential of corruption embedded in power, must remember that it is not only authorities which have power: We also have power, power of propaganda, power over the thoughts of people, power to thwart and to disrupt. Our power is not immune against the corruption about what we are so vigilant when it applies to others. It is better that we also look at our own conceit and abuse of power, rather than calling others to account for it."

There is an Indian saying, "The truth is what the neighbour sees, not your mother". As journalists, we in the media quite often should be the neighbour, not the mother blinded by blood. ■

\* George Claassen | [Journalism is 'main vaccine against disinformation'](#) – Why independence of the media matters | News24

# THE ONLY SINE QUA NON

*Dr Johan Retief, Rykie van Reenen Fellow in the Department from 2000 to 2002, earlier this year resigned as Press Ombud after serving for almost a decade in the position. This remains his message to all journalists:*

Let me cut to the chase. The heart of media ethics is this: Do not cause harm unnecessarily.

This implies, does it not, that journalists can – and indeed should – cause harm to those who deserve it, and if it is in the public’s interest to do so. The media are not called the Fourth Estate for nothing. Watchdogs of society we are.

Expose those buggers who connive, steal, lie and racketeer at the cost of society. Let them suffer; let them pay for their behaviour. They do not deserve society’s sympathy, and neither should they get it from you.

But beware not to cause harm to those who do not deserve it – which is exactly what you are doing if you publish “information” that is not accurate, truthful, fair, verified and in context.

These are the basics – the only way of ensuring sound, ethical journalism. There really are no shortcuts.



Dr Johan Retief

But why is this important?

If you do not know the answer to this question, it can only be that you underestimate the media’s influence on society at large – and for that matter, your own influence as well.

During the course of my career as Press Ombudsman, I have seen how the media have destroyed the lives of many innocent people. Some have lost their jobs; others have lost their spouses; still others have lost their houses. Not to speak of their dig-

nity and reputation.

An apology for such reckless journalism was in many cases not enough to restore the unfathomable harm that ruthless and mindless idiots who call themselves journalists have caused them. Some of these cases simply could not be “fixed”, as the harm the media have caused them was irreparable. The damage was permanent.

Cause harm to those who deserve it, yes – but do not cause harm to the innocent. This is the heart of the heart of ethical journalism.

If you have not yet grasped this, please do us all (including yourself) a favour and throw your computer into the sea. The harm that you would cause to Mother Nature would be far less than the harm that you are bound to cause innocent people.

For it is only if you have comprehended this fundamental principle, that you are ready to enter the wonderful world of journalism.

I trust that each and every student/journalist has made this *conditio sine qua non* her / his own, in which case you are more than welcome to do your job properly – which is to serve society.”



## “ Aims and Objectives

a. To uphold and promote the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa by preserving the right to freedom of expression and freedom of the press;

b. To promote and develop ethical practice in journalism and to promote the adoption of and adherence to these standards by the South African press”

“Effective self-regulation is the best system for promoting high standards in the media.”

Declaration of the Principles on Freedom of Expression in Africa, 2002.



<https://presscouncil.org.za/>  
Unsplash

# ERNS IS . . . ELDERS

## HIERDIE KEER AAN'T MARATHON HARDLOOP

*In Oktober vanjaar het Erns Grundling (klas van 2002), bekend vir sy Elders-reeke op TV, vir wat vir die meeste van ons ondenkbaar klink, sy eerste marathon gehardloop. Jy's 'n inspirasie, Erns!*

Erns Grundling ran his first ever marathon in the recent Cape Town Marathon on 17 October.

Of course, Erns is much better known, and a household name, as travel journalist (for *Weg!*), for his super book on walking the Camino in 2015 (*Elders*, NB Uitgewers), as well as his highly popular Elders TV series. He has just finished Elders Namibië, and we're waiting for the next steps to be taken – literally – by this journo with seemingly bottomless energy.

And so, part of all the adventures in life, was to run the Sanlam Cape Town Marathon.

October is of course Mental Health Awareness Month, and he chose to run it for the non-profit Ithemba Foundation. For Ithemba the whole of October is HOPEtober – ithemba means hope – to ensure enough hope and wellbeing is spread to last for the next twelve months, especially in these times.

Erns wrote on his GivenGain page (<https://bit.ly/EGrundlingGG>) about his progress, and how he prepared, mentally and physically, for this übermensch race, and yes, all in aid of raising awareness of mental health:

“My name is Erns Grundling, I'm a journalist, author and TV presenter of the kykNET travel show Elders. I'm also someone who knows and lives with the Black Dog, as depression is commonly known. This year I will attempt my first marathon and my aim is to raise funds for an organisation that's very close to my heart: the Ithemba Foundation NPC. Ithemba means 'hope' in isiXhosa. Ithemba Foundation strives to raise awareness of depression as a biological illness, and raises funds for research about this disease, which so often leads to loss of life.

“I have never run further than 30 km before in my life and I aim to run the Sanlam Cape Town Marathon in less than four hours on 17 October, and to put in a full day's work afterwards. I have set a target of R42 200 – R1 000 per km or R1 per meter – but you are welcome to donate any amount



ABOVE: Erns with his half-Husky Minka, as well as two other well-known doggy friends: on the left his Droomhond, and on the right, his Trooshond, both from friend Dana Snyman's Swarthond Project which also raises awareness of mental health.

RIGHT: Erns oor die eindstreep ... en daarna het hierdie Superman sowaar die res van die dag gaan werk, want sy skedule is ongenadig.



that you see fit?”

In 'n artikel op Netwerk24 (<https://www.netwerk24.com/netwerk24/stemme/aktueel/saam-is-ons-onbreekbaar-20211008>) het hy onder meer gesê terwyl hy in 2015 die Spaanse Camino gestap het, het hy geleer 'n mens kan “altyd verder gaan as wat jy dink”. Dieselfde geld vir draf, het hy gevind. En dit het tot die gedagte van 'n marathon gelei. Omdat hy self daardie “Swart hond” intiem ken, het hy besluit om dit spesifiek vir bewusmaking van psigiese gesondheid te doen. “Dit is letterlik lewensnoodsaaklik dat die stilte oor depressie gebreek word en dat daar groter bewustheid daarvan is as 'n biologiese siekte, soos diabetes.” Sy plan was om die afstand van 'n marathon, 42,2 km, vir die Ithemba Stigting letterlik in rand en

sent hardloop: 'n volle R42,200.

“Ek is baie dankbaar vir die geleentheid om my eerste marathon ooit te kombineer met 'n fonsinsameling vir die Ithemba-stigting. Die organisasie lê my baie na aan die hart omdat ek ook 'n pad met depressie stap.” Oefening speel 'n kardinale rol in psigiese gesondheid: “Ek kan nie daarsonder nie, oefening doen wondere vir my gemoed.” Die gedagte aan 42,2 km het hom senuweeagtig gemaak, maar “die wete dat hierdie poging 'n beskeie bydrae kan lewer tot psigiese gesondheid, wat in hierdie uitdagende tye geweldig onder beleg is vir miljoene mense, motiveer my elke tree.” ■

# CLASS OF 2001, REMINISCING ON THE YEAR THE WORLD CHANGED FOREVER



The Class of 2001, with in the front row from left to right Mr Johann van Tonder, Mr Danie Williams, Dr Johan Retief, Prof Lizette Rabe, Dr Billy Trengove, Mrs Leona Amoraal and Drs Ingrid Scholtz.

