

Opioids and Harm Reduction in South Africa: Opening a Multidisciplinary Conversation – A workshop

21-22 August 2017

Johannesburg Institute for Advanced Study (JIAS)

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SUMMARY: During two full days, 21-22 August, twenty-three scholars and civic actors came together at the Johannesburg Institute for Advanced Studies (JIAS) to consider various perspectives on opioid consumption and harm reduction in the South African context, and to discuss and plan the growth of humanities research towards policy strategies and treatment paradigms that can reduce harm for drug using individuals, families, and communities and society more generally. The workshop was audio recorded. It began with a keynote address by Prof Claire Clark at the University of Kentucky: ‘The unreliable activist: Why drugs policy needs the health humanities’. Prof Clark also led a seminar/methodological master class for historical studies students at the University of Johannesburg (23 August). The workshop featured presentations by Prof Jannie Hugo (Head of Family Medicine (UP); Mr Andy Gray (Pharmacology, UKZN, and member, South African Medicines Control Council); Monique Marks (Director, Urban Futures Centre, DUT) and Shaun Shelly (Founder and organiser, Drugs Policy Week, South Africa). Discussions were further enriched by the presentations of scholars at different stages of their career, from the disciplines of Medical Anthropology, Criminology, History, Sociology, Psychology, and Philosophy. The first day of the workshop comprised presentations by individual delegates, with time for responses and discussions; the second day combined guided and open discussions focused on identifying ways forward to grow humanities research and bolster its impact on policy and public opinion (towards harm reduction agendas). It was agreed that presentations and questions raised will be the basis for developing a publication in the form of an edited book, with the possibility also of journal articles. Further avenues of collaboration will be explored. The workshop was funded from a Knowledge Interchange and Collaboration grant of the National Research Foundation, and by JIAS, with sponsorship from the History Department of the University of Johannesburg.

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1. Overview of Background, Rationale and Specific Focus of the Workshop

The current epidemic of opioid addiction and overdose deaths in industrial/post-industrial nations, the United States in particular, is drawing renewed attention to questions about chemical dependency and treatment; about regulatory law, policing, and best clinical practices; about the physiology of the brain; about conceptions of ‘deserving’ and ‘undeserving’ health citizens; and about the local social meanings of mood-altering and addictive substances and their consumption in a variety of contexts.

Some of these questions are long-standing and revolve around the continued stigmatised and criminalised status of people with addiction and drug use disorders that has historically infused policy in many contexts, i.e., a carceral dynamic frequently compounded by racist and class-based social and spatial containments of vulnerable populations. Other questions grapple with twenty-first century developments: growing pharmaceutical production and marketing of new opioid medications; a burgeoning of ailments and disorders affecting theories, as well as practices of diagnosis, medicinal dispensing and pain management; rising realities and possibilities for diversionary uses and re-purposing of opiate substances or synthetics for off-label or street-level economies; innovations in communication (cell phone technologies, social media, ‘dark web’ internet) and in transportation and postal infrastructures, facilitating flows and access. Given the multi-dimensional nature of this phenomenon, the importance of multi-disciplinary research – perhaps particularly through approaches that fall under the rubric of ‘health humanities’ – is increasingly evident.

South Africa has a unique history in which chemical controls and controlling chemicals have been imbricated with colonial and apartheid regimes. In the last decades, economic liberalisation has opened up the region’s subcontinental geography to forces of globalisation, introducing new commodity markets and flows, and influenced by internal realities such as rates of unemployment. Like many other states, South Africa faces dilemmas around drugs and addiction in a context of scarcity, socio-economic disparity and polarised public opinion. Yet specific, local dynamics and histories also shape entrenched and emerging patterns of drug consumption in South Africa, as well as the ways drugs and their uses have been conceptualised, treated and addressed in law.

More recently, shifts in drug policy paradigms, from criminalisation to harm reduction, have been guiding new thinking worldwide, and this is also the case in South Africa. Here, this push is exemplified in various community-based interventions and treatment experiments, in the drug policy week in Cape Town earlier this month, and in research (such as that produced by the UCT criminology team which informed the Western Cape court cannabis ruling this last March). Models for translational and engaged research in response to drugs-related social challenges are, indeed, currently being innovated in several South African urban areas. Yet it is also the case that such initiatives and associated research – by activists and civil society, municipal governments, police, medical professionals, as well as academic researchers with different methodological approaches – have tended to operate within distinctive domains of discourse and practice.

The potential value of conversation, knowledge exchange, and research that draws upon the perspectives and methodological tools of multiple scholarly disciplines is well acknowledged. This workshop brought together some pioneering researchers and civic actors who focused and guided thinking and discussions in this regard. The keynote speaker, Professor Claire Clark, is an exemplar of health humanities research on this topic, and also occupies a

professional position that bridges medicine and the humanities. Professor Jannie Hugo (Head, Family Medicine, UP), Mr Shaun Shelly (Researcher and Drugs Policy activist, Cape Town) and Professor Monique Marks (Director, Urban Futures Centre, DUT) shared their experiences of involvement at the coalface of municipal drug treatment initiatives, and offer insights that link medical ethics, constitutional rights, psychology and sociology. Mr Andy Gray (Pharmacology, UKZN) who has sat on the South African Medicines Control Council since 2000, as well as on various WHO committees for drugs access and scheduling, informed us about current policy-making and its discontents. Wider participation was sought from established and early-career academics, as well as post-graduate students, in the humanities. Invitees – medical anthropologists, historians, philosophers, artists and others – brought varying levels of explicit and implicit interest, and knowledge, about this topic, while sharing a commitment to human rights and social justice. Participation was sought from scholars and civic actors who do not profess a direct addiction-related involvement or research for the reason that they will bring concerns, questions and points-of-view that are crucial for moving collective thinking beyond well-grooved frameworks, and to grow the scope of what is possible for future discussions.

