

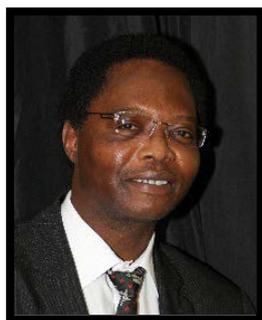


UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN
IYUNIVESITHI YASEKAPA • UNIVERSITEIT VAN KAAPSTAD

Klaus-Jürgen Bathe Leadership Programme

Newsletter: July 2017

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



The Klaus-Jürgen Bathe Leadership Programme was established at the University of Cape Town in 2014, through a generous donation from Professor Klaus-Jürgen Bathe of Massachusetts, USA.

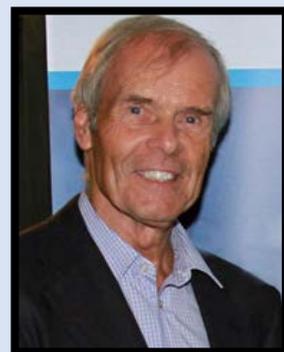
The primary goal of the Programme is to produce graduates with outstanding leadership qualities and a strong sense of social justice, who will go on to play leading and significant roles in business, government, industry and civil society in South Africa and on the African continent.

The first two years of the Programme have been a period of establishment of our operational structures. The initial plan to enrol 10 students has evolved into a more ambitious project that has supported nearly 30 students to date. Like any new programme, we have had our fair share of challenges. We have now entered a period of consolidation, focussing on development activities for scholars, and reaching out to various stakeholders.

This year saw some significant changes in the staffing structure of the Programme. In February, Belisa Rodrigues took up the newly established position of Programme Manager, with responsibility for external liaison, marketing, communication, internships and alumni relations. Khaya Salman joined in March, replacing Felicity Seragie as Programme Administrator. We are thankful to Ms Seragie for her valued input over the period she was with us.

In this inaugural edition of the Programme newsletter, you will read about the experience and interactions of our scholars as they navigate the initial stages of their paths towards becoming the leaders of the future. We are proud of the seven scholars who completed their degrees this year, becoming the first graduates of the Programme. You will also read about how we work together with other related initiatives at the University of Cape Town. Enjoy the stories.

Prof. Alphose Zingoni
Programme Director



Programme Founder
Prof. Klaus- Jürgen Bathe



The Klaus-Jürgen Bathe Leadership Programme Team

Left to right: Director Prof Zingoni, Previous Programme Administrator Felicity Seragie, Programme Manager Belisa Rodrigues, Programme Administrator Khaya Salman.

**“Nurturing Africa’s Leaders
of Tomorrow”**

KJB SCHOLARS COMMUNITY



Inaugural graduates of the Klaus-Jürgen Bathe Leadership Programme

This year the Klaus-Jürgen Bathe (KJB) Leadership Programme sees the successful graduation of seven of its scholars who now form part of its inaugural KJB alumni network. *Pictured above from left to right: Jacqualine van Zyl, Namhla Mabombo, Mogamat Salie, Irfan Habib and Keabetswe Bonolo Skee. Additional graduates not pictured above are: Morategi Kale and Nozipo Gwaza.*

Jacqualine van Zyl, graduated with a Bachelor of Social Science, majoring in International Relations and Gender Studies, stated: *"I have been involved with the Klaus-Jürgen Bathe Leadership Programme for two years now, and it's been great for networking outside of the university but also with my peers."*

Namhla Mabombo, graduated with a Bachelor of Science (Engineering) in Mechatronics, shared her thoughts: *"End of 2015, I feared I wouldn't be able to continue with my studies because I didn't have funding and my parents were starting to feel the strain of having to pay. Then I got the scholarship...but the vision is bigger than that, and is to grow us as leaders"*

Irfan Habib, graduated with a Bachelor of Science majoring in Astrophysics, Physics and Applied Mathematics, explained: *"The hallmark of my experience is the people. We all got on so well. They are not looking for leaders, they are looking for people who will one day become leaders. For me that just resonated with me because I feel I still have a lot of room to grow."*

Thank You Letter to Prof. Bathe



Dear Prof. Klaus-Jürgen Bathe

My name is Keabetswe Bonolo Skee and I am a graduate of the KJB Leadership Programme. I graduated in May 2017 with a BSc in Engineering in Chemical Engineering. There are few words that can describe the gratitude I have and the impact the KJB Leadership Programme has had in my life.