By Anél (Powell) Lewis,  
2001 Class Leader

We took the first step of our journalism careers in 2001 – known as “the year the world changed forever” when two planes flew into the Twin Towers of New York’s World Trade Center. A reality TV show called Big Brother took SA by storm, and the number one song, ironically, was Lifehouse’s “Hanging by a moment”.

But for 20 bright-eyed students from various fields of undergraduate study – including forestry and theology – it was also the year when we changed forever.

There was no social media – no Facebook or Twitter. I don’t think many of us even had cellphones. We learned shorthand and typing. Well, Mrs Amoraal tried valiantly to teach us to speed type but I think we ended up giving her more grey hairs than legible copy. Dr T reminded us of the beauty of language, and how scrambling to meet a deadline is never an excuse for shoddy grammar or spelling errors.

Drs Scholtz broadened our worldview with discussions on cultural journalism, while Prof George Claassen demystified evolution so that we could produce science journalism with broad appeal. Seasoned photojournalist Johann van Tonder drummed the rule of thirds into us, encouraging us to view the world a bit differently.

We pondered the ethics of journalism with Dr Johan Retief, and Ilze Koning

helped us navigate the ‘net. We have Bun Booyens to thank for percentages that make sense when we tackle financial journalism and thank goodness for Oom Danie who kept us all sane with a steady supply of coffee and good humour.

We were also incredibly fortunate to be Prof Lizette Rabe’s first journalism class as the new Head of Department. From her, we learnt many of the values of journalism – integrity, accuracy, and the reward of hard work.

It was a busy year that involved late nights completing assignments, an unforgettable trip to Gauteng (what happened on that bus ... stays on that bus) and speakers such as Monique and Callie Strydom, recently released after a 127-day hostage ordeal. Not to mention that end-of-year “indiepte-projek” that seemed to take on a life of its own.

We reflect, 20 years later, on the many special moments and memories we shared. Lifelong friendships were formed in the wee hours of the morning in that computer room. We even compiled a CD of the soundtrack to our year (thank you, Gideon Nieuwoudt!). We also remember our gentle classmate Sandile Mchunu, who sadly passed away this year.

It was indeed the year the world changed for the class of 2001, as we left 26 Crozier Street as multi-skilled journalists and media managers, able to take on a world that would never quite be the same again. ■

## Where in the world...

We tracked down some of the Class of 2001 to find out where they are now:

**RONEL BESTER:** Strategic relations manager at the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, Stellenbosch University

**HEATHER D’ALTON:** Co-owner of LoveGreen Communications

**PIERRE DU BOIS:** Healthcare communications, marketing and fundraising specialist, UK

**MARENET JORDAAN:** Senior Lecturer, Department of Journalism, Stellenbosch University

**JACOLETTE KLOPPERS:** Specialist project manager (communication), Office of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Strategy, Global and Corporate Affairs, Stellenbosch University

**ANÉL LEWIS:** Media coordinator at University of the Western Cape, freelance writer

**AINSLEY MOOS:** Executive: Corporate and Stakeholder Relations, ARC

**CAROLYN MORTON:** Online writing centre

**GIDEON NIEUWOUTD:** Project manager in software development, New Zealand

**KERRI-ANN ROPER:** Head of entertainment, arts and media for Press Association, UK.

**LIESL PRETORIUS:** Founder of Answerable – accountability journalism and mentoring of fact-checkers in Africa

**LE ROUX SCHOEMAN:** Editor, Kerkbode

# 2001, 9/11, TWO DECADES, AND MEMORIES

By Gideon Nieuwoudt, Class of 2001



Gideon's photo, lying on his back at the foot of the twin towers, of the World Trade Center when he and his family visited New York five years before the attack.

So much of 2001 went past in a blur of endless assignments, late nights in the computer room and heading out into Stellenbosch to look for stories for *Eikestadnuus* and *MatieFM*. Weaved into this was a camaraderie with my fellow journalism students and a deep sense of belonging that I will carry with me for the rest of my life.

Arguably the biggest news event of the year was, of course, the September 11 attacks.

I was at home with my parents at the time watching CNN mere minutes after the first plane had hit the North Tower of the World Trade Center in New York. Being the exemplary journalism student that I was, I immediately started sending out text messages to my fellow students. At that point we still thought it was an accident, only for History to exhale its dramatic pause a few minutes later.

Watching the towers burn – and then their collapse – held a very personal connection for me as my family and I had the privilege of visiting New York five years earlier where we got to go up in the South Tower to the observation deck.

I remember two moments vividly: lying on my back at the foot of the two towers to take a photo, and the moment the elevator



From left to right, clockwise: Ally Powell, Gideon Nieuwoudt, Le Roux Schoeman and Magriet Ruthven.

doors opened onto the observation deck and being met by the heart-stopping view of New York City.

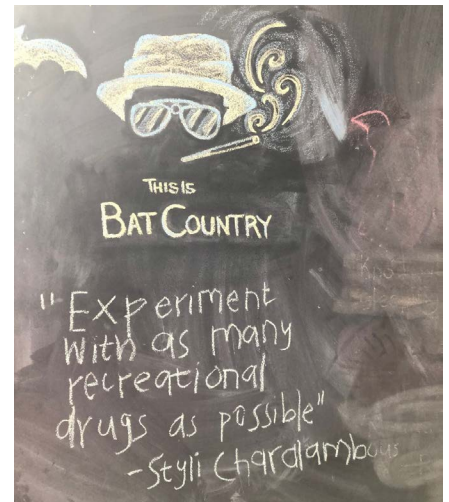
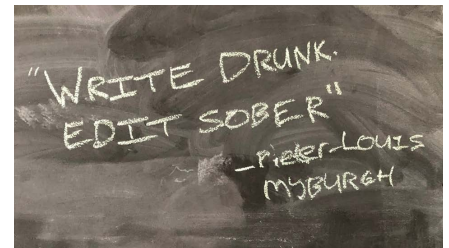
Years later I watched a documentary of a firefighter crew huddling in the lobby of

the North Tower as the South Tower began to collapse. The footage of firefighters running for their lives in that lobby where my footsteps once fell, stayed with me for a very long time. ■

# THE YEAR IN PICTURES



Dr Bimbo Lolade Fafowora on graduation day last year December with, from left to right, the Department's Lijuan Williams-Daniels, Elizabeth Newman and her supervisor, Lizette Rabe. The title of her dissertation was "Media construction and representation of women in political leadership positions: A study of selected news media outlets in Nigeria". Bimbo was a postdoctoral fellow in the Department this past year, working on extracting academic journal articles from her dissertation for publication in academic journals. Bimbo hails from Nigeria, where she obtained her other qualifications from the University of Ibadan.



Trust journalism students to remember these quotable quotes, as depicted on the Department's graffiti wall ... But we of course hope they also listened to the advice and tips and experience from these two esteemed guests during their guest lecturer slots this past year. Styli Charalambous being the CEO of the Daily Maverick, and award winning investigative journalist Pieter-Louis Myburgh, of course an alumnus from the Class of 2009.



