

Faculty of Human Sciences

Research Seminar 2021

List of Abstracts

Legal Sciences

Author	Title	Abstract
Mbedzi, N.	A Legal Analysis on The Distribution and Payment of Special Pensions Under the Special Pension Act 69 Of 1969.	This paper focuses on the distribution and payment of special pension under the Special Pension Act, 69 Of 1969. The South African government has paid compensation in a form of special pension to individuals who have been exposed to certain types of hardship and suffering caused by the governments or their predecessors. This compensation is described as 'the appreciation or sense of guilty of society towards those people on whom the government has rightfully or wrongfully and at any rate disproportionately inflicted damage'. Government have been prepared to pay compensation to the following persons: former enemies, victims of war, victims of harmful compulsory vaccination measures, persons who had sacrificed their jobs and education in the process of overturning oppressive governments establishing democratic government; and persons whose basic human rights had been violated by governments or their predecessors. These persons have sacrificed their lives either in exile or within South Africa fighting for South Africa to be democratic. These persons must prove that they served their respective political organisations for a period of five years or above or they were banished or restricted in certain area or imprisoned or sentenced.
Maseko, T.W.	COVID 19 Vaccination Programme in South Africa: Does it Fulfil the Right to Access to Health Care Services?	South Africa, just like the rest of the world, is facing an unprecedented war in a form of a disease referred to as COVID 19. This disease is so dangerous that since its outbreak it has accounted for a huge number of deaths around the world. South Africa is one of those countries which are heavily hit by this virus so much so that as at the 12 May 2021 (the time of the writing of this abstract) deaths associated with this virus stood at 54,896 and the numbers are increasing by the day and the reported cases of corona virus stood at 1,599, 272 and the numbers are also increasing by the day. So, the negative impact of this virus cannot be overemphasised. In summing up the effects of this virus on human rights, the court argued as follows in the case of Mohamed and Others v President of the Republic of South Africa and Others:

This pandemic poses a serious threat to every person throughout South Africa and their right to life, dignity, freedom of movement, right to access healthcare and their right to a clean, safe and healthy environment.

In an attempt to fight this virus, the government adopted various measures including the adoption of COVID 19 vaccination programme aimed at partly giving effect to the right to health care services. After all, government actions are still expected to adhere to the laws of the country amid the corona virus.

It is against this background that this paper seeks to scrutinise whether the COVID 19 Vaccination Programme fulfills the right to access to health care services. The first part of this paper sets out the South African government Vaccination Programme. The second part focuses on the extent to which Vaccination Programme must give effect to the right to access to health care services. The last part then concludes by critically analysing whether the Vaccination Programme fulfils the right to access to health care services.

Röthe, J.F.

Keeping Parks and Open Spaces In Emfuleni Municipal Area Accessible for Physical and Mental Health During COVID 19

Section 24 of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights provides for a basic environmental right that everyone has the right to an environment that is not harmful to their health or well-being; and to have the environment protected, for the benefit of present and future generations, through reasonable legislative and other measures that prevent pollution and ecological degradation; promote conservation; and secure ecological sustainable development and use of natural resources while promoting justifiable economic and social development. Public parks form an important part of the social lifestyle of communities nationally as well as internationally. Parks and open spaces also contribute to the physiological and cognitive development of children. With the national lockdown and restrictions on social activities and gatherings, parks could contribute to the general wellbeing of residence. However, public parks deteriorated and since 1994 and the quality of open spaces in South Africa's inner cities is now regarded as unsafe and filthy. Attracting more people and investment, open spaces have generative effects and tends to improve the value of properties in urban areas. Various studies were conducted in larger metropolitan areas but not in a smaller financially challenged municipal areas such as Emfuleni Municipality. To find feasible solutions, it is necessary to establish who is responsible for the parks and whether privatisation of municipal parks in Emfuleni Municipality is a feasible solution to deter crimes. The author argues further that according to the Municipal Systems Act the duties of municipal councils are to ensure the rendering of municipal services in an environmentally sustainable manner. However, one only has to look around to witness the general deterioration of parks and open spaces. The findings suggest among others that residence are eager to have clean and safe parks and open spaces for recreational and other purposes, however they feel that it is the responsibility of the Emfuleni municipality to maintain these parks.

Prinsloo, R & Du Plessis, I.

