

Topics and Speakers

for specific Faculties and Interest Groups

International Conference “Freedom – Our Responsibility”

26 – 30 Sept. 2014 UFS Bloemfontein

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Faculties and Fields of Interest

3 Economic & Management Sciences

3.1 Leadership & Ethics

- **Bedan Mbugua, Kenya**

Courage to wave Relentless War against Corruption – A Personal Experience

CEO of a new media house known as ‘Fountain Media Group’. The vision of that media group is to celebrate ‘good’ in the society and individuals. Former Regional General Manager of Royal Media for the last eight years Kenya’s largest media organization; former journalist. Editor in Chief of *People*, a daily newspaper; former editor of *Beyond*, a magazine banned in 1988 after **exposing government rigging in elections**.

He was jailed for nine months by the state and later again jailed for six months for **exposing corruption in the Judiciary** in 1994.

In 2009, Bedan Mbugua and Archbishop Desmond Tutu were invited in the Solomon Islands to reconcile warring groups. Bedan spoke about ‘courage to face truth’. Bedan Mbugua steps up against corruption and ‘Walks his Talk’ – even if he is put to jail for that!

- **Jonathan Jansen, South Africa**

Keynote Speaker

Rector & Vice-Chancellor of the University of the Free State

Jonathan Jansen is Rector and Vice-Chancellor of the University of the Free State

He is a strong proponent of intellectual freedom and the first black president of UFS.

After he was appointed he subsequently initiated a process for campus-wide racial integration among students. In 2010 The University was awarded the World Universities Forum Award for Best Practice in Higher Education which praised amongst other the racial integration and harmonisation of the student community.

Jansen is the Honorary Professor of Education at the University of the Witwatersrand and Visiting Fellow at the National Research Foundation.

Anthony Duigan, South Africa

Workshop for Africa - A Pan-African Programme for building Ethical Leadership and Good Governance in Africa.

Anthony Duigan was born in Pretoria, South Africa, studied philosophy, psychology & theology in Ireland and Rome before becoming a newspaper journalist for 13 years.

He went into corporate communications, public relations strategy and speech-writing for executives for 15 years before co-founding the local branch of John Carlisle Partnerships, an international consultancy in project collaboration and effectiveness, in 1999.

Currently Anthony Duigan is coordinator of Workshop for Africa, a Pan- African programme for **building ethical leadership and good governance in Africa.**

- **Acuil Malith Banggol, South Sudan**

Inclusive Governance for Unity in Diversity

Acuil M. Banggol considers the need to search for inclusive governance that is responsive to South Sudan multinational and multicultural values as high priority.

Three important points for Inclusive Governance:

- commune federalism as a foundation of either states or regional federalism
- a mode of democracy that incorporates representative democracy and multiparty democracy complemented with Inclusive Democracy that is responsive to demands on affirmative action not only on gender but on cultural values
- direct democracy that allows and mandates results of plebiscite and referenda.

With great engagement in the fields of sports (TWIC Olympics), agriculture (SUPRAID), policy design and business he strives to promote peace, harmony and interdependence.

He trains and facilitates workshops & conferences on **policy advocacy & conflict resolution.**

- **Ekuru Aukot, Kenya**

Leadership and Integrity in the light of the Constitution

Aukot has a wealth of knowledge, experience and expertise in the areas of constitutional law, policy, human rights, governance and forced migration. His interest in the better governance of Kenya led him to **co-found the G47**, a political trust

advocating for **alternative leadership in Kenya in the light of the Constitution on Leadership and Integrity**; and where he is also its chief Spokesperson.

In 2011 Aukot successfully directed the writing of Kenya's new Constitution – meanwhile he is directing the eighth constitution on the African Continent, in Liberia.

He is writing his memoirs, *"A Constitution is Not a Shopping List"*, on the Constitution-building and implementation process in Kenya. He is an advocate of the High Court of Kenya and also a proprietor of *Ekuru Aukot Law Consulting* and consulted corporations and Governments (e.g. Republic of South Sudan)

- **Paul Hoffmann, South Africa**

The Bill of Rights and Constitutional Accountability

As the constitution forms the basis of the new liberated society, Paul Hoffman gives a clear indication and direction to how governance would be enacted by the Government of the day.

It forms the fundamental framework by which the leadership is held accountable in fulfillment of the Bill of Rights of all its citizens. It is thus important having an active and vociferous civil society that holds government leadership directly accountable, using all forms and tools available to it, as enshrined in the constitution. This makes for a healthy and vibrant society.