To organise a party for someone who usually organises the Department, was One Major Operation. But so we did succeed in throwing a small surprise party for Elizabeth Newman's 50th birthday in April this year. Starting as secretary, Elizabeth climbed the ladder to her new official title, that of our departmental administrative officer. And rightly so: Who else has someone in this critical position who also sports a BA degree, as well as having completed a number of other courses? We hope the next 50 years will be as adventurous as those up to now, Lizbeth!

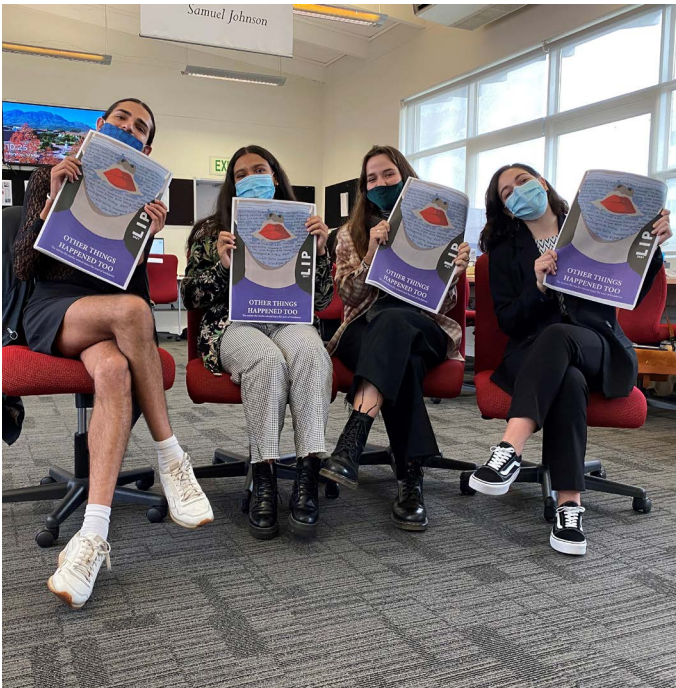


Nog 'n gasspreker was Waldimar Pelser, redakteur van *Rapport*, en alumnus van die Klas van 2000, ook 'n oudredakteur van *Die Matie*. Hier is hy by Inge du Plessis, klasleier van die Klas van 2021.





Sethu Mbuli-Robertson (Class of 2019, pictured receiving her Queen's Young Leaders Award in 2018), was one of seven recipients of the FirstRand Foundation Scholarships worth R950 000 each. These "academically gifted South African students with excellent leadership qualities and the potential to be future destiny changers" could choose an internationally recognised university of their choice to further their studies. Sethu decided to complete a Master's in Media and Communication Governance at the London School of Economics and Political Science. Sethu is also working as communications officer for both the UN Independent Expert on Albinism and the Africa Albinism Alliance, two organisations that are related, but independent from one another. Sethu, who was the top academic achiever in her class in 2019, was awarded the Queen's Young Leaders Award in 2018 for her work to end the stigma of albinism in South Africa.



On the Department's World Press Freedom Day celebrations in May the 2021 edition of *LIP* with the theme "Other things happened too: The stories the media missed since the start of the Covid-19 lockdown" was also launched. Sitting here, from left to right, are: Giuseppe Guerandi, Maryam Adams, Erin Walls and Lara van Zyl.

On 3 October the annual Hope Hike and Hope Bike rung in the month of HOPEtober as Mental Health Awareness month. The Department's students once again enthusiastically took part in raising awareness and breaking the silence around mental health. As one said of the selfies posted on Ithemba's FB page: "Blue represents hope, and our smiles resilience." Here are a couple of the photos taken during the walk from 26 Crozier Street up to Stellenbosch Mountain and back.



Mnr Danie Williams, eerste faktotum van die Departement Joernalistiek met sy ontstaan in 1978, het op 22 November sy 80ste verjaardag gevier. Hier oorhandig Elizabeth Williams, Departementele Administratiewe Beambte, 'n beker met die Departement se wapen aan Oom Danie. Sy opvolger, en dogter, Lijuan Williams-Daniels, staan regs.



The Honours class students were treated, as always, to some magnificent speakers in their weekly guest speaker slot. One was Zapiro, who took them on a virtual journey through the development of his career as pre-eminent cartoonist. Here Zapiro (centre), or Jonathan Shapiro, was photographed with the students after his captivating lecture, illustrated with some milestone cartoons, and clearly proving why he is considered one of the top global political cartoonists.



Die US se studentekoerant het vanjaar sy 80ste verjaardag gevier. Almal wat al redakteur van *Die Matie* was én terselfdertyd hul honneurs in joernalistiek gedoen het, weet dat klippe kou 'n understatement van die ekstreme is. Hier is vanjaar se redakteur (en honneursstudent) Carla Visagie by 2001 se redakteur (en honneursstudent) Jacolette Kloppers, sedert onlangs spesialis projekbestuurder by die US se Strategiese Inisiatiewe - 'n groot geluk vir *Die Matie* om Jacolette so naby te hê, want 'n groter beskermengel vir Stellenbosch se studentekoerant as Jacolette bestaan daar eenvoudig nie.



The 2021 Honours Class did a day tour to Cape Town, including visiting Robben Island and the District Six Museum. Here are some of the students in the District Six Museum.



# LOSING 'TEXTURE AND NUANCE' – WPFDF 2021

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At this year's annual World Press Freedom Day, the thirtieth commemoration of the Windhoek Declaration of 3 May 1991, which led to the day being declared by UNESCO as World Press Freedom Day, was also celebrated. The Department's panel discussion to commemorate the day was the theme of the Honours students' *LIP* publication: "Other things happened too: The stories the media missed since the start of the Covid-19 lockdown." The panel featured from left to right Henriëtte Loubser, editor-in-chief of Netwerk24, Lister Namumba, Media Monitoring Africa's monitoring, research and analysis programme manager, and Dele Olojede, the first Pulitzer Prize winning journalist born in Africa (for his coverage of the aftermath of the Rwandan genocide). The event also served as the official launch of the journalism students' annual newspaper *LIP*.

By Kirsty Bucholz, Class of 2021

The South African media has displayed a trend of a lack of diversity in coverage, sources and stories due to various Covid-19 related factors.

This was according to Lister Namumba, programme manager of monitoring, research and analysis at Media Monitoring Africa, during a World Press Freedom Day\* panel on 10 May, held at Stellenbosch University's (SU) Journalism Department.

"Granted, we are living through a pandemic so [it] had to dominate coverage. But there were other issues happening as well, that were not getting as much attention," said Namumba.

Given the nature of the pandemic, it "necessarily distorted the media" by creating "a singular gaze". This meant that other important events were not adequately attended to by the media, according to Dele Olojede, Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and former editor at *NewsDay*. "I don't want us to create the impression that it was a terrible thing that the media fo-

## “ Pandemic caused 'singular gaze'”

cused on the pandemic. It's after all a once-in-a-century calamity," said Olojede.

The lack of diversity in coverage was possibly due to the fact that it became more difficult for journalists to do their work, Namumba suggested. She cited the example of Azarrah Karrim, the News24 reporter whom police officers shot at with rubber bullets while she was covering the start of the nationwide lockdown in 2020.

