Acknowledging our RETIREES 2020







Ms Berenice Arendse

As an exceptional member of staff who has always given of her best and has led by example in terms of excellence, professionalism, dedication and commitment, Berenice was recognised by UCT for her efforts.





Dr Dee Blackhurst

Dee has always gone the extra mile in making sure students feel at home, supporting many students and at times also colleagues in the stressful times that prevail in our universities.





Kathryn Norman

After 13 years of amazing and loyal service to Jo-Ann and the broader Mucosal Infections Group (MIG) in the Division of Medical Virology, Kathryn is loved as a compassionate, driven, resourceful and ever willing team anchor that managed several important projects within the group. Kathryn has a real sense of fun and positivity and a laugh that cheered us all. She was "work mom" to many postgrad students in the Falmouth Labs.





Andre Hendrikse

Andre was a long-time member of the department having completed both his undergraduate and postgraduate studies in radiobiology and then continuing as a member of staff in the department over a period of 36 years. Well-liked by his colleagues and students, he has always been willing and able to provide help and support whenever required.

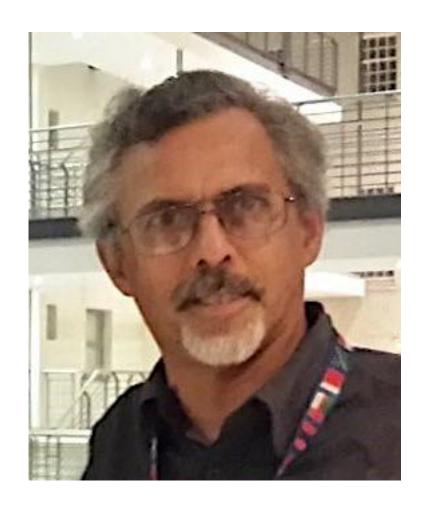




Allison Wright

When the IIDMM was formed and the Wolfson Pavilion was built, Allison was offered the post of the Purchasing hub supervisor from Jan 2008. This was the 1st purchasing hub that was created in UCT servicing the IIDMM Members. After the Finance reconfiguration, Allison was placed as the Purchasing Supervisor of the two purchasing hubs that was formed which was based on the IDM model to service all of Faculty of Health Sciences. Allison treated her staff like they were part of her family and she will be greatly missed in 2021.





Dr Graham F Bresick

Dr Bresick has made a substantial contribution to our Division's scholarly growth and development, as well as added materially and notably to the scholarship and prestige of the University as a whole.





Mr Jaap Visser

Jaap Visser is the most experienced research animal technologist in South Africa with 45 years of service, of which the past 20 years has been in the UCT Research Animal Facility.

Mr Visser is known as a leader who believes in the success of his individual team members and a person who is 100% committed to UCT and high-quality science.





Associate Professor Katherine Murphy

Associate Professor Katherine Murphy has worked at UCT for the last 11 years as a social scientist for the Chronic Disease Initiative in Africa (CDIA) in the Department of Medicine. She is also a UCT graduate: qualifying with a BA in 1982, a PG Dip in Education in 1983 and a PhD in Public Health and Family Medicine in 2011.





Dr Maureen Duffield

Dr Duffield is an excellent anatomical pathology teacher who focuses on the understanding and applications of basic pathology concepts equipping the medical students for the clinical years.

In her retirement she has been appointed as an honorary lecturer in the Division of Anatomical Pathology where she will compile teaching resources for undergraduate students and actively teach the MMed Anatomical Pathology students.





Associate Professor Paul Goldberg

Paul is the current president of the Pan African Association of Surgery, the current chairman of the Association of Surgery of South Africa, a past president of the South African Gastroenterology Society and the South African Colorectal Society.

Paul is currently head of Surgical Gastroenterology at the University of the Orange Free State where he continues to leave a massive footprint on South African and African Colorectal Surgery. Arguably, his greatest achievement are the ten subspecialist colorectal surgeons that he has trained and mentored.





