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Urmilla Bob is the University Dean of Research and Full Professor in the School of Agriculture, Earth and Environmental Sciences at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, Durban South Africa. She conducts research on a range of developmental and environmental issues, including socio-economic and developmental project impact assessments. She has published in these fields in both nationally and internationally recognized academic books and journals and has also contributed to more than 40 technical reports. She has been involved in collaborative research with national and international academic organizations and NGOs, attending several conferences and workshops worldwide. She is also involved in several training programmes and skills development initiatives, and has supervised more than 50 Masters and PhDs students. Contact details: Bobu@ukzn.ac.za

Denzil Chetty is lecturer in the Department of Religious Studies and Arabic at the University of South Africa. His research niche focuses on religion, civil society and technology. In addition, he has been probing the integration of technology in curriculum design, the digitalization of the humanities, the integration of Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) and Open Education Resources (OERs) in Higher Education Institutions. Chetty also serves as the secretary for the Association for the Study of Religion in Southern Africa (ASRSA), a trustee on the International Association for the History of Religion (IAHR) African Trust Fund, and as a member of the editorial committee for the IAHR book series with Equinox. Chetty is also an Abe Bailey Fellow and a Shanghai Open University Visiting Scholar. Contact details: chettd@unisa.ac.za

Nobuhle Ndimande-Hlongwa is the Dean of Teaching and Learning and an Associate Professor in the College of Humanities at the University of KwaZulu-Natal. She is an author of a scholarly book entitled *Ukuhlelwa*

Kolimi translated as *Language Planning*. She co-guest edited a special issue of *Alternation* 17,1 (2010) with the theme: *Multilingualism for Access, Language Development and Language Intellectualisation*. She is the new editorial Secretary of the journal *Nomina Africana*. She monitors student enrolments and academic performance of undergraduate students and the implementation of the University Language Policy in the College of Humanities. She was a member of the Ministerial Advisory Panel on the development of African Languages in Higher Education. She is a Commissioner for the Linguistic Human Rights Tribunal within the Pan South African Languages Board: Contact details: hlongwan1@ukzn.ac.za

Gregory Kamwendo is Professor of Language Education in the School of Education, University of KwaZulu-Natal. His research interests lie in: Language Education, Sociolinguistics, Language Policy & Planning. He has published in reputable journals such as: *Journal of Multilingual & Multicultural Development*; *International Journal of the Sociology of Language*; *Language Policy*; *Language Problems & Language Planning*; *English Today*; *Language Matters*; and others. Contact details: kamwendo@ukzn.ac.za

André Keet is the Director of the Institute for Reconciliation and Social Justice at the University of Free State. His research and writings are focussed on Social Cohesion, Reconciliation and Social Justice; Critical Studies in Higher Education Transformation; and Human Rights. His recent publications include 'Epistemic Othering' (Africa Insight, 2014); 'Plasticity, Critical Hope and the Regeneration of Human Rights Education' (2014, Routledge); 'Higher Education and the Disappearance of Democracy' (SAJHE, 2014); and 'Refractions: Social Theory, Human Rights, Philosophy (Acta Academia, 2014)'. Contact details: andrekeet@gmail.com; keeta@ufs.ac.za

Rozena Maart, Associate Professor, is the Director of the Centre for Critical Research on Race and Identity [CCRRI] at the University of Kwa Zulu Natal. Her work examines the intersections between and among Political Philosophy, Black Consciousness, Derridean deconstruction and psychoanalysis, all of which addresses gender. She recently completed the African

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segment as co-editor, with Nkolo Foé, *Philosophy Manual, A South-South Perspective*, which is a UNESCO project and represents Africa, South and Central America, the Arab region, and Asia. She is a member of the Caribbean Philosophy Association, having recently completed a five-year term as Black Consciousness and Psychoanalysis Secretary, The Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy [SPEP] the International Assembly of Women in Philosophy [UNESCO] and with strong affiliations to Philosophy Born of Struggle [PBOS] and the Collegium of Black Women in Philosophy. A graduate from UWC and the CCCS, University of Birmingham, she also writes fiction. Rozema Maart is winner of "The Journey Prize: Best Short Fiction in Canada, 1992." Her fiction books have made the African Studies Association short-list for the Aidoo-Snyder Book Prize in honour of Ama Ato Aidoo, the HOME BRU list in South Africa and the best seller list in Canada. Contact details: rozemaart@gmail.com

Michael Kgomo is the 2014 recipient of the Unisa Chairperson of Council's Excellence Awards. His interests lie in the decolonial turn of Transcultural and Transnational Memory in narrative. Besides publishing the co-edited book *Strategies of Representation in Auto/Biography* (Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan) in May 2014, he has also published in the *Web of Science Journal of African Cultural Studies* (2012) on the Worldliness of the Wilderness text, as well as on the nomos of memory in Mandela's *Long Walk to Freedom* in *Critical African Studies* (2013), thus adding to locally published accredited articles in *Social Dynamics*, *African Journal of Rhetoric*, *Muziki: Journal of Music Research in Africa*, *Scrutiny2*, *Journal of Literary Studies*, *Current Writing*, over and above peer-reviewed chapters such as "Transmogrifying the Traumatic into the Democratic Ideal" in Singh, J & Chetty, R (eds) *Trauma, Resistance, Reconstruction in Post-1994 South African Writing* (New York & Oxford: Peter Lang Publishers, 2010). Contact details: masemk@unisa.ac.za