A Single Marriage Statute for South Africa – Economic

On 11 January 2021, the South African Law Reform Commission announced the availability for general information and comment of Discussion Paper 152 dealing with the possible adoption of a single marriage statute. The legislation which currently regulates marriages in South Africa has

And Constitutional Implications

been developed without an overarching policy that is based on constitutional values and an understanding of modern social dynamics. Despite all the changes that have been made in marriage legislation post-1994, there are still serious gaps in the current legislation. The failure to recognise religious marriages in a country that boasts a constitution that promotes diversity and equality is a paradox.

The primary aim of this research is to collate, organise and describe legislation and to offer commentary on the emergence and significance of the authoritative legal sources in which such rules are considered, in particular referring to case law, with the aim of identifying underlying issues. Unrecognised marriages have serious financial implications e.g. maintenance, ownership of property and inheritance. The possible development of a comprehensive single marriage statute to allow persons of all religious persuasions and cultural practices in South Africa to conclude legal marriages will accord with the doctrine of constitutional equality.

The proposed research will contribute to the development of the law in the South African constitutional state focusing on the economic and constitutional implications of a combined single statute to regulate all forms of marriage in South Africa.

Author	Title	Abstract
<p>Ebersöhn, A.; De Klerk, A. & Munro, A.J.</p>	<p>Redirecting Communication from Anthropomorphic Responses to Intended Messages in PSA's Involving Animals: An Experiment With the <i>Verfremdungseffekt</i></p>	<p>Public Service Announcements (PSAs) are required to be informative and factual (FCC, 2008: 28). PSAs for the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) that represent animals trigger a nearly unavoidable anthropomorphic responses in the viewer that might hamper the communication of the intended information (Benjamin, 1998: 2). Anthropomorphism implies humanizing non-human objects by assigning human characteristics and feelings to that object (Caporael, 1986: 215). This paper examines how Bertolt Brecht's (1898-1956) <i>Verfremdungseffekt</i> might be applied in the making of PSA's for the SPCA to counter this anthropomorphism and allow the intended communication.</p> <p>By integrating the signification process of Roland Barthes (1915-1980) into how meaning-making from the first level to deeper levels of signification takes place in the viewer, with Aristotle's (384 BC-322 BC) rhetoric demands of <i>logos</i> (cognitive recognition) that takes place on the first/denotative level of signification, <i>pathos</i> (emotional or anthropomorphic engagement) and <i>ethos</i> (character/credibility) that take place in the deeper/connotative levels, possible sites of intervention countering anthropomorphism are suggested. This study proposes the use of the <i>Verfremdungseffekt</i> to break the anthropomorphism reaction and thereby redirect the viewer back to the <i>logos</i>/denotative level.</p> <p>A qualitative approach was followed and consisted of a literature review, the making of five PSAs that engaged with or displayed the <i>verfremdungseffekt</i> by 'disregarding' or exploiting Aristotle's six elements of tragedy and testing these PSAs in focus group discussions to determine the effectiveness of the methods used. The results showed that some of the techniques used were unsuccessful while others showed success only in selected fields. However, the 'disregard' of Aristotle's character element to create <i>verfremdung</i> delivered overall success and had a distinctive impact on the viewers. These results might assist other visual media producers to successfully create PSAs that communicate the intended information and avoid anthropomorphism.</p>
<p>Doman, J.</p>	<p>4IR, The Photographic Curriculum and the South African Higher Educational Context: A Case Study</p>	<p>From inception, the Camera Picture, being a technological medium, has been inherently in a volatile relationship with innovation that required a constant re-structuring of the academic curriculum in the formal education of the Practitioner to embrace the possibilities offered through new imaging technologies, a process which occurred over a period of decades, sufficient time to adapt and engage in a meaningful manner with the discourse of both making and teaching. Then, seemingly as if all at once, the Digital Still Motion Camera (DSMC) as disruptive technological innovation and Media Convergence created an apocalyptic watershed, the 4IR of the Camera Picture, which meant that what was known became obsolete almost overnight and the educational programme taught either embraced the possibilities on offer through 4IR or</p>

persisted with the structures in hand, facing an uncertain future, at best, not only within the educational context but in the professional arena as well.

As it stood, innovation and adaptation of the academic curriculum through strategic analysis combined with phased curricular implementation has always been at the core of the educational programme to ensure the vocational relevance. However, re-curriculation is never a rash or quick decision. Rather, it is a natural evolution and the outcome of years of academic struggle, of programme content development and testing, technological engagement and critical reflection on educational outcomes - all in the midst of socio-political, financial and academic pressures encountered at the Institution.