Before being granted this scholarship, I was a young potential who could not afford access to tertiary education. I was fortunate to receive financial aid from the National Student Financial Scheme, but the guaranteed debt I would carry after graduating weighed heavily on my conscience. As a result, I developed a fear of failure (to ensure that I did not incur more debt) and this removed the freedom of exploring all the opportunities the university space had to offer. It was when I was asked by a fellow resident why I had not applied for the Residence Committee that I realised just how many opportunities were passing me by due to my fear of failure. The KJB Leadership Programme lifted me from that fear.

As a member of the first cohort, I arrived when the scholarship was still in its infancy stage. I remember in my interview Prof. Zingoni told me that I did not necessarily need a lot of money to make a difference in people's lives, all I needed to do was use the tools I had acquired over the years to help others. It was from that moment that I realised that being part of this scholarship would mean far more than removing financial burden. It completely changed the way I viewed my skills, talents and the opportunities which were made available to me. As a result, I have decided to follow the developmental route and am enrolled in a Masters of Philosophy in Sustainable Mineral Resource Development. Even though I do not have the funds currently, I hope my efforts in this space will make as big a difference in someone's life as this scholarship has made in mine.

So, Prof., on behalf of myself and my family, I would like to thank you not only for the funds, but also for the freedom to explore the capabilities of the university and for setting up a scholarship with people who were mentors first before being programme facilitators. As I venture off into the world, I will forever hold dear to my heart what this scholarship has meant in my life. I will pass it forward. ~ Keabetswe Bonolo Skee

KJB Meet Up – farewells, friends and fun



The Klaus-Jürgen Bathe (KJB) Leadership Programme started off this year with a well-attended networking event called the 'KJB Meet Up'. This event was co-organised by the KJB staff together with a group of dedicated volunteer scholars who formed the 'KJB event planning committee'.

The Meet Up served to bring together both the 2015 and 2016 cohorts to forge stronger relationships and friendships within the KJB community through a series of leadership activities. The event also served to bid farewell to Felicity Seragie, long standing KJB staff member and administrator of the programme.

Scholars valued the time spent on critical thinking regarding key contemporary leadership issues, assessing their personal values as well as getting to know their peers from different fields of study.

Education to us means service to Africa – a KJB scholar view



A small lesson I have learnt in the two decades that I have been alive: the fight for true liberation of Africa is a long and arduous one which has been fought by many brave compatriots before us. It is only fitting then that we also look to them as we pave our own journey. One such compatriot is Robert Mangaliso Sobukwe. In his address at the University of Fort Hare as President of the SRC, he said:

"A word to those who are remaining behind. You have seen by now what education means to us: the identification of ourselves with the masses. Education to us means service to Africa. You have a mission; we all have a mission. A nation to build we have, a God to glorify, a contribution clear to make towards the blessing of mankind. We must be the embodiment of our people's aspirations".

These words have become imprinted in my mind as they capture the essence of what education to a Black child in South Africa means. We must be an embodiment of our people's aspirations, to me, this means that in every academic space that we find ourselves our duty is to bring the struggles of our people to the table. I was presented with such an opportunity when I attended the *Young Feminist Roundtable on Environmental Justice hosted by Youth Lab*. The objective of the roundtable was to bring together women working in gender equity as well as environmental justice. It was such a privilege to meet young women who are doing amazing work in their fields and engage them on the links between our different fields. This is important especially as a [Klaus-Jürgen Bathe Leadership](#) scholar, we must make use of every opportunity to learn so that we equip ourselves with the skills to become active leaders in Africa.

One major outcome of the session is that class and race is a determinant to accessibility of natural resources which are in turn becoming increasingly scarcer. We identified three major issues that women face from an environmental and more social context: land, water and food security; whilst the social issues were: health, violence and societal expectations. The race and class link came in when we spoke of how it is Black women in South Africa who are the most vulnerable to food insecurity, lack of access to water and land. The apartheid legacies are still entrenched in South Africa and this needs to be acknowledged as we engage on the challenges that the country faces because it forms the basis of our analysis. Within Black people, women are most vulnerable and so when we think of solutions for Africa it is vital that we think of these intersecting issues and frame our solutions with them in mind.