Tennyson Mgutshini is a Professor in Public Health and manager in Tuition, Learner Support and Community Engagement at the University of South Africa and holds associate lectureships in number of universities in the UK and USA. His areas of expertise include the epidemiology of communicable and non-communicable diseases; health economics; civic/ community

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Nhlanhla Mkhize is the Dean and Head of the School of Applied Human Sciences at the University of KwaZulu-Natal. He holds a PhD in Psychology and is interested in the relationship between language and thought. His primary research is in the field of indigenous knowledge systems (IKS) and ethics. He was one of the editors of the book *Critical Psychology* (UCT Press 2004), in which he published chapters on African Psychology and the dialogical self. He has also published book chapters on indigenous approaches to counselling, including career counselling. He is the current Chair of the South African Humanities Deans' Association (SAHUDA). Contact details: Mkhize@ukzn.ac.za

Shane Moran teaches English Literature, Fort Hare University. He has published on the topics of colonial ideology, the post-apartheid archive, and Immanuel Kant. He is currently completing a book on the South African enlightenment. Contact details: smoran@ufh.ac.za

As an undergraduate student, **Bert Olivier** discovered Philosophy more or less by accident, but has never regretted it. Because Bert knew very little, Philosophy turned out to be right up his alley, as it were, because of Socrates's teaching, that the only thing we know with certainty, is how little we know. Armed with this '*docta ignorantia*', Bert set out to teach students the value of questioning, and even found out that one could write cogently about it, which he did during the 1980s and 1990s in opposition to apartheid. Since then, he has been teaching and writing on Philosophy and his other great loves, namely, the arts, architecture and literature. In the face of the many irrational actions on the part of people, and wanting to understand these, later on he branched out into Psychoanalysis and Social Theory as well, and because Philosophy cultivates in one a strong sense of justice, he has more recently been harnessing what little knowledge he has in intellectual opposition to the injustices brought about by the dominant economic system today, to wit, neoliberal capitalism. In 2012 NMMU conferred a Distinguished Professorship on him. From 2015 he will be attached to the University of the Free State as Senior Research Fellow. His

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motto is taken from Immanuel Kant's work: '*Sapere aude!*' ('Dare to think for yourself!'). Contact details: Bert.Olivier@nmmu.ac.za

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Sunette Pienaar is a professor at the University of South Africa (UNISA) and holds a PhD from the University of Pretoria. She is particularly interested in innovative and collaborative approaches to solve complex social problems. She has published on topics such as HIV/AIDS, collaborative governance, partnerships, ethics and community engagement. Pienaar established the Murray & Roberts Chair in Collaborative Governance and Accountability at UNISA before heading up the Community Engagement and Outreach Directorate since November 2012. She holds a few directorships. She has won numerous awards for her innovations and work in civil society. Pienaar is a Paul Harris Fellow, a World Economic Forum Schwab Social Entrepreneur, and a World Economic Forum Young Global Leader amongst others. Contact details: pienas@unisa.ac.za

Cheryl Potgieter is Deputy Vice-Chancellor at the University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN) and Head of the College of Humanities. She is also a full professor in psychology and a rated scientist. She has a doctoral degree from the University of Western Cape and a Master's degree from the University of Cape Town. She has spent time as a visiting scholar at Yale University and the University of Missouri. Previous posts include University Dean of Research at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, Professor of Psychology at the University of Pretoria, Founding Director and Head of Gender and Development Studies at the Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) and Director and Head of Women and Gender Studies at the University of Western Cape (UWC). Professor Cheryl Potgieter has written and researched policy for government departments, the private sector and NGOs and served two terms as a ministerial appointment on SANRAL board. Her publications which have caught media attention over the years include her work on Black

Lesbians, Serial Rapists, Black Academics Moving between Institutions and Gender, Transport and Development. She has published in both local and international journals in the areas of race, gender, sexuality, and broad areas related to transformation. She continues to do a number of keynote addresses and she did the keynote address at Southern African-Nordic (SANORD) symposium in Sweden on 11 June 2014. Her expertise has also recently been recognized by the Premier of KwaZulu-Natal when he appointed her to a four person committee to investigate issues related to Social Cohesion in the Province. She has been recently appointed as a Director of the Board of the South African Chapter of the International Association of Women Judges (SAC-IAWJ) as well as a Trustee of the UKZN Foundation Trust.

Lesibana J. Rafapa is Professor and Chair of Department of English Studies at Unisa. He is a leading expert on Es'kia Mphahlele in particular and South African Literature in general. He has published far more than 20 articles and books that earned him Research Excellence Awards in his illustrious academic career. Contact details: rafaplj@unisa.ac.za

Johannes A. Smit is a graduate of the University of Durban-Westville (now UKZN), founding editor of the SAPSE journal *Alternation* and served as research chair of the former Faculty of Humanities from 2002 - 2006. He has a lifelong commitment to interdisciplinary learning and critical research capacity development in the Arts and Humanities in African contexts. Currently, he serves as Dean and Head of School of the School of Religion, Philosophy and Classics and Acting Dean of the School of Arts at UKZN. He teaches Comparative Religion (main focus Christianity), and is the head of the Programme in Religion and Social Transformation since 2002. Contact details: smitj@ukzn.ac.za

Graham Stewart is Associate Professor and Coordinator of the e-Learning Project at the Durban University of Technology. Over the years he has taught and supervised in arts and humanities disciplines and was Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Design at DUT before taking up his present appointment. His research interests encompass both Southern African literature and digital technologies. He has a long-standing interest in e-learning and digital libraries. Contact details: stewart@dut.ac.za