Consequently, in this working paper, a descriptive case-study is presented wherein the evolution of the Camera Picture as vocational academic programme taught at a South African Higher Education Institution is described and contextualised as it responded to the challenges encountered, both inherent to African educational context and those from arising from 4IR, allowing for "the time to pause, reflect and engage in meaningful conversation" (Schwab 2016) on the nature of this change through the lens of the Practitioner as Educator.

Chmela-Jones, K.

Blended and ERT
Approaches for
Graphic Design
Tertiary Programmes.

This paper reflects on the impact brought on by change to online or Emergency Remote Learning (ERT) post the national COVID-19 related lockdown. Following a wide-ranging evaluation of research from the discipline of design education, the authors examined their own practice and attitudes towards the introduction of fully online learning modalities within the graphic design course through practice and anecdotal evidence. Student engagement and participation rates in online learning projects accessed through social media or the University of Technology's LMS (Learning Management System) since the implementation of lockdown were considered to situate the problem for the research. Within this context, Schon's (1983, 1985) reflection in-action and reflection on-action has been used as both a method and pedagogical approach.

It needs to be determined whether a rapid transformation from a blended learning environment to a fully online one can achieve optimal results in the teaching and learning of a creative programme like Graphic Design as the creative process opens up pedagogical complexities in online learning approaches. Further, this paper acknowledges that the move to ERT has made graphic design educators re-examine the 'knows' in graphic design education and has made us persistently re-examine our practice to ensure that the planned academic outcomes are met.

This paper explores domains of the creative process that must be maintained that might create problems in 'teaching' creative work through online learning within the specific context of a University of Technology, a traditionally disadvantaged higher education institution in South Africa. This is done to present obstacles that must be overcome if online or blended learning is to become pervasive.

**Strydom, L. &
Van Staden, H.**

Exploring the Need
For Fashion Drawing

Localised and district-specific fashion entrepreneurs contribute greatly to the South African economy. It is therefore, vital to equip fashion entrepreneurs with the necessary knowledge and

Skills Training
Amongst Unqualified
Fashion
Entrepreneurs in the
Emfuleni Local
Municipality

skills in order to ensure the success of their entrepreneurship. The area of fashion entrepreneurship demands occupation specific skills. Without these skills, the client satisfaction levels of these entrepreneurs decrease, which in turn, has an effect on the success of the entrepreneurship. This paper aims at describing the need existing amongst peri-urban based fashion entrepreneurs with no formal fashion related training, with regard to the possession and utilisation of fashion drawing skills. The original study was set within the Emfuleni Local Municipality (ELM), located in the province of Gauteng, South Africa. A quantitative approach in the form of interviewer-administered questionnaires was employed in order to explore this specific need. Non-probability sampling was used to identify 114 respondents. The study concluded that there is indeed a need among fashion entrepreneurs with no formal fashion related training, to acquire fashion drawing skills through training. Through the provision of the necessary skills, these entrepreneurs will be equipped and empowered, as it increases their vocational skills, and might have a direct positive impact on the success of their entrepreneurship. Furthermore, this paper recommends that future training initiatives (by either government or educational institutions), offer formal training to fashion entrepreneurs with no formal fashion related training with regard to specifically fashion drawing skills.

**Makwela, M. &
Olalere, F.**

Preparing the Future
Workforce in African
Universities Of
Technology: A Case
Of New Media Art as
a Mutating Discipline
in the 4IR

The industrial revolution, a steady process of change that started in the 18th century, has been characterized as presenting different phases. The fourth phase (4IR), which signals an unprecedented convergence of physical, digital and biological spheres into technological forces, is transforming jobs faster than employees can adapt, and setting the base for a different kind of skills. Hence, everyone, including arts and design educators, is asking similar questions about its potential challenges and opportunities in their fields, particularly in the African Universities of Technology that place emphasis on career-directed courses. One of the questions revolves around the issue of how 4IR will affect the visual arts ecosystem in general and specific to types of skills required, production processes, theory, epistemological curiosity, intellectual tools, authorship, commodification, representation, distribution amongst others. Furthermore, it is thought provoking to realise, through literature search, that not much is written about the potential challenges and opportunities in the context of visual arts at university of technology in Africa. Against this backdrop, this paper explores the changing landscape of the supply and demand of skills and how arts and design education can respond to this inevitable change. Using new media art as a case study, the exploratory case study employed post-phenomenology's four dimensions (Ontology, epistemology, practical and ethical) to interrogate the mediating effects of the technological revolution in shaping the new media art discipline. This was achieved through a content analysis of secondary data. In response to these mediating effects, the study proposed a framework that could help create access to new skills sets that would equip students to face the new markets and opportunities.