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Humanities' contributions to understanding the various uses of addictive drugs, and their political and social contexts and impacts, have developed over the last 30 years as a rich body of knowledge for policy and treatment development in North America, Europe and Australia, with more emerging in other parts of the Global South – Latin America, China and South and South East Asia. Although research funding is overwhelmingly directed to biomedical research, humanities scholars abroad are able to cultivate confidence that slow, excellent research is necessary for creating sustainable and multi-layered, humane solutions to contemporary drug-related issues. Yet, with the important exception of alcohol and some work on dagga, there is much less humanities research that is addressed to African historical contexts. One aim of this workshop was to consider how we can widen, deepen and expand a critical humanities focus on drugs and drug policy to assist in the making of local solutions for reducing both the harms caused by drug use and the harms caused by the problematic ideologies and policies that affect people with addiction (and society more generally).

At the moment, globally, questions about harm reduction and legal reform are most publically focused on cannabinoids and opioids. Both of these substances are ontologically flexible, with properties that make them potent as medicines and as intoxicants and the pursuit of a chemical alterity for social or spiritual aims. However, opium, especially in the way it has been transformed in the laboratory over the last two centuries, is far more powerfully addictive and, therefore, socially and individually consequential. Moreover, the colonial treatment of black bodies as less sensible to pain than white bodies, makes the issue of pain management and relief particularly politicized in South Africa. Current harms associated with opioid addiction, both in the household and on the street, make it a crucial focus.

For the purpose of this workshop, we defined opioids as inclusive of any substance that acts on opioid receptors in the nervous system – so, the botanical by-products of the opium poppy, its alkaloids and derivatives, and its synthetic analogues and informally invented admixtures. The opium-producing poppy, *papaver somniferum*, has been used by human beings for a very long time, with its origins of cultivation and use on the Eurasian continent. Early in the

nineteenth century, its alkaloids were isolated and the world was given morphine, codeine, thebaine. Later in that century, developments in transportation and communication exponentially increased global flows of biochemical substances, people and knowledge – even while, at the same time, the industrialisation of the workplace increased the stakes of sobriety. In the industrialising world, this was the period in which the figure of the ‘inebriate’, the ‘drug fiend’ and the ‘addict’ emerged as a public problem for the modern state and for economic productivity. Addiction was medicalised, but the punitive treatments continued to frame drug users as criminal, morally depraved, weak willed or enslaved. In most contexts, narcotic management and governance, and the ideologies that informed them, were patterned by racial, national and ethnic prejudice and socio-economic disparities, through techniques that depended upon confinement, residential segregation, and border control.

As legal, medical and criminological forms of regulation developed in the early twentieth century, the pharmaceutical manufacture and marketing of opiated medicines has increased, creating new dilemmas – for example, with the synthesis of diamorphine, or heroin, which was first marketed in 1898 – 1 ½ to two times stronger than morphine, and more recently synthetics like fentanyl, more than 50 times as potent. As is the case with many technologies, we are continuing to confront a situation in which social and political institutions are not well suited to many of the consequences of biochemical innovation. Many of social and political realities have failed to address or have increased the harm of these consequences.

Harm reduction means coming to terms with the idea that we cannot invest in the fantasy of a drug free world or an addiction-free society. When people speak of reducing harm they are sometimes referring to specific strategies or models: decriminalisation of drug possession; access to safe needles, syringes and substances for people who use drugs; access to substitution therapy and other treatment; strategies to reduce stigma. Harm reduction also implies evaluating the costs and the benefits of a given policy, and its effects within the nation state and across international borders.

More generally, however, harm reduction emerges out of a conception of human rights and social justice. It represents a quest for the ways and means to enhance the security, dignity and capabilities of people who have, in many societies and for a great many decades, faced stigma, neglect, abuse and incarceration because of a detrimental and disabling relationship to addictive and mood-altering substances.

But the idea of awarding care, protection, support, or therapies that involve drug substitution or supply, for people with addiction, continues to be a sticking point for large sectors of the public, because it appears to militate against a set of core cherished social conceptions of morality, merit, rationality, temperance, behavioural development and certain ideas about freedom, the will and the self, as well as public health and safety. Drugs and addiction are also difficult issues because of the ways they are linked to phenomena that we know can inspire civic anxiety or fear: for example, mental illness, disease, crime, and also cross-border flows and migrations.

Currently, in an era when many resources for research are being devoted to brain science, humanities perspectives are crucial for sustainable interventions that take social realities and diverse histories and cultural contexts as a starting point. Reforms in drug policy and treatment practice necessarily require that we consider the multiple meanings and material realities that are constructed around the varied uses of a given substance and about diverse

contexts of use; it demands we think about the languages use to speak of these things; that we think about pain, the mind and the body as political realities with political histories; that we think about capitalism and markets, about families and about media, about gender, race and class, about cities and identity; and that we ask what it means to think about the self and the community within a conception of humanity that incorporates realities of chemical alterity.

The **general aim** of this two-day workshop was to initiate and open conversation in order to foster a multi-disciplinary and allied research group that will seek to inform analysis, awareness and policy related to drug crises in South Africa so as to reduce harm to individuals and society.