"There could have also been fear among journalists of getting infected," Namumba said. These fears could have impacted the quality of reportage, she added.

Journalists struggled to gain access to newsworthy places such as homeless shelters, hospitals and shopping centres – which made it difficult to portray the reality of events, according to Henriëtte Loubser, editor-in-chief of Netwerk24. "We had the necessary permits to go out to news scenes, but [we] had to balance the health and safety of our journalists," she said.

Furthermore, like others, journalists were negatively affected by the pandemic in their personal relationships and lack thereof, according to Olojede. "Of course, in addition to [this], if you have to conduct everything through digital means, it takes something away from the texture and nuance of the coverage," he added.

\* *LIP*, the annual World Press Freedom commemorative publication of the BA-Hons Journalism Class, was also launched during this event. This year's theme "Other things happened too", centred around those stories that have been pushed into the margins as the media turned their focus to Covid-19 reporting. [L](#)



## WILLEMEN EXPLORING “SOFT POWER” IN THE MEDIA

Willemien Calitz (Class of 2010) completed her PhD in Media Studies at the University of Cape Town in 2020. With Prof Herman Wasserman (BHons alumnus, as well as former lecturer in the Department) as her supervisor, Willemien explored the successes and failures of China’s “soft power” efforts in Africa.

For her study, Willemien compared media coverage of China’s sustainable development and human rights reputation in South African mainstream media with that of Chinese state-owned media to determine how China might be viewed in Africa, compared to the frame that Chinese media aimed to cultivate. To improve the understanding of this coverage, Willemien interviewed South African and Chinese journalists to determine the hierarchy of influences impacting the sustainable development and human rights coverage of China within these groups.

Willemien has always had a passion for and interest in climate change

and currently works at C4 EcoSolutions, a climate change consultancy that develops adaptation projects for Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS), to be approved for funding by the Green Climate Fund (GCF) or Global Environmental Facility (GEF). ■



Willemien in Beijing during her fieldwork.

# SZ MINNAAR, KLAS VAN 2019, UIT BRUSSEL



Ek het die besluit gemaak: come hell or high water, ná my honneursjaar in 2019 wil ek oorsee gaan. Die hell en high water het gelukkig weggebly, maar ek het soos baie ander mense glad nie op 'n wêreldpandemie gereken nie.

Die plan was om in 2020 'n oorbruggingsjaar te neem en dus het ek beplan om my vlerke so ver moontlik te sprei. Die eerste inperking het dit egter duidelik gemaak dat my enigste vlug na die buiteland moontlik 'n verbeeldingsvlug sou wees.

Dit was tydens dié inperking wat ek ook soos baie ander mense by die huis gesit het – let wel, in Namibië. Hoewel dit as die buiteland geld en tegnies oor die waters (van die Oranjerivier) is, was die skuif van Suid-Afrika na Suidwestelike Afrika nie horisonverbredend genoeg nie. Ek het onverpoos bly soek na geleenthede om oorsee te kan gaan (met net 'n BA in Manvang agter my naam!) en die opsies was min, maar uiteindelik was die middel tot my oorsese doel om te gaan au pair in België.

Om in gewone tye na die anderkant van die wêreld te vlieg om kinders te gaan oppas, is miskien twyfelagtig, maar ten tye van die pes is die nou-of-nooit-faktor bepalend. Terloops, later het ek uitgevind Marita van der Vyver (oud-student van die departement) het presies 40 jaar vantevore ook kinders gaan oppas in Frankryk. Ek het soms gewonder of dit tot haar suksesvolle skrywersloopbaan bygedra het, of eerder tot hoe 'n groot mate, en indien dit die geval is,



SZ, au pair in Brussel, het darem ook kans gekry om rond te loop wanneer hy uit sy besneeude dakkamer kon glip.

mag die geskiedenis hom asseblief herhaal.

Maar kinders oppas in die vreemde daar gelaat, sy lyk na die voorbeeldige soort student en ek, daarenteen, het joernalistieke doodsonde gepleeg deur my onvermoë om by spertye te hou. Die belangrikste een het natuurlik veroorsaak dat ek my groot werkstuk eers 'n jaar later, aan die einde van 2020, sou inhandig.

Maar dit het ook iets besonder op 'n onverwagse manier tot gevolg gehad: Wat ek aan het schrijven in Brussel besef het, is dat ek waarskynlik die eerste en enigste student van die departement is om sy/haar honneurs vanuit die buiteland te

voltooi. Miskien is daar studente wat al internskappe in die buiteland gehad het, maar dit is as gevolg van die pandemie se inperkings en aanlyn-massamigrasie wat Crozierstraat 26 as 't ware nou nie meer beperk is tot die fisiese adres nie.

Om Suid-Afrikaanse bronne vanuit België te kontak, het beslis sy uitdagings gehad, en om met 'n skerm 'n onderhoud te voer, het geen sjarme nie. Nieteenstaande, wat 'n besondere tyd, en wat 'n voorreg om dit te kon beleef. Maar meer nog, die band met Crozierstraat 26 strek ver buite Stellenbosch en dit het byna 'n wêreldpandemie geneem om dit te besef. **J**

# THE YEAR OF THE BOOK

Crozier Street saw 2021 as the Year of the Book with a number of publications by alumni. On this page, read more about Engela Duvenage's publication *Uitvindders, Planmakers en ander Slimkoppe van Suid-Afrika*, with the English version as *Inventors, Bright Minds and Other Science Heroes of South Africa*. Engela, then Botes, was a member of the Class of 1996, and also holds a Master's in Science Journalism (2001). Read more about two children's books on the next page – one by Leon-Ben Lamprecht, who will be graduating with his Master's in December, *Wie skrik vir Wortel Wolf*, and Lizette Rabe's (Class of 1978) *Blou Feetjie – 'n Storie met 'n begin en 'n einde wat weer begin*, as well as Marita van der Vyver's (Class of 1979) latest book, *'n Baie lang brief aan my dogter*. Marco Botha's (Class of 2008) *Die Spore van Gert Saggiestrap*, as well as Irna van Zyl's fourth book in five years, *Een mooi dag*, follow on the next page. (Please accept our apologies if we missed your book – but please let us know in order to make amends.)