Tourism And Integrated Communication

Author	Title	Abstract
Venter, D. & Erasmus, T.	The Impact of Popular Culture Fandom on the Quality Of Life of Visitors To Comic Con Africa 2019	Comic Con Africa is held annually in South Africa since its debut in 2018 and is regarded as the biggest pop culture event of its kind on the African continent. This study aimed to establish the effects that travel motives, and life domains have on visitors' quality-of-life. Based on the setting, a convenience sampling technique was used in which fieldworkers administered the questionnaire to visitors at Comic Con Africa 2019. Data from 433 (N) completed questionnaires were captured regarding their travel motives, life domains, life domains overall, and quality-of-life and analysed using STATA software. The findings indicate that travel motives influence visitors' life domains, positive and negative, relevant to their perceived importance. Overall, a visit to this pop culture event had a positive effect on visitors' quality-of-life. Recommendations were made to the event management which includes building on the strengths and uniqueness of the event. Based on the visitor demographics, social media marketing should be aimed at niche lifestyle aspects that are most enticing to visitors, such as social, leisure, and pop culture life. The approach would most likely appeal to the markets higher-order needs, which could increase visitor numbers and help improve their quality-of-life overall. This research opened the door to a new life domain (pop culture life) and contributes to the literature and methodology in tourism, life domains and quality-of-life.
Labuschagne, V. & Burger, S.E.	Understanding the Travel Motivations of Pop Culture Fans	Popular culture (pop culture) events have the potential to promote tourist destinations and to generate tourism income. Travel motivation is a critical consideration for reaping these benefits since it serves as a steppingstone for event attendance and it initiates a desire to act. The purpose of this paper therefore is to determine the travel motivations of pop culture fans. Data was gathered from 576 pop culture fans attending a pop culture event in Gauteng, South Africa using a structured questionnaire. The data were analysed using exploratory factor analysis. The findings revealed nine travel motivations and these were labelled brand visibility, event participation, acquire pop culture knowledge, escapism, celebrity fandom, value for money, exclusive merchandise, social enjoyment and novelty. The paper highlights novelty as the most important travel motivation for attending the specific pop culture event and it is therefore argued that pop culture fans attend pop culture events to experience something new and different. In line with the findings of this research, it is recommended that pop culture event marketers pay close attention to all nine identified travel motivations to retain its current fans and to remain competitive.
Oosthuizen D. & Marumo-Ngwenya, K.	Understanding the Concept of Home Gardens on Rural Areas and	Home gardens have been recognized as a strategic approach to address the global challenges of food insecurity and malnutrition. Within communities, the benefits of home gardens include the enhancement of food supply within each household, improved family health, women empowerment in women-headed households, and possible individual economic benefits through

Communities In South Africa to Promote Sustainability and Resilience Post Covid-19: A Desk Review

the selling of excess food, which will in the bigger scope contribute to self-efficiency and sustainability of households and communities. However, such approaches are exposed to challenges that may include the availability and supply of water, possible theft, irrigation system and even soil fertility. The global pandemic has placed more strain on the societal issues within South Africa, namely unemployment, food supply and hunger. This paper will focus on a desktop review to understand the principles of home gardens and consolidate the suggestions provided in literature to determine possible strategies for resilience and continuation of home gardens post-COVID to ensure sustainability within rural households and communities.

Mwadiwa, K.F. & Maleho, L.M.