2. Specified Aims and Outcomes

As one of the first organised academic forums specifically bringing together Health Sciences and Humanities disciplines in conversation around opioids and harm reduction in South Africa, this workshop was foundational in its aims.

The objectives were:

1. To exchange a variety of perspectives and approaches to opioid consumption and addiction, treatment, and policy/practice in the South African context, through presentations and discussions by participants;
2. To learn what is currently being investigated and innovated, also with regards to related or analogous issues;
3. To gauge interest in, and explore possibilities for, the formation of a research group for allied or collaborative research, networking, teaching and continued sharing of expertise and resources;
4. To draft a research agenda that identifies gaps in knowledge and in ways of knowing;
5. To consider possibilities for a collaborative edited research publication directed towards policy considerations and civil society engagement;
6. To discuss research funding requirements and opportunities to advance multidisciplinary research around drugs, addiction, treatment and policy in South Africa;
7. To collate the key points of input and recommendations of participants, including their identification of other individuals who may be approached for future activities, particularly related to objectives 3-6;
8. To outline and assign 'next steps' in relation to objectives 3-6.

3. Programme

Rationale for the schedule in relation to specified objectives

Day One provided context and a common frame of reference for engagements, through a keynote address and participant presentations (as per objectives 1-2).

Day Two comprised discussions that bring further focus and that consider prospects for collaborative or allied research and applied outputs going forward (as per objectives 3-8).

MONDAY, 21 AUGUST

9:00 **Arrivals**, Tea/Coffee

9:30 **Welcome** (JIAS Directorate; UJ Humanities Dean, Alex Broadbent)

9:40 **Opening remarks** (Workshop organiser, Thembisa Waetjen) and **introductions**

10:10 – 11: 10 **Introduction of Keynote Speaker and Keynote address and discussion**

TITLE: “The unreliable activist: Why drug policy needs the health humanities”

Claire D. Clark

What do health humanities methods of interpreting patients' stories have to offer researchers in other fields? Claire D. Clark draws on her historical research on addiction treatment activism in the United States to explore the challenges and opportunities that arise from integrating patient voices with scientific research and policy advocacy.

Claire Clark teaches at the University of Kentucky, USA, where she is an assistant professor of Behavioral Science, secondarily appointed in the Department of History, and associated with the Program for Bioethics. She specializes in the history of medicine and leads educational projects in health humanities and medical behavioral science. She was dual trained as an historian of medicine (PhD) and behavioral scientist (MPH) at Emory University. Her book, *The Recovery Revolution: The battle over addiction treatment in the United States* was published by Columbia University Press earlier this year.

11:10 – 11: 30 **Tea**

11:30 – 12:00 **Presentation by Jannie Hugo:** Health and ethical perspectives on opioid pharmaceuticals and substances, contexts of use and responses.

Chair, **Khumisho Moguerane**

12:00 - 12:30 **Presentation by Andy Gray:** Current drugs policy perspectives and pharmacological dilemmas for South Africa; what questions should the national medicines regulatory authority be asking?

Chair, **Khumisho Moguerane**

12:30 – 13:20 **Lunch**

13:20 – 14:20 **Presentations:** SA contexts of opiate use and current engagements with municipalities, civil society and other ‘stakeholders’

Shaun Shelley, ‘Introduction to Opioid Addiction and Harm Reduction: Community Initiatives for Harm Reduction in Cape Town and reflections on Drugs Policy Week’

Monique Marks, ‘Street level use and working towards Opioid Substitution Therapy in Durban’

Chair, **Anine Kriegler**

14:20 – 14:50 **Panel:** Perspectives from History: Current research and reflections on applications/relevance.

Thembisa Waetjen ‘Politics of opiate regulation in the early twentieth century’

Julie Parle ‘Cautionary tales? From Thalidomide to Tramadol.’

Midas Chawane (Chair) ‘Spiritual pursuits in a criminalising nation: meanings of dagga among Rastafarians in SA’

14:50 -15:40 **Panel:** Perspectives from Medical Anthropology: Current research and reflections on applications/relevance.

Nolwazi Mkwazi (Chair)

Anna Versfeld ‘TB medication and treatments for people who use drugs’

Julia Hornberger ‘Current trends of drugs circulation and regulation in the global market’

Keketso Peete ‘Nyaope-users in a Johannesburg context’

15:40 – 16:00 **Tea**

16:00 -16:50 **Panel:** Perspectives from Philosophy: Current research and reflections on applications/relevance.

Ernest Khalema (Chair)

Alex Broadbent ‘What is a drug?’

Zinhle Mncube ‘Applications of personalised medicine for people with addiction?’

Guy du Plessis ‘An integral model of addiction’

16:50 – Close; and thinking towards Day 2 (Thembisa Waetjen).

18:30 Shuttle from JIAS for *Glory* in Melville, for **supper**.

TUESDAY 22 AUGUST

9:00 – 9:15 **Brief ‘check back’ about the workshop thus far:** Participants’ thoughts and insights related to Day 1, specifically ways it may require revision of Day 2 schedule.

9:15 – 10:00 **Discussion:** Research towards harm reduction: the case and content of ‘Balancing Harms in South Africa’ (pre-circulated document). What kind of research does it draw upon, what is it missing or problematic in its conception, what contextual factors were considered by authors?

Brief explanation and discussion led by **Anine Kriegler** (co-author of ‘Balancing Harms’) with **Andy Gray**, co-discussant.