## CHILDREN'S BOOKS FEATURE SA'S SCIENCE HEROES

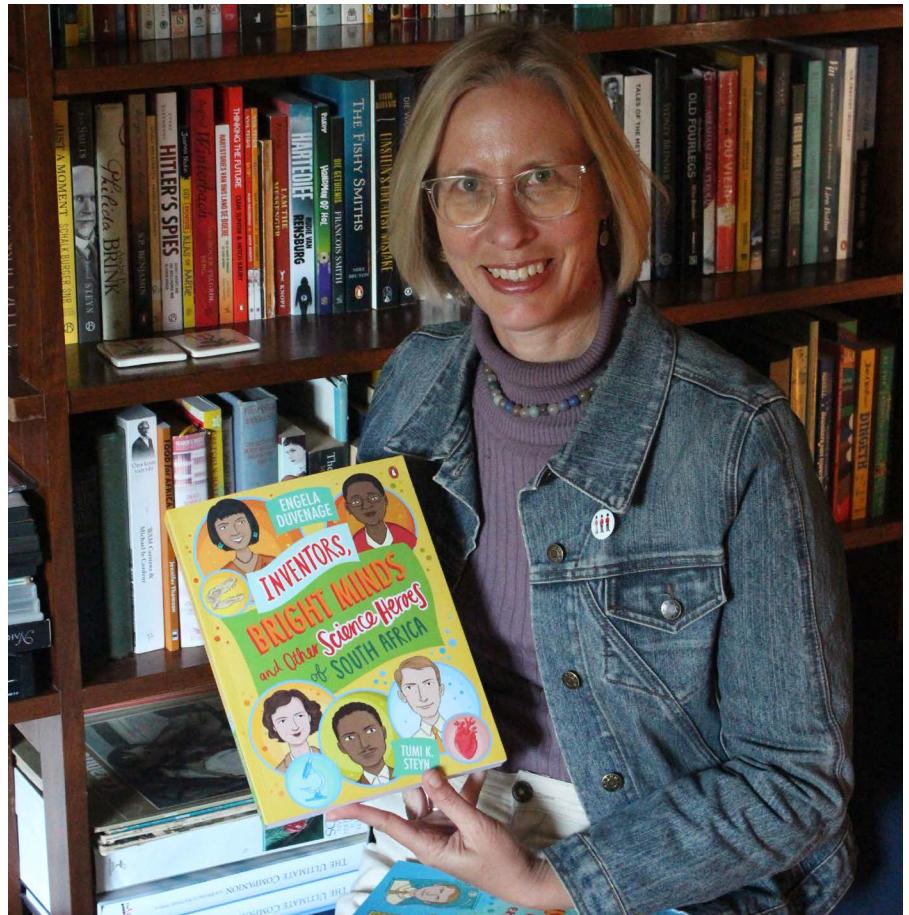
"They are probably some of the books with the longest titles on the market," jokes science writer Engela Duvenage about her children's books featuring local science heroes.

*Uitvindders, Planmakers en ander Slimkoppe van Suid-Afrika* was published last year by LAPA, and in August 2021 *Inventors, Bright Minds and other Science Heroes of South Africa*, published by Penguin Random House, followed.

Written in narrative non-fiction style, they contain 102 stories of people who can all claim some type of first in South African and even world science, such as being the first to discover a new type of earthworm or plant, or to invent some new gadget or electronic tool.

"There is for instance the story about the historic first heart transplant by Prof Chris Barnard, but also that of the first 3D printed middle ear transplant by Prof Mashudu Tshifularo of the University of Pretoria in 2019, that of well-known South African inventions such as the Kreepy Krauly and dolosse, and newer ones such as a bank security app and glider planes."

The 360-odd pages cover the fields of agriculture, healthcare, geology, space science, botany and zoology, palaeontology, engineering, aeronautics, climatology, and astronomy.



Engela Duvenage

Among Duvenage's favourite stories are those of Prof John Burland, a soil scientist who saved the Tower of Pisa from collapsing, velvet worm expert Prof Savel Daniels, billionaire Elon Musk, the first South African-born vet, Jotello Soga, and Prof De Wet Swanepoel, who developed a user-friendly hearing test app.

Duvenage says she is extremely proud of the work that local scientists, engineers, inventors and entrepreneurs do, often behind the scenes. "The books are my way of celebrating the ingenuity of South Africans, or people with South Africa links."

"I wrote them with children in mind, but from the responses I have had I realise that they already have a loyal adult following too," says Duvenage. "They are used widely in primary and high schools, and I've even heard of a drama teacher employing the stories. It's quite heart-warming to realise that one's work is having an impact."

According to sale figures by Nielsen, the Afrikaans version spent two weeks this year on the Top 4 list of all children's books sold in South Africa. The Afrikaans version took about four years of research and

writing to complete. Duvenage fitted it in among her daily tasks as a freelance writer for among others *Landbouweekblad*, *Lig* magazine and for research entities such as Stellenbosch University and HORTGRO Science, and as co-founder of the South African science website Scibraai.

The translation gave her the opportunity and freedom to update the text. "When I started out as a science journalist, I never thought that many of the interviews I would have with experts and researchers would one day lead me to write a children's book. When I became a mother, I started considering the topics for orals and school projects that my children tackled. Often, I'd suggest some of our local science heroes, about whom I had been telling them post-interview. There was seldom enough children-friendly copy available for them to use as a source, though.

"As they say, sometimes you just have to write the book that you couldn't find being sold in the bookshop. And that's what I did." ■

Published by LAPA / the English version by Penguin Random House (R330)

# THE YEAR OF THE BOOK



## LEON-BEN EN ENE WORTEL WOLF

Leon-Ben Lamprecht, M-student wat nou in Desember gradueer, vertel: “Ek het nooit gedink ek gaan ’n kinderboekskrywer wees nie. Ek wou wel altyd kinderstories vir groot mense skryf. Maar Wortel Wolf is eintlik uit nood gebore. Midde-in die harde lockdown laasjaar was my kinders raadop. Ons het heelwat boeke, maar hulle het meeste van hulle al vele kere gehoor. Die biblioteek was toe, en so ook was kontak tussen mense mos eintlik verboden, so dis nie asof ons kon gaan leen nie.

Toe een aand maak ek maar ’n storie op oor ’n vegetariese wolf en die misverstand wat hy met die drie varkies gehad het. Dit was rofweg die eerste weergawe van die storie. My kinders en my vrou het gedink dis nogal snaaks.

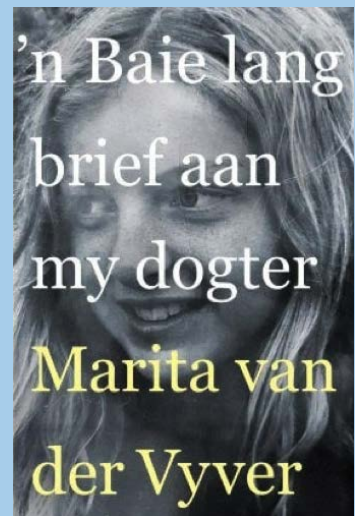
“En die volgende dag toe gaan sit en skryf ek maar die storie neer (met ’n paar veranderinge), en stuur dit vir ’n uitgewer, Michelle Cooper, by NB. En daarna het dit maar sy loop geneem. Daar is nog twee stories bygeskryf, en dit het ’n eerste leser-boekie geword, pleks van ’n prentboekie. Dis rofweg gemik op kinders 6 tot 9 (hoewel ek graag wil glo dat dit iets vir almal bied). In kort is dit omkerings van bekende sprokies wat jou verwagtinge ondermyn: die Drie Varkies, Rooikappie en die Seuntjie wat Wolf! geroep het. Ek wil nie te veel verklap oor die stories self nie – lees maar self!

“Ek moet bieg, ek het die skryf daarvan geweldig baie geniet, meer as verwag. Ek werk reeds aan ’n opvolg, en aan ’n paar ander idees. ’n Goeie kinderboek is vir my een van die lewe se ware plesiere. Volwasse romans kan soms so wroeg!”