Digitalisation of Corporate Communications in A Selected District Municipality in Gauteng Province

It is of utmost importance for Municipalities to have a framework to manage their corporate communications as fundamental technological advances are taking place with pace. This has led to municipalities and other companies in different sectors reconsidering their traditional ways of doing business. The study aims at developing a framework for digitalisation to enhance corporate communications focusing on a selected district Municipality in Gauteng Province, which is a relatively new topic that has received little scholarly attention in developing countries in Africa. Data will be collected in two phases, with the 1st phase using semi-structured interviews with 10 participants in top management positions chosen conveniently at Sedibeng District Municipality (SDM). For phase 2, the targeted sample will be 300 randomly selected students from institutions of higher learning in the Vaal who belong to the educated category who can understand the terms and concepts of e-Government in developing countries. The paper will reflect on the impact of digitalisation on corporate communication, municipal e-Government readiness, individual citizen readiness and intention to participate (ITP) in e-Government activities by utilising five levels of e-Participation so as to understand the extent to which the different stakeholders are prepared to support e-Government initiatives as well as the preparedness of government to integrate and coordinate data for the smooth interaction among the various e-services and e-applications

Hall, I.; Erasmus, M.R. & Haywood, C.

Feat or Futile: Students' Perceptions of Group Work at a University of Technology in South Africa

The increase in student enrolment at tertiary institutions in South Africa over the past few years has necessitated the need for group work without sacrificing the standard and integrity of education. Research has shown that group work offers many advantages to both lecturer and students. Interactive attributes such as team work, cooperation skills, leadership qualities, communication skills and confidentiality developed during group work are highly sought-after skills by prospective employers.

This quantitative study aimed to determine whether students are positively or negatively inclined towards group work, as well as other possible factors influencing group work at a university of technology in South Africa. A structured, close – ended questionnaire was administered to 309 students enrolled for the Applied Communication Skills course. The data was analyzed using statistical methods. The results revealed that listening skills and mutual respect were crucial to develop good interpersonal skills needed for effective group work. When working in groups, students tend towards collectivism, and negative aspects of group work such as social loafing is

often overseen to maintain harmony and avoid direct confrontation with other individuals in the group. It was also found that male students agreed more strongly with negative conflict resolution than female students. Overall, the study showed that despite several negative aspects, students tended to be positively inclined towards group work.

Nieman, M. & Lenz, R.

The Linguistic and Socio-Linguistic Barriers and Experiences of African Francophone Students at the Vaal University Of Technology

Introduction: There is a growing trend among African Francophone students whose medium of instruction (MOI) at school was French to further their studies at South African tertiary institutions where English is the MOI. In addition to a lack of English proficiency, these students encounter a number of obstacles which have a negative impact on their academic success. This article explores the linguistic and socio-linguistic barriers and experiences of Francophone students at the Vaal University of Technology (VUT).

Methodology: Data on the linguistic repertoires of the study participants was obtained through language background questionnaires and language portraits. Interviews were conducted with eight students from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and from Gabon studying at the Vaal University of Technology. Thematic research analysis identified themes regarding the barriers and experiences of these students. The data was analysed through coding which assisted in finding patterned answers or meaning in the data.

Results: Four main themes regarding the linguistic and socio-linguistic barriers and experiences of Francophone students studying at VUT were identified. These were 1) the difficulty of studying at a tertiary institution where English was the MOI, 2) the socio-cultural differences existing between Francophone and South African students which made it difficult for the former to adapt to their new environment 3) the fear and xenophobia, and 4) students' motivation to succeed despite negative experiences and challenges.

Conclusion/- and Recommendations: A structured English language course that addresses basic and academic English proficiency is needed before commencement of study. The data from this study can be used by tertiary institutions to ensure a better understanding of the difficulties that African Francophone students experience with regards to studying in another country where English is the MOI. Such an understanding can be used to find ways to support and create a better academic experience for these students.

Makapela-Cikizwa, N.

Teaching and Learning In Higher Education During COVID 19

Teaching and learning in Higher Education during COVI-19 has collapsed during the lockdown period of the novel coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID 19) across the whole world. The purpose of this paper is to address the required essentialities of online teaching and learning in education amid the COVID-19 pandemic and how can existing resources of educational institutions effectively transform formal education into online education with the help of virtual classes and other online tools in order to produce employable and entrepreneurial graduates who can make an impact in society. The value of this paper is to establish the linkage between change management process and online teaching and learning process in education system amid the

**Ntsabiseng, T;
Maleho, L.M. &
Kunene, S**

Perceptions
Concerning the
Visitors' Centre as a
Strategic Tool for
Engagement
Between the
Organisation and
the Stakeholders.