10:00-10:45 **Discussion:** Harm reduction models specific to opioid drugs and substances: Decriminalising possession and a prioritizing treatment: prospects for the Portuguese route in SA?

Brief explanation and discussion led by **Monique Marks**, with **Shaun Shelly**, co-discussant.

10:45 – 11:00 **Tea**

11:00 – 12:30 **Plenary Discussions** to consider and strategise concretely about objectives 3, 4, 5 and 6. (Please refer to list of ‘aims and outcomes’).

Facilitator, **Thembisa Waetjen**

12: 30 – 13: 30 **Lunch**

13:30 – 14:30 **Discussions and Planning Continued.**

14:30 – 14:50 **Summary reflections by Claire Clark and others.**

14:50 – 15: 00, **Closing** and vote of thanks, **Thembisa Waetjen**

15:00 **End**

Follow up questionnaire: A follow up email with four open-ended questions was sent to all participants on 25 August. Responses are compiled later in the report.

WEDNESDAY, 23 AUGUST

Open Seminar, University of Johannesburg, Professor Claire Clark ‘Peter Bourne’s Drug Policy and the Perils of a Public Health Ethic, 1976-1978’

4. Workshop Participants and Brief Biographies

The workshop drew together twenty three participants with affiliations from universities around South Africa, plus two international representatives (University of Kentucky; and University of Kent/Cambridge University). Most are academic staff at various stages of their career, with five post-graduate students (and one lecturer who is soon to pursue a PhD at Cambridge), as well as drugs activists with involvements in university research. Participants brought varied experiences and sets of knowledge to the question of how we might develop humanities research group or alliance that can perhaps produce a publication or that will otherwise seek to contribute to analysis, awareness and policy related to drug crises in South Africa so as to reduce harm.

In alphabetical order, participants included:

Alex Broadbent: Professor, Philosophy, Executive Dean of the Faculty of Humanities, University of Johannesburg. abbroadbent@uj.ac.za

Alex Broadbent is a philosopher of science with particular interests in philosophy of epidemiology, philosophy of medicine, and philosophy of law, connected by the philosophical themes of causation, explanation, and prediction. He is committed to finding philosophical problems in practical contexts, and to contributing something useful concerning them. He holds a P-rating from the National Research Foundation of South Africa (2013-2018) and is a member of the South African Young Academy of Sciences. He has published a number of articles in top international journals across three disciplines (philosophy, epidemiology, law). Alex's first book, *Philosophy of Epidemiology*, was published by Palgrave Macmillan in 2013, and has been translated into Korean. His second book, *Philosophy for Graduate Students: Metaphysics and Epistemology*, was published by Routledge in 2016. He is currently working on his third book, *Philosophy of Medicine*, under contract with Oxford University Press.

Midas Chawane: Senior Lecturer, History, University of Johannesburg. midasc@uj.ac.za

Midas Chawane started his academic career in 1991 at Vista University but joined Randse Afrikaanse Universiteit in 2004, following the incorporation of Vista to form the University of Johannesburg. His field of interest is in African History, oral history methods, cultural heritage and social histories of urbanization. His MA research topic dealt with Black Urbanisation on the Orange Free State Goldfields 1946-1956, the emergence of black townships and the social and economic conditions of black mine workers. Dr Chawane completed his PhD at the University of the Witwatersrand, with a dissertation (that addressed issues of Rastafarian identity and dagga use) entitled 'The Rememory of Black Oppression: Forging a Rasta Identity with specific reference to the Township of Daveyton, 1994 to the Present.'

Claire Clark: Assistant Professor, Behavioral Sciences, University of Kentucky, USA. claireclark@gmail.com

Claire Clark teaches at the University of Kentucky, USA, where she is an assistant professor of Behavioral Science, secondarily appointed in the Department of History, and associated with the Program for Bioethics. She specializes in the history of medicine and leads

educational projects in health humanities and medical behavioral science. She was dual trained as an historian of medicine (PhD) and behavioral scientist (MPH) at Emory University. Her book, *The Recovery Revolution: The Battle over Addiction Treatment in the United States* was published by Columbia University Press earlier this year.

Guy du Plessis: Doctoral Candidate, Educational Psychology, Stellenbosch University, USC. guy@guyduplessis.com

Guy du Plessis has been in the addiction treatment milieu for over 17 years as a addictions counsellor, head of treatment, program & clinical director, trainer, and researcher. He is the author of the books *An Integral Guide to Recovery: Twelve Steps and Beyond*, *An Integral Foundation for Addiction: Beyond the Biopsychosocial Model*, co-author of *Mind-Body Workbook for Addiction: Effective Tools for Relapse Prevention and Recovery*, and has published numerous academic articles in the fields of addiction treatment and studies, theoretical psychology and philosophy. He works in private practice and is a Faculty Member at California Southern University (School of Behavioral Sciences).

Donald Fick: Practicing Medical Doctor, Melville, Johannesburg. donnyfick@gmail.com

Donald Fick studied medicine at the University of Pretoria, graduating in 2007. He has been practicing as a General Practitioner at Meldene Medicross for the past six years. Excitingly, he was doctor for South African Idols TV show. He has a deep interest in the issue of opioids and addiction.