Professor Peter Zilla

Professor Zilla was recently inducted as a UCT Fellow following his career-long contribution to cardiovascular device development. It has been his drive to make these innovations accessible to developing nations and to focus worldwide attention on local cardiovascular health issues, which truly punctuate his contributions to academia.

Professor Zilla will vacate his post as the Chair of the Chris Barnard Division of Cardiothoracic surgery having grown to division internationally, whilst maintaining local relevance. He will remain an integral component of cardiovascular research through the newly established Cape Heart Institute, building on decades of research experience and will play a major ongoing role in forging the next generation of clinician scientists.





Roslyn Lentin

Roslyn Lentin ('Ros' as she is affectionately called by her colleagues) is one of the true pioneers in the field of Speech-Language Therapy (SLT) in South Africa. She has collaborated with medical colleagues to establish new services at GSH, which are now standard practice.

We are grateful for you for your excellent contributions to the profession of Speech Language Therapy in clinical service, teaching and leadership. Thank you and we wish you all the best in the next chapter of your life.





Susan Cooper

Susan is ending her career after 40 years in microscopy in an academic milieu. Her last 13 years at UCT Faculty of Health Sciences have broadened her vision and she leaves with feelings of joy and sadness.





Dr Sylvia Heijke

Dr Sylvia Heijke retired at the end of March 2020, bringing her long association with UCT's Faculty of Health Sciences and a career of service to the patients of Groote Schuur Hospital to a close. Dr Heijke is wished a long and happy retirement, enjoying her wide-ranging hobbies, which include gardening, needlework, reading and long mountain walks with her dogs.





Unita September

Unita September was instrumental in the running of the Cardiomyopathy Clinic, established by the late Prof Mayosi. Unita has always gone the extra mile to prioritise patient care. She has a heart for humanity and would willingly check in on patients, do home visits and deliver the medications. Unita is an exceptional human being. She is devoted to her family and friends, caring for the elderly and always availing herself whenever someone is in need.

We are grateful for the research benchmark borne out of her contribution to the Mayosi Research Group and UCT over the past 11 years and wish her every success in her retirement years.



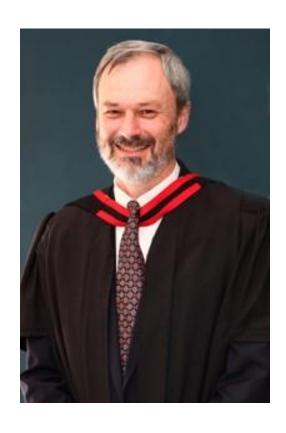


Dr Heidi Smuts

The Division of Medical Virology is saying goodbye to Dr Heidi Smuts, a joint NHLS/UCT staff member who has been associated with the Division for over 40 years. Heidi was the inspiration and driving force behind setting up diagnostic molecular virology at the UCT/GSH laboratory.

Heidi has pioneered the diagnostic application of novel molecular techniques and patiently trained and supervised technologists, registrars and young scientists, helping them to apply these to new diagnostic challenges. Her retirement leaves a massive hole in this Division.





Professor Andrew Argent

Andrew has been thanked by his colleagues for his humanity, humility and wisdom. He embodies all the attributes and ideals of a health professional, and the Faculty community has benefited from his role-modelling.

Andrew is known for his calm quiet support and for always being willing to listen, and address difficult topics. He will be missed.





Associate Professor Liz Gwyther

Associate Professor Liz Gwyther has been a UCT academic staff member for more than 15 years and recently received a letter from the Vice Chancellor to confirm her election to the rank of Emeritus Associate Professor, following her retirement on 31 December 2020.

Liz has played a leading role in growing palliative care and medicine as a discipline, both in South Africa and within the African region. The success of her world-renowned palliative medicine teaching and research.



Dear Colleagues

Thank you for your years of service to the Faculty. I have become deeply aware of how much we have come to depend on you.

You have contributed to the life of our Faculty and so your name is now written into the story of our lives. As you step out into a new life and chapter, we wish you a time of peace and joy. Remember you are always valued here.

With gratitude Associate Professor Lionel Green-Thompson Dean: Faculty of Health Sciences