COVID-19 outbreak in order to overcome the academic disturbance and ensure the resumption of educational activities as a normal course of procedure in the education system

The study explored how the visitors' centre could be used as a strategic tool to engage with stakeholders in an effort to foster long-lasting relationships that could be explored in building a good reputation for the organisation. The research followed a qualitative approach in order to ascertain how stakeholders perceive the visitors' centre and the importance of its existence. Data was collected using semi-structured interviews and a sample of fifteen participants selected randomly from a list of visitors who have been to the centre between July 2017 and December 2019 in the Vaal Region. The results revealed that the visitors' centre is perceived by stakeholders as being an important establishment that the public can visit when they need to have face-to-face interaction or engagement with employees and to gain first-hand information about the entity. Engagements between the organisation personnel and external stakeholders build extensive relationships and further enhance the organisation's reputation outlook. However; the findings also revealed that, for the visitors' centres to be successful in implementing their strategies of becoming a one-stop shop for stakeholders and delivering user-friendly messages about the organisation; they need to consider the ever-changing technological advancements such as using 3D and interactive models that will excite the public. The centre should also constantly update the information, which will trigger repeat visits, and use word of mouth from those that have already visited the centre. Subsequently, these should create shared value for both the organisation and the public who visit the centre.

D. Matsaung, D.;
Kunene, S. &
Maleho, L.M.

Value of Corporate
Social Investment as
an Image Enhancer:
Case Study of a
Public Broadcasting
Company (SABC).

The concept of Corporate Social investment can be traced back to more than 60 years. Although, CSI is not always fully understood or practised in the precise manner that would benefit organisations these days, it thus provides however clear and consistent communication relating to CSI programmes that contribute towards confirming alignment and consistent in ensuring the empowerment of the community. The purpose of this dissertation was to evaluate the value of CSI programmes within a public broadcasting company and further investigate how these CSI programmes enhance the corporate image of the public broadcasting company (PBC) in Gauteng province.

The quantitative design with descriptive research approach was used. Also, the questionnaire was developed and adapted from previous similar CSI studies and administered to the community of Gauteng province as prerequisites for candidates to participate in the study. A total of 472 respondents were captured and analysed.

The findings show that the community in Gauteng province is aware of the SABC CSI programmes, even though there may be a large number of people who are mindful of SABC CSI programme, it is outmost important that CSI programmes be evaluated constantly to assess their value and also to revisit the level of dissatisfaction (disagreement) to comprehend what might be a problem. Undoubtedly, in as much as the CSI programmes are to empower the community and better their

Sibitane, Z.E.; Dube, K. & Lekaota, L.

Global Warming and Its Impact on Tourism at Private Game Reserves in South Africa

lives, the programmes nevertheless have a detrimental impact on an organisation's image. Hence it is vital to ensure that CSI is built in with more entrenched within their organisation, which includes engaging the community in more CSI activities, aligning company culture closer to CSI, improving external engagements programmes of CSI and finally focusing on improving CSI dimensions as an image enhancer.

The past decade has been quite spectacular regarding the impacts of extreme weather events globally and regionally. One of the prominent features of extreme weather events has been global warming, with record temperatures being witnessed across the world. World Meteorological Organisation has indicated that the year 2016 and 2020 has emerged as some periods where the highest average global temperature has been witnessed. An increase in temperature is feared to trigger a chain of positive feedback with far-reaching implications on global and local economic activities. The tourism industry fears that an increase in temperature can usher in severe challenges for the sector ranging from key species distinction, disruption of tourism aviation and other activity disruptions. Given the seriousness of climate variability and change, this study examines the impacts of global warming on Phinda Private Game Reserve in South Africa. The study used secondary and primary data collected through interviews and field observation to investigate the matter. Analysis was done using XLSTAT to investigate climate trends using Mann Kendall Trend Analysis, while content and thematic analysis were used to analyse primary data findings. The study found that increasing temperature during both summer and winter months proved challenging for tourism employees at Phinda private game reserve, which affected their productivity and sleeping patterns in several ways. The heat was also proving challenging for animals and birds, with mortalities in birds also being experienced as temperatures continue to soar. The study recommends a raft of climate mitigation and adaptation measures to improve tourism employees and tourists experience in the reserve.

Mabibibi, M.A; Dube K. & Thwala K.