Andy Gray: *B Pharm, MSc (Pharm), FPS, FFIP*. Senior Lecturer, Pharmacology, School of Health Sciences, University of KwaZulu-Natal. graya1@ukzn.ac.za

Andy Gray is a pharmacist whose research interests include policy analysis (in particular, the development and implementation of National Medicines Policies), rational medicines use and the application of antiretroviral therapy in resource-constrained settings. He is a consultant pharmacist for the Centre for the AIDS Programme of Research in South Africa (CAPRISA) and non-executive Director of JEMBI Health Systems, a not-for-profit company focused on developing computer/IT-based healthcare solutions for the developing world. Mr Gray is a Visiting Fellow in the Faculty of Pharmacy, Rhodes University, Grahamstown. Mr Gray is a Fellow and Honorary Life Member of the Pharmaceutical Society of South Africa, a past President of the South African Association of Hospital and Institutional Pharmacists, a past President of the Hospital Pharmacy Section, past Chairman of the Board of Pharmaceutical Practice and currently a Vice-President and Fellow of the International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP). He has been a member of the Scheduling and Naming Expert Committee of the South African Medicines Control Council since 2000 and was appointed to the National Essential Medicines List Committee in 2012. He is a Member of the World Health Organization's Expert Panel on Drug Policies and Management and has served as a member, rapporteur and co-chairperson of the Expert Committee on the Selection and Use of Essential Medicines, as chairperson of the sub-committee on Essential Medicines for Children, and on the WHO Guidelines Review Committee.

Julia Hornberger: Senior Lecturer, Social Anthropology, Wits.
Julia.Hornberger@wits.ac.za

Julia Hornberger is a social anthropologist who works on questions of policing. She started out with a focus on policing and human rights in Johannesburg. In this work she has been tracing how South Africa's burgeoning rights regime on the one hand, and the various interactions with a population living under circumstances of great uncertainty and insecurity on the other hand, have transformed policing in post-apartheid years. In 2011 Dr Hornberger published her book *Human Rights and Policing. The Meaning of Violence and Justice in the everyday Practice of Policing in Johannesburg* with Routledge. More recently, she has shifted her focus towards the policing of health and intellectual property rights. In a project on international crime control and the circulation of fake and substandard medication she explore the ways in which questions of health, security and the market intersect around the figure of the pharmaceutical copy, globally and in South Africa in particular. Julia is teaching courses in the field of legal anthropology and the anthropology of human rights, crime and policing, anthropology of intellectual property, anthropology of the state, medical anthropology, the anthropology of medicine and pharmaceuticals, development studies.

Jannie Hugo: Professor and Head, Family Medicine, School of Medicine, UP.
Jannie.Hugo@up.ac.za

Jannie Hugo is leading the academic development and implementation of Community Oriented Primary Care (COPC) and the AITA Health mobile data system in particular. He is also leading the implementation of a Community Oriented Substance Use Programme (COSUP) in collaboration with the City of Tshwane and Gauteng DOH. Jannie takes part in the NHI (National Health Insurance) development in SA and in particular the design of the basic primary care service delivery model within an Integrated Primary Health Platform. He has published widely on the management of primary healthcare and healthcare services, district and rural health systems and training of healthcare workers in these settings.

Ernest Khalema: Associate Professor and Academic Leader, Community Development, UKZN, khalema@ukzn.ac.za

Ernest Nene Khalema is an interim Dean and Head of School of the School of Built Environment and Development Studies (SoBEDS). His area of research specialization includes participatory action methodologies (quantitative and qualitative), medical humanities, social epidemiology, health of vulnerable populations (including trauma studies and mental health), child and youth care, global migration studies, community crime prevention, and sustainable development. Ernest Khalema has led and co-led numerous national and international research projects and his areas of research interest in countries including Canada, Mozambique, Brazil, and currently South Africa. His projects have tackled interventionist work for community empowerment/engagement; the demography of global migrations and its consequences; and the social epidemiology of vulnerable populations (including migrants and refugees, those experiencing homelessness, people diagnosed with mental health illness, and survivors of racial/gender/sexual violence). Recent publications include two forthcoming edited books entitled: "*Crisis, Identity, and Migration in Post-Colonial Southern Africa*" (2017- Springer) and "*Affirming their Resilient Lives: African Migrant Youth in Africa and Diaspora*" (2017-Sense Publishers).

Anine Kriegler: Doctoral Candidate Criminology Centre, UCT, aninek@gmail.com

Anine Kriegler is a researcher with the Centre of Criminology at the University of Cape Town. Her research into alternative approaches to managing the harms around the drug trade aims to contribute to the global drug legalisation debate. She is a recipient of the prestigious David and Elaine Potter Fellowship, and holds Masters degrees from the University of Cape Town and the University of Cambridge. Anine is also working towards her PhD, which investigates South African crime statistics over the last century. With Mark Shaw, Simon Howell and Andrew Faull, she co-authored 'Balancing Harms in Cannabis Policy: Some considerations for the South African Context', which was submitted as amici curiae to the Western Cape High Court in the matters between Jeremy David Action et al, Jonathan David Rubin, and Garreth Prince respectively and the National Director of Public Prosecutions, Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development, and so on.

Monique Marks: Research Professor and Director, Urban Futures Centre, Engineering and Built Environment, Durban University of Technology. moniquem@dut.ac.za

Monique Marks trained as a social worker, she has a doctorate in Sociology from the University of Natal, and writes predominantly in the field of criminology. She has published widely in the areas of youth social movements, ethnographic research methods, police labour relations, police organizational change and security governance. She has published four books: *Young Warriors: Youth Identity, Politics and Violence in South Africa*; *Transforming the Robocops: Changing Police in South Africa*; and *Police Occupational Culture: New Debates and Directions* (edited with Anne-Marie Singh and Megan O'Neill) and *Police Reform from the Bottom Up* (edited with David Sklansky). She has also published over 45 peer reviewed articles and numerous reports, sits on a number of journal editorial boards as well as the Board of Trustees of the Safer South Africa Foundation, is a NRF B-rated researcher. In her research work on security governance she has forged close relations with government, both local and national. Monique also runs a large community engagement project in Durban's largest low income municipal housing estate, Kenneth Gardens.