*Wie skrik vir Wortel Wolf?* is buiten in boekwinkels ook aanlyn by [Graffiti Boeke](#) beskikbaar (R150).

## LOS ALLES EN LEES EERS

Marita van der Vyver (Klas van 1979) se *'n Baie lang brief aan my dogter* word beskryf as ’n ontroerende jeugmemoir. Die boek is ook in Engels as *A Long Letter to my Daughter* beskikbaar. Marita skryf as “’n Afrikaanse ma” oor haar jeugherinneringe aan haar Franse dogter. Dit vertel van haar grootwordjare in die sestigs en sewentigs gedurende die hoogbloeie van apartheid. Op Exclusive Books se webwerf word geskryf: “Maar dit is ook ’n storie oor taal en boeke en die wonderwerk van woorde. En hoe dit gekom het dat ’n skaam boekwurm uit ’n Afrikaanse middelklasfamilie, wat slegs ’n geslag vroeër nog werkersklas was, ’n skrywer geword het.” Die joernalis en skrywer Riëtte Rust skryf in haar resensie op Litnet: “Skuif vir eers alle moet-doen take opsy en lees gerus hierdie lang brief van ’n besondere ma aan haar dogter. Dit is onteenseglik die moeite werd. Veral as jy ook in die sestigs en sewentigs jonk was” (<https://www.litnet.co.za/n-baie-lang-brief-aan-my-dogter-deur-marita-van-der-vyver-n-resensie/>). Exclusive Books skryf ook: “Dis ’n boek wat die meeste mense nie sal kan neersit nie omdat dit ’n speurtog is deur ’n skrywer se beginjare en ’n liefdesbrief is aan ’n dogter en aan ’n taal en aan ’n land. En ’n ma se poging om sin te maak van hierdie onverskillige en wrede wêreld waarin sy haar nou begewe.” *'n Baie lang brief* is Marita se jongste boek nadat *Griet skryf 'n sprokie* gevolg is deur ’n hele oeuvre van boeke, ingesluit kinderboeke. Uitgegee deur Tafelberg (R330)



## 'N FEETJIE EN 'N STORIE WAT ALTYD WEER BEGIN

Lizette Rabe (Klas van 1978) het ’n storie gehad wat al lank in haar kop en hart gedraai het, en toe haar kleinkind gebore is, het sy gedink dis tyd om finale gestalte daaraan te gee. Dis die storie van ’n blou feetjie wat wil hê almal moet altyd gelukkig en tevrede wees. Haar oudkameraad by SARIE-tydskrif, Mandi (Smit) Fuchs, het die feetjie bekoorlik gestalte gegee. Alle tantieme van die boek gaan aan die Ithemba Stigting wat Lizette gestig het vir bewusmaking van psigiese siektes soos depressie en angs, en om te help om dié siektes te normaliseer, soos enige ander biologiese, kliniese siekte, sodat mense betyds hulp kan kry om met hul toestand saam te leef – soos ander met hul diabetes of hartsiektes.

Uitgegee deur Naledi (R175).

# THE YEAR OF THE BOOK



## 'N UNIVERSELE BOODSKAP: OM SAGGIES TE TRAP

Marco Botha (Klas van 2008), was al sportskrywer, bylaagredakteur en mede-uitgewer by *Die Burger*, *Beeld*, *Rapport* en 24.com. Bekend vir sy werk as rugbykommentator op TV en vir onder meer 'n boek oor sportleierskap wat in 2013 verskyn het (en hy's besig met 'n MBA aan Harvard), laat hy nou lesers regop sit met sy eerste roman, *Die Spore van Gert Saggiestrap*. Die sensitiewe boek gaan oor die Ju/'hoansi in die Omaheke, 'n noordwestelike uithoek van die Namibiese Kalahari. Oftewel boesmans, soos hulle na hulself verwys – "San" het die boekmense en die politici geskep, sê hulle. Maar Gert Saggiestrap se verhaal is veel meer as 'n aangrypende boek oor hoe 'n eerste nasie genadeloos onthoem is van grond en kultuur


deur opeenvolgende golwe van kolonialisering. Dis ook die verhaal van waar homo sapiens hulself vandag bevind: genadeloos uitgelewer aan politieke konflikte en kapitalisme, aan 'n omgewing wat op 'n kantelpunt staan van óf toekomstige generasies onderhou, óf die mens wat toenemend 'n slagoffer van ongebreidelde hebsug word. Dis 'n boek met 'n universele boodskap, van hoe ons álmal moet leer om saggies te trap op onse Moeder Aarde.

Uitgegee deur Flyleaf (R300).



## IRNA SE SELKUNDIGE RILLER

Irna van Zyl (ook Klas van 1979) se jongste boek, die vierde, word beskryf as 'n sielkundige riller, nadat sy reeds drie misdaadromans, oftewel krimi's, geskryf het. Haar eerste, *Moordvis*, en sy Engelse vertaling, *Dead in the Water*, is deur Penguin in 2016 gepubliseer. Twee jaar later, in 2018, het haar tweede, *Gifbeker*, in Engels *Death Cup*, gevolg. Die derde krimi was *Bloedsteen*, in Engels, *Blood Stone*, in 2020. En skaars 'n jaar later volg haar eerste sielkundige riller vanjaar, *Op 'n mooi dag*, in Engels *One Fine Day*. Lees meer by <https://www.penguinrandomhouse.co.za/book/one-fine-day/9781485904441>. Irna was voorheen redakteur van *De Kat* en *Insig*, asook hoofbestuurder van New Media, later 'n afdeling van Media24.

(Penguin, R290) 



# IN MEMORIAM

## ONS EERSTE MOEDER OWERSTE

*Sadly, 2021 saw the departure of four well-loved members of the Crozier Street family. They were Mrs Winie Rousseau, first secretary (and Mother Superior) of the Department of Journalism from 1978 to 1994, as well as extraordinary professor in the department, Prof Arrie de Beer, and two alumni, Sandile Mchunu, Class of 2001, and Siya Africa, Class of 2007.*

Winie Rousseau, gebore Winifred Louise Schumann, was die eerste sekretaresse van die Departement Joernalistiek vanaf sy stigting in 1978 tot met haar aftrede in 1994. Sy het ink in haar are gehad, was self 'n joernalis, en die pos in 1978 in Crozierstraat was pasgemaak vir haar nadat sy die vorige jaar geskei is van die uitgewer Leon Rousseau, een van die medestigters van Human & Rousseau.

“Mevrou Rousseau”, soos wat altyddeur met ontsag na haar verwys is, was veel meer as sekretaresse vir stigterprofessor Piet Cillie en almal wat oor Crozierstraat 26 se drumpel getree het. Sy was Crozierstraat se heel eerste Moeder Owerste, en het kwaai, maar met deernis, oor die Crozier-kuikens gewaak om die jongelinge op die smalle weg te hou.

Kansvatters het gou geleer sy sien dwarsdeur patetiese verskonings. Toe sekere lede van daardie eerste klas in 1978 besluit het Gordonsbaai se Bikini Beach is veel meer leersaam as Crozierstraat se lesinglokaal, met dié wat tere velletjies gehad het wat dae later nog gloeiend rooi soos 'n kalkoen in die donker geskyn het, het sy hulle voor haar laat aantree: “SKAAM julle! Prof Cillie doen SOVEEL moeite vir julle, en DIS hoe julle hom bedank?!”