Paul Hoffmann has an outstanding record as an advocate of the South African Bar (legal institution Bar Counsel) and a history in the field of human rights. He directs the 'Institute for Accountability' and has directed this NGO in the practice of human rights application with specific focus on constitutional rights implementation and exposure of corruption and in this regard has been in the forefront of ground breaking legal battles including housing and the Bill of Rights and other legal awareness issues for public use.

- **Eve Thompson, DR Congo, USA**

Political participation of Women in Africa

Resident director for the National Democratic Institute NDI in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). She works with politicians and political parties in DRC to strengthen their capacity to lead & effectively represent popular will.

Within that domain, Eve works particularly on the **empowerment of women & youth**, mainstreaming them within the context of political participation.

Thompson led a U.S. government-funded project to strengthen civil society activists in the DRC to advocate for **better, more transparent and participatory governance**.

She has worked as a manager and consultant on various international projects in Africa, the Middle East and South America in the areas of democracy and governance, leadership and human rights.

She also spent many years in South Africa, supporting the transition to democratic rule and providing research assistance to constitutional negotiators from liberation movements. She also oversaw the U.S. contribution to the observer efforts in the country's historic elections in 1994. Eve Thompson is interested in **eco-villages that have a multicultural and spiritual emphasis** and is committed to multiculturalism and to creating a society that embraces those ideals.

- **Rommel Roberts, South Africa**

An Empowerment Struggle in Poverty Alleviation

Rommel Roberts has a theological background and has been a human rights activist of several years standing dating back to the early 70s and has a history dotted with a symphony of elements that include periods of imprisonment, leading massive boycotts and successfully concluding a 10 year long struggle against the hated pass laws.

He recently published a book in German detailing human rights stories of forgotten heroes of the struggle against apartheid. He worked closely with Icons like former Archbishop Desmond Tutu and facilitated numerous human rights and development organisations throughout the country, some of which he formed and headed up like the Quaker Peace Centre in Cape Town and a current rural development institution, Hilltop empowerment centre in the Eastern Cape. Rommel has remained committed to the liberation of the poor and oppressed through many current initiatives and brings to the conference a vast array of experiences that integrate development with restorative justice and reconciliation.

- **Mudini Maivha, South Africa**

Panel: Food Security and Land

Mudini Maivha is Chairman of the Midvaal Farmers' Co-Operative, banking expert and journalist at the Zimbabwe Inter-Africa News Agency, The Star, City Press, Sunday Times. He is Regional Secretary of Media Workers Association of S.A (MWASA), Branch Chairman of Zimbabwe Union of Journalists (ZUJ.) and member of the Reference Group for Presidential Pardon (Considering and recommending pardon for political offenders by the State President). He says 'To achieve access to food by all, we must deal with land as a basic and principal resource; the role of role players in the entire value chain from Government, farmers, fresh produce markets, supermarkets and consumers. We must attend to the impact of input costs, declining incomes and or increasing unemployment.'

- **Dan Mugeru, Kenya**

Leading from inside to progress Freedom

With many socio-political and economic challenges in Africa and beyond, the question may not be whether men and women are leading from the front but rather from inside.

Leading from inside is a reflection into our convictions – values, beliefs and principles which are key to progress freedom.

Dan Mugeru is a certified speaker and coach. He has facilitated speaking engagements, training and coaching to cooperate, governmental and non-governmental organizations, religious and education institutions in Eastern Africa. Dan works as a psychosocial analyst on different national and social issues. In 2013 he was awarded the 'chief mentor' award by Aiducation International for his outstanding work of mentorship for hundreds of bright needy students. He is also the author of the book *'Public Speaking from the Heart'*.

3.2 Economy & Management

- **Hans Rudolf Herren, Kenya, Switzerland, USA**
Sustainable Ecological Development in Agriculture
Plant protection, Food Security & Land
Winner of the Right Livelihood Award 2013 and **Winner of the World Food Prize**
Founder and President of *Biovision - Foundation for Ecological Development*
President of the Millennium Institute in Washington DC (USA)
Herren was honored with the prize due to his success in combating the cassava mealy bug, a pest rampant in all of Africa, with wasps and ladybirds – a chemical-free method which incurred no costs to farmers. **The “Push-Pull-Method”** as an integrated, sustainable way of farming that dramatically **improves maize yields and soil fertility**.
In this way Herren prevented mass famine in Africa and South America.
At the *Institute for Insect Physiology and Ecology (ICIPE)* in Nairobi Herren subsequently made sure that intensive research was undertaken to find **new methods to control pests** that infest plants, destroy crops, kill animals and spread hunger and disease. He developed the *ICIPE* into a world-leading centre of excellence - particularly in the area of malaria mosquito control.
Herren co-chaired the *International Assessment of Agricultural Knowledge Science and Technology (IAASTD)* with Prof. Judi Wakhungu and is currently involved in making sure that a **Change in Course of Global Agriculture** is reflected in the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** currently being defined to replace the *Millennium Development Goals* after 2015.