Zinhle Mncube, Lecturer, Philosophy, UJ zinhlem@uj.ac.za

Zinhle Mncube is a founding member of UJ's African Centre of Epistemology and Philosophy of Science (ACEPS) and is a part of ACEPS's 'Medicine and Health in Africa' umbrella project. Zinhle will be a Doctoral candidate in the Department of History and Philosophy of Science at the University of Cambridge in October 2017. Her research interests lie broadly in the philosophy of medicine, the philosophy of biology, and the philosophy of race. Zinhle has published papers on the biological basis of race and a causal construal of heritability estimates. Zinhle lectures undergraduate courses in metaphysics and epistemology. She is also an Iris Marion Young Scholar, a Cornelius Golightly Fellow, and a winner of the 2017 British Society for the Philosophy of Science Doctoral Scholarship.

Nolwazi Mkhwanazi: Medical Anthropologist and Senior Researcher with Medical Humanities, WiSER, Wits. Nolwazi.Mkhwanazi@wits.ac.za

Nolwazi Mkhwanazi (PhD) is senior lecturer in Anthropology at the University of the Witwatersrand, and presently a senior researcher in the Medical Humanities programme at WiSER (Wits Institute for Social and Economic Research). Her research interests revolve around youth, gender and reproductive health issues. She has conducted research in

Botswana, Swaziland and South Africa. She is co-editor, with Deevia Bhana, of *Young Families: Gender, Sexuality and Care* (forthcoming HSRC Press). Nolwazi leads a study on sexuality among youth and its effect on the uptake of sexual health interventions in South Africa. She is also a PI on a collaborative project about young people's use of mobile technology to form sexual, intimate or romantic relationships in India and South Africa.

Khumisho Moguerane: Senior Lecturer, History, University of Johannesburg.
khumishom@uj.ac.za

Khumisho Moguerane's historical research is focused on how ordinary people, as colonial subjects, perceived and experienced formal British expansion into their territories. An Oxford-trained historian, Dr Moguerane's work considers the family histories of Christianised and educated chiefs in 'greater Bechuanaland' and Tswana-speaking parts of the Union of South Africa, paying particular attention to changing patterns in landholding, institutions of political office, and trajectories of formal education. Khumisho is interested in enduring conceptions of community, tradition and modernity, and identity, looking both to the colonial frontier and to current curiculating ideas about nation, race and power in South Africa.

Vedant Nanackchand: Department of Visual Art, Faculty of Art, University of Johannesburg. vedantn@uj.ac.za

Vedant Nanackchand has just completed a term as Head of the Department of Visual Art at the University of Johannesburg. He lectures in printmaking and photography with a focus on human rights and citizenship. He lectured in Fine Art at the former University of Durban-Westville, as well as in Printmaking at Technikon Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, South Africa. His teaching and research focus on printmaking, human rights, democracy and citizenship is informed by his experience as an educator at UDW as well as his association with Artist Proof Studio (Johannesburg) and Art for Humanity, (Durban). Both NGOs are art & human rights advocacy organizations respectively. During his association with Art for Humanity, he co-convened an exhibition of the International Print Portfolio at the UN in Geneva. Until recently, he served as chairperson of the Board of Directors of Artist Proof Studio. Vedant teaches most forms of printmaking and has participated in several exhibitions.

Nonhlanhla Ndlovu: post-graduate student, History, University of Johannesburg.
nobuhlendlovu52@gmail.com

Nonhlanhla Ndlovu is writing her honours thesis this year on histories of the mining industry, and particularly the politics of the newspaper *Umteteli wa Bantu* in the early 20th century. She is considering further studies at a MA level, with a possible focus on dagga.

Julie Parle: (Honorary Professor) History, University of KwaZulu-Natal. parlej@ukzn.ac.za

Julie Parle is a historian of medicine and mental health whose current research interest lies in history of pharmacy in twentieth century South Africa, in particular the long background to the Drugs Control Act (later renamed the Medicines & Related Substances Control Act) which, in 1965, established a statutory framework which served - or failed to serve - for the next half century, and which is now undergoing revision. She is seeking to chart and understand the 'pharmacopolitics' – the contestations between and within the state, pharmacy, medical and consumer interests, and others – of the time. She is also investigating

patterns of demand for new pharmaceutical medicines, such as sedatives, tranquilizers, and antibiotics, especially after WW2. Recent presentations and publications have aired her research on the surprising histories of the teratogen thalidomide in Africa, on the sale of sedatives, and the struggles over doctor-assisted death in South Africa in the 1970s. She is the author of *States of Mind: Searching for Mental Health in Natal and Zululand, 1868-1918* (UKZN Press) and co-author of a forthcoming history of Durban's McCord Hospital.

John Keketso Peete: Post-graduate student, Anthropology, University of Johannesburg.
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Keketso Peete is pursuing an honours degree in Anthropology at the University of Johannesburg and holds a BA Humanities degree (majoring in Linguistics and Anthropology) which he obtained with distinction/*Cum laude*. He is currently conducting research for his honours dissertation, titled "Street drug use among the youth in Diepkloof, Soweto: The life of a nyaope user", under the supervision of Professor Jonathan Standler. The aims of the research is to explore the lives of young nyaope users, their daily experiences; practices; and to capture their viewpoints about their own situation.