Successes and Challenges in Sustainable Development Goals Localisation for Host Communities Around Kruger National Park

Tourism has often been blamed for its unsustainable ways for a number of years now. Consequently, there have been efforts to ensure that tourism contributes to the host communities to address some of the sustainability challenges through responsible and sustainable tourism initiatives in the recent past. With less than nine years to go before the lapse of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), there is a need to take stock of how tourism enterprises such as national parks are contributing to the SDGs. This study examines how Kruger National Parks (KNP) is assisting the host communities in meeting the SDG goals and targets. The study made use of 30 in-depth key informant interviews, field observations and critical document analysis. The study found that regardless of the challenges it faces as an organization in partnering with host communities for developmental purposes, Kruger National Park has assisted communities to meet at least 15 out of the 17 SDGs. These span from social to economic, environmental and cultural SDGs. Since KNP's projects address host community needs, several challenges need to be dealt with to ensure the sustainability of these projects post COVID-19 pandemic, which has undermined many nature tourism establishments worldwide. Besides the pandemic, there is a need to manage

Mgadle, A; Dube, K. & Lekaota, L

Sustainability of Coastal City Tourism in the Advent of Climate Change Lessons from Durban

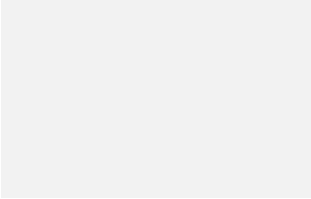
community expectations with regard to how far it can address some of the challenges faced by communities

Coastal communities are facing several environmental and developmental challenges. In the decade of Sustainable Development Goals Action aimed at ensuring the delivery on the aspirations set out in Agenda 2030, a parallel initiative has been made on oceans where the United Nations have launched a Decade of Ocean Science (2021-2030) to explore challenges faced by oceans and coastal communities. Given the socio-economic significance of oceans in South Africa, which is well documented in the Operations Phakisa on Blue Oceans Economy, this study examines the impacts of one of the threats to the ocean economy, climate change. Studies indicate that climate change is one of the biggest threats to coastal tourism. With very little known about this phenomenon in Southern Africa, this study is aimed at investigating the impacts of sea-level rise on coastal tourism in Durban, South Africa. The study used archival and primary data from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, primary data collected from interviews and an online questionnaire. Analysis of data was done using XLSTAT 2021 using Mann Kendal Trend Analysis and QuestionPro Analytics. The study found that tidal activity has been increasing across the coastal line due to the impacts of global warming, with sea-level rising at a rate of 1.49 mm/year in Durban with a 95% confidence interval of +/- 0.48 mm/year based on monthly mean sea level data from 1971 to 2018. Such a scenario has an adverse impact on tourists who singled sea level rise as one of the biggest threats to coastal tourism in Durban. The study recommends continued investment in coastal defence mechanisms to protect beach tourism to ensure sustainability going forward, as confirmed by tourism stakeholders in the city to ensure tourism sustainability.

Mosia,, Dube, K. & Labuschagne, V.M.

Tourist Perceptions on The Impacts of Climate Variability and Change on Botanical Gardens In Gauteng, South Africa

Recent weather events across Southern Africa have demonstrated how vulnerable the tourism and recreation industry is to the ever-increasing impacts of weather events on various socio-economic activities. When Day Zero hit Cape Town, the Kirstenbosch Botanical Garden is one of the areas that saw a plunge in visitor arrivals. This raised pertinent questions regarding the survival and sustainability of botanical gardens and other recreation centres central to our urban spaces. Given that the tourism and recreation industry is perception-driven, this study aims to examine the perception of visitors to botanical gardens on the impact and response of weather events on botanical gardens in Gauteng Province. The study makes use of data collected from 324 botanical garden visitors at Walter Sisulu (29,09%), Pretoria Botanical Gardens (56,97%), and 13,97% who visited both gardens gathered between April and March 2021 through an online questionnaire tool. Data analysis was done using QuestionPro Analysis, a powerful tool that rapidly conducts complex statistical analysis of qualitative and quantitative data. The study found that visitors to the botanical gardens are apprehensive about the impacts of climate variability and change on their picnic experience, bird watching experience, walking trails, and waterfalls viewing experience among other such activities in the two gardens under investigation. The majority of visitors (75%) perceive that weather events induced by climate variability and change are a threat to botanical gardens, with drought, flooding, and extreme storms being singled out



as some of the biggest climatic threats to the gardens. More than half of the respondents indicated that climatic patterns play a major role in their decision to visit the botanical gardens in Gauteng. The study recommends that botanical gardens management factor in climate change in their medium to long-term planning and implement adaptation strategies to reduce the impacts of climate variability on tourism experience in botanical gardens and ensure sustainability.