This is my mission: to play my role in the realisation of liberation of African people.

~ Kolosa Ntombini (KJB Scholar 2016)

UCT COMMUNITY SUPPORT

KJB Supports EBE Distress Fund

"Thank you to the Klaus Jürgen Bathe Scholarship Fund for supporting the Student in Distress Fund over the past two years. The fund helps the students who often just need a little assistance to get back on their feet", said Mary Hilton, EBE Communications.

The start of 2017 was a busy time for the Student in Distress Fund. With the gap between the deferred exams and the start of the first semester, students found themselves without funding as their bursaries would only pay out once they were registered. Students were also waiting to hear about their financial aid status and if their appeals were going to be successful. Two students who are in 3rd and 4th year found out that they did not qualify for NSFAS as they had exceeded the number of years for NSFAS funding. Many bursary companies, particularly government departments pay their bursaries very late and students who were moved from catering to self-catering, find themselves without money for food or basic toiletries. These and other exceptional cases are taken care of by the fund.

"We would like to send our gratitude to you and the Faculty for looking after its students in need. We as the beneficiaries of the distress fund would like to offer our service to any initiative that the faculty is undertaking because without this fund we would be starving. Anything that needs volunteers, please inform us we will gladly take part if we are available." - Distress Fund Beneficiaries.

Global Citizenship Programme partners with Klaus-Jürgen Bathe Leadership Programme

The UCT Global Citizenship Programme (GCP) is a programme of critical debate, voluntary service activities and reflection which engages students as thoughtful scholars and citizens who are keen to learn, think about, critique and respond to key contemporary issues. We run a series of short-courses that speak to different issues of social justice, and allow students to learn from each other, and reflect on their own positions and understandings of the topics.



The goals of the programme are:



- To develop capacity for leadership on contemporary global-political & social justice issues by improving active listening, critical thinking & logical argument
- To expose students to global citizenship & social justice issues beyond degree or discipline; all faculties
- And to promote awareness of themselves as future global citizens motivated to work for social justice through community service/volunteering.

As can be seen from these goals, there is a strong overlap between the GCP and the Klaus-Jürgen Bathe Leadership Programme in developing leaders who are active citizens, committed to the values of social justice.

For the past three years (including 2017), the UCT Global Citizenship Programme has been recommended to the Klaus-Jürgen Bathe Leadership Programme Scholars as part of their elective suite. Several of the KJB scholars have participated in the Global Citizenship Programme. One scholar from 2015, Jacqui Van Zyl participated in both the GC1 and the GC2 short courses then applied and was selected as a student facilitator/tutor on the Global Citizenship Programme.

Overall, the GCP is deeply appreciative of the support from and connection with the Klaus-Jürgen Bathe Leadership Programme. The financial contribution is vital to the continuation of our programme. We look forward to continuing to provide opportunities for students to develop themselves as young active leaders.

~ Submitted by Sarah Oliver, GCP.

For more information on the GCP, please visit the website: <http://www.globalcitizen.uct.ac.za/>

KJB LATEST NEWS

2018 KJB Applications Now Open!

Deadline: 31 August 2017



Apply here:

<http://www.kjbatheleadership.uct.ac.za/batheleadership/scholarships/#howtoapply>

ADVICE COLUMN FROM KJB ALUMNI

Habib says: *"To prospective KJB students - when you get in, because everyone can get in, as long as you stay true to yourself. Make the most of it."*

Salie described how his friends found the application process to be quite intimidating, but offers encouraging words of advice: *"Apply! The advert is a little bit scary. Just apply. If you are lucky enough to be a KJB Scholar, Get involved and grab it with both hands."*

Skee, describes how the scholarship encourages personal growth: *"This scholarship doesn't throw things at you, it requires you to come out and do things for yourself, so get involved. The people in KJB are very willing to help, whatever idea you have."*

CONTACT US

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[Facebook page](#)



Klaus-Jürgen Bathe Scholars participating in leadership activities in this year's KJB Meet Up.