Lubomira Radoilska, Senior Lecturer, University of Kent, United Kingdom.
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Lubomira Radoilska is a Senior Lecturer in Philosophy at the University of Kent, Affiliated Lecturer in Philosophy at the University of Cambridge, U.K. and Associate Editor of *Ethical Theory and Moral Practice*. She is the author of *Aristotle and the Moral Philosophy of Today* (PUF, 2007) and *Addiction and Weakness of Will* (OUP, 2013), and editor of *Autonomy and Mental Disorder* (OUP, 2012). The award of a Mind Association Fellowship for 2016-2017 supported her work on a new book project considering whether the knowledge and control conditions on responsibility for action can be reconciled with an acknowledgement of the role of habits and dispositions in agency.

Shaun Shelly: Addiction Specialist, Community Development and Drug Reform Activist and Researcher, Cape Town. Shaun@tbhivcare.org

Shaun Shelly is currently the "Projects, Policy, Advocacy and Human Rights Manager" for TB/HIV Care Association and has affiliations with the University of Cape Town, where he is completing an MPhil in Addiction Psychiatry, and the University of Pretoria Department of Family Medicine. Shaun is the African and Middle Eastern representative on the strategic sub-committee for the International Drug Policy Consortium and is on the advisory board for Families for Sensible Drug Policy. He is founding organizer of the South African Drug Policy Week. In 2016, he was awarded the 2016 Society of Psychiatrists Western Cape sub-group committee SASOP Special Achievement Award for advancing the field of Psychiatry based on his contribution in advocating for positive change in the field of addictions, addressing the stigma and difficult socioeconomic circumstances associated with addiction as well as your contributions in lecturing and ongoing research.

Jonathan Stadler: Associate Professor, Anthropology, University of Johannesburg.
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Jonathan Stadler's research interests are epidemics and syndemics, social suffering, sexuality, biotechnologies, clinical trials, and the application of anthropological methods in medical

research. He has explored these themes over the past two decades in several linked ethnographic studies in rural and urban settings in southern Africa. His current research project is on the experience of drug regimens to prevent tuberculosis infection and the role of technologies of surveillance in promoting medication compliance. He is co-author, with Eirik Saethre, of *Negotiating Pharmaceutical Uncertainty: Women's Agency in a South African HIV Prevention Trial* (Vanderbilt University Press and *(Off) Label: 2012 AIDS Review* (University of Pretoria). He is currently drafting a book manuscript, provisionally titled *Public Secrets – Private Sufferings: the AIDS epidemic in a lowveld village* based on his PhD research.

Anna Versfeld: Post-Graduate Student, Anthropology, University of Cape Town.
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Anna Versfeld undertook her PhD in medical anthropology at the University of Cape Town, South Africa. Her dissertation research focused on the nexus of tuberculosis (TB) and substance use in patients accessing public health care facilities. This work built on previous research on female methamphetamine users in Cape Town. She currently consults on research and programme implementation related to infectious disease and key populations. Most of her time is spent working with the non-profit organisation TB/HIV Care, where she largely focuses on training people who use drugs to conduct critical, qualitative research related to drug use. She also provides qualitative input to the design and implementation of research projects within TB/HIV Care. Her background is varied and includes working in the NGO sector on conflict resolution, youth development, and on child and family wellbeing.

Thembisa Waetjen: (Workshop Organizer) Associate Professor, History, UJ,
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Thembisa Waetjen's recent published work is on opium and opiated medicines regulation, labour and state-formation in South Africa in the early 20th century (*Journal of African History, Journal of Southern African Studies, South African Historical Journal*). She is working towards a book that will offer social and political history of SA narcotics regulation (in global/comparative perspective). Earlier work has focused on identity, gender and political life: she is co-author, with Goolam Vahed, of several books on the changing civic worlds of Muslim South Africans in Durban and is author of *Workers and Warriors: Masculinity and the Struggle for Nation in South Africa* (U of Illinois).

5. Outcomes and Assessments of Workshop Proceedings

A. In relation to the aims of **Knowledge Interchange and Collaboration of the National Research Foundation**, the workshop had the following **outcomes**:

The workshop brought together researchers from several disciplines in the sciences and humanities, at various stages of their academic careers to exchange knowledge and plan collaborative work related a South African, social issue – drug use, treatment and policy.

The event included delegates from seven South African universities. These included institutions in the Gauteng urban centres (University of Johannesburg, University of Pretoria, University of the Witwatersrand) as well as in other provinces (University of Cape Town,

Stellenbosch University, University of KwaZulu-Natal and Durban University of Technology). In addition, one participant was present from University of Kent.

International Keynote speaker: It also drew upon the international expertise of scholar Professor Claire Clark, whose own disciplinary position bridges the Health Sciences and the Humanities. Professor Clark was available to be in South Africa for four nights. She is an Assistant Professor at the University of Kentucky, holding a post in the Medical Faculty in Behavioural Sciences and a joint appointment in History, as well as affiliation with the Bioethics programme. She has, this year, published a book, *The Recovery Revolution: The Battle for Addiction Treatment in the United States* (Columbia Press 2017) and her keynote address ‘The unreliable activist: Why drugs policy needs the health humanities’ reflected upon the research process and made a strong case for developing a humanities research focus, across various disciplines, on drugs, treatment and policy so as to create a locally-responsive model for South Africa. Clark’s presence offered expertise on the topic of drugs treatment policy research, drawing upon humanities methodologies, as well as a needed comparative framework for drawing out similar and unique aspects of the South African experience. If we in South Africa are not simply to continue to borrow ideas, strategies and thinking from the Global North, we need to understand what is distinctive about our social setting in relation to these issues.