- **Arun Sam Amirtham, Switzerland, India**
The Significance of Solar Photovoltaics and other Forms of Renewable Energies in the Transformation to a Sustainable Society
Arun Amirtham is solar entrepreneur and founder of swissmango, a pioneer in rural electrification. He is a staunch advocate of the UN Sustainable Energy for All initiative to ensure universal access to modern energy services. Just as mobile telephony has changed the communication landscape worldwide over the past two decades renewable energy - especially solar photovoltaics - has the potential to transform the access to energy services for the 1.4 billion people who are not connected to the grid, over the next two decades. Many of them reside in sub-Saharan Africa. Luckily, the region is blessed with abundant sunshine, which makes the use of solar electricity extremely viable.
Energy generation becomes perfectly scalable, customers are turned into entrepreneurs and the remotest regions can be reached since everyone is connected to the sun!
A combination of appropriate technology, capacity building and affordable financial models are necessary to leverage the technology in the interest of local communities worldwide.

- **Acuil Malith Banggol, South Sudan**
Role and Status of Traditional Authority Leaders in 'Taking Towns to Rural Areas' in South Sudan
Acuil M. Banggol is very active and innovative in the peace building process of South Sudan. With great engagement in the fields of sports (TWIC Olympics), agriculture (SUPRAID), policy design and business he hopes to promote peace, harmony and interdependence. He is currently a Secretary in the ruling party Sudan Peoples' Liberation Movement (SPLM). As a business person he has a centre called Policy Advocacy and Strategic Studies (PASS). Acuil M. Banggol trains and facilitates **workshops and conferences on policy advocacy and in conflict resolution**. He is a Board Member of Gurtong Peace Project, Secretary General of South Sudan Basketball Federation and has been nominated to support the formation of South Sudan National Olympic Committee.
'Taking Towns to Rural Peoples' in South Sudan is a popular view that sociology-polity-economic, cultural and public administrative institutions of modernization in towns and provision of basic social services be taken from town to rural areas, the indigenous people. This with the aim to make them part of globalized and information technology world.

- **Gita Goven, South Africa**
How projects can be used as a catalyst for regenerative development
Eco-Architecture, Community Building, Water Resource Management
Gita Goven, one of South Africa's foremost regenerative development thinkers and leader, has pioneered a practice of socially and environmentally transformative design. She engages the disciplines of **Urban Design, Planning and Environmental Management**, Architecture and Landscape Architecture, and Water and Food security systems. Gita Goven and her company have received numerous awards and accolades for their work in sustainable built environment.

- **Antony V. Trowbridge, South Africa**
Workshop: Empowering and educating communities for rural development
Antony Trowbridge is founder of **INTER AFRIKA PLAN** and author of the 'Peace and Development' Open Distance course of self-instruction in 'Cooperative Governance', 'Ethical Leadership' and 'Community Economics'. He is currently working with rural development initiatives set up by Zulu King Goodwill Zwelithini, and Korana King, Josiah. Winner of the Stockholm Challenge and a World Bank Development Marketplace Award In 1995 he won the South African INTERBOU Award for the concept of '**e-villages as economically viable and ecologically sustainable human settlements**'.

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- **Yeah Samaké, Mali**

**Literacy & Education for all –
Bringing real, sustainable & lasting change to Mali**

Samaké is Social entrepreneur and politician from Ouelessebougou, Mali, and the Managing Director of the Empower Mali Foundation, the current Mayor of Ouelessebougou, Vice President of Mali's League of Mayors, and was a candidate in the 2013 Malian presidential election. Yeah Samaké is interested in **enhancing his people's educational level as a base for a strong economy** and true democracy.

- **Sylvester "Tee" Turner, USA**

'Hope in the Cities' - 'think globally but to act locally'

'Hope in the Cities' workshops have helped transform Richmond, VA, from a symbol of racial division to a model for reconciliation.

Through acknowledgement of history, honest conversation, personal responsibility, acts of acknowledgement and reconciliation and skills building workshops, the experiential learning offered by 'Hope in the Cities' builds capacity for community leaders. A sustained citizen-led effort has resulted in a **network of leaders in non-profit and business sectors, local government, media and education**. It engages people across the political spectrum and of all cultural and religious backgrounds. The 'Community Trustbuilding Programs' helps to act locally and to identify and break down barriers that have caused separation between groups.