Eintlik was elke woord in hoofletters. Die spulletjie het druipstert op die agterstoep mekaar gaan troos met 'n koppie Ricoffy – daardie mengsel uit bietjie koffie en baie sigorei waarvoor ons stiptelik elke maand ons R5 by mev Rousseau moes gaan inbetaal om met 'n skoon gewete 'n koppie ongoeie koffie te mag drink.

Maar sy hét ons op daardie smalle weg gehou. “Moederhen” is een van die woorde waarmee 'n lid van die Klas van '78 haar beskryf. Nog een: “Winie Rousseau was in 'n kwesbare tyd een van die handjievol moederfigure in my lewe.” Maar sy was ook die een wat gesorg het dat niemand 'n kans



Mev Winie Rousseau, eerste sekretaresse (en Moeder Owerste) van die Departement Joernalistiek van 1978 tot 1994.

vat nie. Soos Bun Booyens onthou uit sy jaar in 1986: Hul roetine het “om Vrydae gewentel, wanneer elk sy weeklikse kwota van drie berigte” by mev Rousseau moes inhandig. Ook: “Sy het forensies boekgehou van hoeveel berigte jy verskuldig was en het klasbywoning ewe nougeset gemonitor. Tot 'n paar van ons se ontnugtering het dit boonop geblyk dat sy nie gehuier het om afwesiges tuis te bel nie en bowenal 'n verrassend akkurate mediese diagnose oor die telefoon kon maak: ‘Nee wat, jy klink glad nie siek nie,’ het sy een keer aan my gesê. ‘Kom klas toe.’”

Met haar afskeid in 1994, op 65, ook die jaar waarin die stokkie van Johannes

Grosskopf aan George Claassen oorgegee is, het sy in 'n brief die dag ná haar afskeidsgeselligheid aan professor Claassen geskryf: “Ek dink die Departement gedy omdat die regte mens elke keer op die regte tyd daar aangesluit het, en omdat elkeen die ‘common weal’ op die hart dra, nie net van mekaar en van die studente nie, maar ook van die joernalistieke kern-opdrag.” ■

Vir 'n huldeblyk aan mev Rousseau (26.10.1929 – 03.07.2021), klik op <https://journalism.sun.ac.za/af/2021/07/12/a-tribute-winie-rousseau/>; for English: <https://journalism.sun.ac.za/en/2021/07/12/a-tribute-winie-rousseau/>.

# IN MEMORIAM

## JOERNALISTIEK GROET 'n PIONIER

“Professor Arrie de Beer was 'n pionier in die staanmaak van die joernalistiek as wetenskap in die akademie”, is die mening van prof Lizette Rabe, voorsitter van die departement joernalistiek aan die Universiteit Stellenbosch.

Ná sy aftrede in 2002 as emeritus-professor aan die Noordwes-Universiteit (voorheen die Potchefstroomse Universiteit vir Christelike Hoër Onderwys, of die PUK, soos dit toe bekend was) het prof De Beer hom op Stellenbosch gevestig. Hy was sedert 2003 in verskillende hoedanighede betrokke by Stellenbosch se nagraadse departement joernalistiek, waarvan sedert 2006 as buitengewone professor.

Prof De Beer word beskou as dié pionier wat die joernalistiekpraktik as joernalistiekwetenskap in die Afrikaanse akademie gevestig het. Sy baanbrekerswerk vir akademiese opleiding aan tersiêre instellings sedert die 1970's in Suid-Afrika word wyd erken. Buiten dié pionierswerk in die Afrikaanse media-akademie was hy ook die stigter van 'n hoog-aangeskrewe akademiese joernaal, *Ecquid Novi*. Dit is in 1980 gestig en die joernaal word vandag as *African Journalism Studies* uitgegee. Die term “ecquid novi” het prof De Beer geneem uit die heel eerste dissertasie oor die joernalistiek wat die vraag gevra het: “Wat is nuus?” Dit was die werk van Thomas Peucer, in 1690 gedoen aan die Universiteit van Leipzig, met die titel “De Relationibus Novellis”, natuurlik in Latyn geskryf.



Prof Arrie de Beer, buitengewone professor aan ons departement.

Daarin word gevra “ecquid novi?” – of “wat is nuut?” of “wat is nuus?”.

Prof De Beer was die afgelope byna twee dekades 'n instelling op Stellenbosch, waar hy deel van die dorps se koffiehuis-kultuur geword het as 'n gereelde gesig by sy gunsteling-koffiehuis – en waar hy gereeld hof gehou het en insigte en wysheid gedeel het met wie ook al die afspraak was.

Ná sy BA en Hons, laasgenoemde in

1967, aan die destydse PUK, het hy sy joernalistiekloopbaan by *Die Burger* en *Die Transvaler* begin, waarna hy redakteur van die *Ensiklopedie van die Wêreld* was voordat hy hom tot die akademie gewend het. Sy MA aan die destydse Randse Afrikaanse Universiteit het gevolg, asook 'n tweede M-graad aan die Baylor Universiteit in die VSA. In 1981 het hy sy PhD aan die destydse PUK behaal.

Vir sy werk is hy onder meer in 2000 bekroon met die Suid-Afrikaanse Akademie vir Wetenskap en Kuns se heel eerste Stals-prys vir Kommunikasiekunde en Joernalistiek. Hy was navorsingsgenoot aan universiteite in onder meer die VSA, Nederland, Israel en Skandinawië. Prof De Beer was ook redakteur van verskeie seminale publikasies, onder meer van *Mass Media towards the Millennium* (Van Schaik, 1998) en *Global Journalism* (Pearson, 2008). Hy was tot sy dood as Afrika-koördineerder betrokke by die studie getiteld *Worlds of Journalism*, die grootste internasionale projek tot op datum wat die rol van die joernalistiek ondersoek.

Die Departement Joernalistiek huldig 'n pionier wat met sy bewese gespesialiseerde kundigheid, asook 'n hoë professionele en vakkundige status, die Suid-Afrikaanse media-akademie internasionaal 'n staanplek gegee het.

Sien ook <https://journalism.sun.ac.za/en/2021/10/21/prof-arrie-de-beer-joernalistiek-groet-n-pionier/>



**SANDILE, THE SOCCER LOVING GENTLEMAN IN THE CLASS OF 2001**  
Members of the Class of 2001 with classmate Sandile Mchunu in the front row, on the far right. This picture was taken during the visit of then well-known TV newsreader Mariëtte Kruger (centre). For a tribute to Sandile, who passed away on 25 July, click on <https://journalism.sun.ac.za/en/2021/07/26/sandile-mchunu-tribute-to-a-classmate-from-2001/>.



**SIYA, ALWAYS ONTO SOMETHING IN THE CLASS OF 2007**  
Siya Africa and members of the Class of 2007 - Siya is on the far left in front. For a tribute to Siya, who passed away on 19 July, click on <https://journalism.sun.ac.za/en/2021/07/21/siya-bonga-africa/>.