- **Joss Brooks, Australia & India**

Regeneration of Wasteland; Sustainable Livelihood in South India

Livelihoods of people in rural India have been under severe stress over the last decade due to the effects of globalisation. Joss Brooks applies architecture, design, technologies and conservation practices. Each project is connected with the others in symbiotic ways.

Joss Brooks discovered his love for protecting Nature and learned skills for wasteland restoration. He started the long process of healing what looked like forgotten land. In the 1970s, it was a tough call. Using wooden ploughs and bullock carts they planted trees, grew bio-fences, dug wells, erected a windmill and built earthen bunds to stop erosion by rainwater. They brought back the grass cover and grew food crops, while living off the land frugally.

In Adyar Poonga his team removed 60,000 tons of garbage and rubble from the site. He created waterbodies, and around them planted 90,000 seedlings of 172 indigenous species. Under his brand of restoration ecology, the city dump has had an unimaginable make-over. It has an Environmental Education Centre, and a children's interactive area.

The nursery has specimens for medicinal plants, models for solid-waste management and renewable energy. Brook's goal: Chennai - a city of clean waterways and lakes

3.3 Community Building, Empowerment, Micro-Financing, ...

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- **Skills Education College, Switzerland** **Beatrice Gregus & Sandra Rindler**
'Vocational Skills Education System' - Skills & Academic Education
with Benefit for Economy and Society
Sandra Rindler and Beatrice Gregus, Teachers of Trade, Bachelors in Science of Nursing, present the Swiss 'Vocational Skills Education System', where skills and academic education are rotationally taught. This system has a long tradition in Switzerland and it is one of the keys to a successful access to the economic world and crucial for a **low unemployment rate of the youth**. It opens the door to lifelong learning and development of **economic power and social and political competence**; a model that has currently been studied by many nations and that is applicable anywhere - an extremely empowering concept.

- **Acuil Malith Banggol, South Sudan**
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- **Wilhelm Verwoerd, South Africa**
Sharing Life Histories - Humanising Relationships
Wilhelm Verwoerd was born in South Africa and since 2002 has worked extensively with



ex-combatants and survivors from all sides of the conflict in and about Northern Ireland. He is the author of *My Winds of Change* and many other books and publications. When working closely with Alistair Little, they developed the **Journey through Conflict process**. Wilhelm Verwoerd grew up during the heyday of the system of Apartheid, within a white, Afrikaner family and with former Prime Minister Hendrik Verwoerd as grandfather. It took Wilhelm more than 20 years to truly face up to the systematic dehumanisation of Apartheid, leading him to join the African National Congress in the early 1990s and to work as a researcher within the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. During the 1990s Wilhelm was also a lecturer in Political Philosophy and Applied Ethics at the University of Stellenbosch. At the end of 2012 Wilhelm moved back to South Africa to help develop the work of **Beyond Walls** in that challenging context.

- **Daya Baghwandas, Malaysia, Australia**

Neuro Education – Empowering the Human Potential

Neuro Education is the body of knowledge linking brain development, human evolution, life and learning. Daya's work with neuro education with all ages is about supporting the foundations for achieving our human potential. She uses neuro sciences as the **platform to understand the physical, physiological, emotional, social and intellectual demands of life**. Drawing on insights from early childhood development, adults can learn to improve the way they organise themselves in life and as learners. Daya will be unpacking the different dimensions of our human journey by making the **connection between the human physiology, human brain and empowering the human potential** in her lecture and workshop.

Daya Bhagwandas has worked in the field of education and early childhood learning with 'normal' and challenged children and adults for a period of 20 years. She achieved her qualifications and work experience in Australia, Malaysia, USA, Europe and India: Neuro Education and Sound Therapy, Speech Pathology And Audiology BSc India.

For other faculties and fields of interest & more information about the speakers

please check <http://zafor.org/contributors/speakers> on www.zafor.org

1 Natural, Agricultural & Building Sciences

- 1.1 Agriculture & Food Security
- 1.2 Water Retention System & Reclamation of Land
- 1.3 Architecture & Town Planning

2 Science, Engineering & Technology

3 Economic & Management Sciences

- 3.1 Leadership & Ethics
- 3.2 Economy & Management
- 3.3 Community Building, Empowerment, Micro-Financing, ...

4 Law, Constitution & Conflict Resolution

- 4.1 Law & Conflict Resolution
- 4.2 Constitution

5 Human Sciences & Theology

- 5.1 History & Policy Studies
- 5.2 Psychology, Philosophy, Theology, Sociology

6 Education

7 Health Sciences

8 Film & Arts