# A TOUR INTO THE UNKNOWN

A visual tour of the educational AstroAnthropologicalCultural (who would like to add another descriptor?) tour of the Class of 2021, from departure from 26 Crozier Street (top right) to making friendships for life during the tour. Because the annual course highlight, the Media Tour, could not take place (as a result of You Know What), another break-away was organised for yet another Super Hero class. Through several lockdowns of different levels, through relentless deadlines, through a student or two who was unfortunate enough to contract Covid-19, the class persevered and endured with an inspiring show of resilience. The tour was planned, cancelled, and planned again, and eventually, the SuperHeroes, plus two SuperSuperHeroes, Honours convener Marenet Jordaan and Rykie Fellow Anneli Groenewald, could get onto that bus for some inspiration far from Crozier Street's assignments and deadlines.



# AN HISTORICAL RYKIE DAY



Die Honneursklas van 2021 het die jaar afgesluit met die Rykie-seminaar - 'n historiese geleentheid, aangesien dit die laaste jaar is van die Rykie van Reenen-geenootskapspos. Media24 struktureer die voorheen Rykie-geenootskap nou volgens 'n ander model, en die spesialisdosente wat daarvolgens submodules sal aanbied, sal nie meer die benaming van 'n Rykie-geenoot dra nie. Hier is die laaste klas wat 'n Rykie-geenoot gehad het, by die Rykies wat aan vanjaar se seminar deelgeneem het, saam met die departement se voormalige ereprofessor, Ton Vosloo (middel) wat in sy hoedanigheid as Naspers-voorsitter saam met die toenmalige departementshoof, prof George Claassen, die geenootskapspos ingestel het. Van links voor sit Gawie Botma, Tobie Wiese en heel regs Andre Gouws. Tussen die studente agter staan Anneli Groenewald, die laaste Rykie-geenoot, Jacolette Kloppers, en Carryn-Ann Nel (heel regs). Links tussen die studente staan ons administratiewe beamppte, Elizabeth Newman, en heel regs Lizette Rabe. Rykie-geenote Herman Wasserman het uit die VSA 'n video-boodskap gestuur, asook Johannes de Villiers uit die Vrystaat.



Drie studente het vanjaar beurse uit die Ton en Anet-Vosloobeursfonds gekry. Hier is hulle afgeneem by mnr Vosloo, van links Marianne Stewart, Anri Matthee en Keanan Hemmonsby.

## Rykies deur die jare

- Mr Bun Booyens 1998-1999
- Dr Johan Retief 2000-2001
- Dr Herman Wasserman 2002
- Mr Tobie Wiese 2002-2004
- Mr Gabriël Botma 2005
- Mr Dirk Jordaan 2006
- Ms Jacolette Kloppers 2007
- Mr Gert Coetzee 2008
- Ms Anastasia de Vries 2009
- Ms Jo-Ann Floris 2010
- Ms Hannelie Booyens 2011
- Ms Willemien Brümmer 2012
- Mr Johannes de Villiers 2013-2014
- Ms Jeanne van der Merwe 2015
- Ms Corli van der Merwe 2016
- Mr Andre Gouws 2017-2018
- Ms Carryn-Ann Nel 2019
- Ms Anneli Groenewald 2020-2021

# Last word by the last Rykie Fellow

By Anneli Groenewald

When I was in high school – now more than twenty years ago – I was selected to attend a skoolkoerantkursus along with a few other kids from across the country. We must have been a group of about 20. I remember some of the people who attended: One person was from Heidelberg, one from Steynsburg, one went to school in Upington, a guy from Linden in Johannesburg.

This skoolkoerantkursus was hosted at Stellenbosch University's Journalism Department. Our main presenter was Prof George Claassen, at the time the head of the department. Another was Dr Johan Retief, the Rykie van Reenen Fellow at the time – only the second person to take up this Fellowship.

At least some of us were geeky teenagers truly wanting to become journalists. And, so, we were in awe to be in the presence of these individuals – and other great names whom we met over the number of days at the department.

The occasion was sponsored by Naspers. We got rugsakkies with the Naspers logo on, a *Huisgenoot* pen, t-shirts with logos on. We got treated to a sunset event on the top floor of the Naspers building, with Table Mountain as backdrop. Group photos got taken. (I believe Johann van Tonder was the designated photographer at the event, but I could be wrong.)

The event was even covered by the likes of Pasella, or some similar television show.

It was all very exciting and glamorous. And those of us who seriously considered journalism as a career, were now convinced that it was indeed the coolest job ever.

Some of us became journalists. I am one of them. I returned to the department as part of the Class of 2005. By then, Prof Lizette Rabe was the head of the department. Prof Claassen was our lecturer in Science Communication, and Dr Gawie Botma was the Rykie van Reenen Fellow.

At the time, many of us had bursaries – some, including myself, from Media24, where I would start my career the year after.

My classmates and I could have had no idea that we were in fact at the end of a glorious wave that was heading towards a very rocky shore. Within two to three years, the traditional business model that supported media publications for decades, would be increasingly disrupted. By 2008, many colleagues received (the so-called) Section 189 letters.

Those who read this, probably need no



ABOVE: Anneli Groenewald, Crozierstraat se laaste Rykie van Reenen-genoot, links agter saam met die klas van 2021 in hul Joernalistiek-hoodies.

RIGHT: Anneli se eerste besoek aan Crozierstraat 26 was toe sy gekies is om as hoërskoolleerder 'n Naspers-skoolkoerantkursus by te woon. Hier is sy by prof George Claassen, wat toe departementshoof was, en ander kursusgangers. Voor regs is nog 'n latere alumna van die departement, Charlene Rolls, nou redaksionele direkteur van twee tydskriftitels by Media24.



history lesson on the continued onslaught on the bottom line – and therefore on the newsroom itself – over the years that would follow. [We know that it is now an industry for the truly gutsy, the brave, the fearless, the creative and strategic thinkers. May I say: As it has always been...]

But back to my Crozier journey. In 2020, I got to return to 26 Crozier Street – this time in a whole new capacity as the Rykie van Reenen Fellow. I was elated. And even more so when I got to stay on for a second year. I love my job in the industry, but this was not an opportunity to turn down.

I had, of course, no idea how historic my time at the department would become. The Class of 2020 had barely wrapped up their coverage of last year's Woordfees, when we all got thrown into a world of online working and learning, masks, sanitisers, coughing in elbows, eyes that smile alone. Or tear up alone.

Life, as we all know by now, would not be the same for quite some time. It still isn't.

At Crozier Street, it has been a crazy,

wonderful, sometimes scary, sometimes heartbreaking, but mostly deeply rewarding two years for me. I wish that so many more of my colleagues would have the opportunity to take up this Fellowship.

But life will also be a little different at the department going forward as the Rykie van Reenen Fellowship will discontinue at the end of the year.

And, so, I have somehow become the very last Rykie Fellow to be granted this wonderful opportunity to take a step back from the news desk for a bit, and to help shape a next generation of journalists and content creators.

It has been an honour, and I thank every individual (in my personal and professional life) who has made this possible for me.

As this great Fellowship comes to an end, let us salute the ever-tenacious Rykie van Reenen whose name over the past 23 years has been a reminder to all us Rykie Fellows – and to our students – of the fighting spirit that is needed to make a difference in the industry. ■