In addition to her participation and keynote address at the JIAS workshop, Professor Clarke also gave an hour and half seminar to students and staff at the University of Johannesburg, Department of History. This was widely advertised by the Humanities Department and through the history department’s own seminar and teaching internet list (see attached Announcement and attendance list of 12 individuals). The focus of the seminar was on the uses of historical research for policy interventions and the methodological issues they engender. It was based on Clark’s own research experiences and methodological case study in the article entitled: ‘Peter Bourne’s Drug Policy and the Perils of a Public Health Ethic, 1976-1978’.

Additional keynote speakers, cited in NRF grant application: Jannie Hugo (biography page 12) presented a perspective on ethics and patients’ rights for people who use drugs; Andy Gray (biography page 11) presented perspectives from the medicines regulation perspectives, local and international; Shaun Shelly (biography page 15) introduced concepts of harm reduction and discussed the significance and limitations of the Portuguese model for South Africa; Monique Marks (biography, page 13) spoke about setting up a Opioid Substitution Therapy (OST) clinic in Durban as part of a partnership between university researchers, activists and the municipality. Each of these perspectives formed a core role in grounding our discussions in the South African context and helped to set an agenda for humanities research and networking.

Specified Workshop Outcomes: In terms of the specified aims and objectives (see page 6), the workshop facilitated

1. an exchange of disciplinary perspectives and current approaches to opioid consumption and addiction, treatment, and policy/practice in the South African context, through presentations and discussions by participants;

2. appraisal of investigations and innovations currently at work around South Africa, particularly in Cape Town, Pretoria and Durban but also within pharmacological and legal thinking about regulation;
3. opportunities for conversation about the possibilities for forming a research group, with allied or collaborative research, networking, teaching and continued sharing of expertise and resources;
4. discussion and agreement that individually, and collectively, there is much that can immediately be published that will make an impact;
5. initial agreement for a collaborative edited research publication directed at a broad audience that will be introductory and seek to disturb the current normative narratives and be of use for policy considerations, civil society engagement, medical professionals and interested and socially engaged publics;
6. agreement to be in touch with each other about funding opportunities and opportunities for collaborative work and citizen activities.

Discussions and the follow up questionnaire have allowed the organizer to:

7. collate the key points of input and recommendations of participants, including their identification of other individuals who may be approached for future activities, particularly related to objectives 3-6;
8. outline and assign 'next steps' in relation to objectives 3-6.

B. Evaluative Comments returned in response to the open-ended questionnaire indicate that the workshop was overwhelmingly successful in terms of most of the specified aims. The following comments are included here verbatim:

- The workshop was a great success. It accomplished something that is not easy to do, namely bringing together scholars and practitioners from various fields and encouraging open dialogue between them. No one voice or perspective dominated the conversation, and the participants approached the conversation with a sense of generosity which seemed to encourage active listening and the open exchange of different points of view. Having participated in a few similar forums in the US context, I was thrilled that this workshop did not get bogged down in tired (and in my view unproductive) debates about whether addiction is primarily neurological or socially constructed but instead gave alternate perspectives - from the realms of pharmacy scheduling, frontline service provision, and humanistic disciplines such as history and philosophy, equal time.
- I would have liked to dedicate even more time to discussing how we define "harm reduction," both in theory and practice, in general and in the South African context. Perhaps this is something a follow-up project could discuss in more detail.
- What I found particularly valuable was simply having a conversation among people who already knew and agreed on the basics, so that we didn't have to waste all the

usual time having to explain and justify harm reduction in the abstract or specific interventions like Opioid Substitution Therapy.

- The interdisciplinarity was also a major plus - I spend too little time with historians and anthropologists, and too much with lawyers. That said, I do think that future engagements should try to get some lawyers on board. Legal challenges are going to form a significant part of some of our projects, so we need to work out how to make that a productive and comfortable relationship. I'm not sure who the right people are for that, but others might. There must be some constitutional lawyers who have something useful to say - perhaps ones with experience in the HIV/AIDS field.
- I want to reiterate that people who use drugs need to be guiding these conversations as much as possible. Shaun's network seems like a valuable starting point for that.
- In general I found the presentations and discussions very interesting, and it clearly highlighted the complexity of the issue of opioid use harm reduction. In the field of harm reduction, like the fields of addiction studies and treatment, there is such an abundance of theories of what constitutes “addiction”, “harm” and “effective treatment” etc... Consequently, any type of discussion and collaboration between diverse groups often becomes problematic at a philosophical/theoretical level before practical solutions can be found. Perhaps, there should be a greater emphasis on exploring the philosophical/theoretical underpinnings of the various approaches.
- There is a great deal we can learn from European and US-centered approaches to harm reduction. But I think South Africa has unique challenges that will require a South African-centric approach to harm reduction.
- Harm reduction groups often work independently from the addiction treatment and prevention communities. This is unfortunate as it could be more effective as part of a continuum of prevention/harm reduction/treatment.
- I found the dialogues to be incredibly exciting and very useful. It was for me particularly valuable to hear new ideas, different approaches and some very rare critical thinking on issues related to the use of drugs. The wide range of disciplines ensured that there was a more rounded understanding. I felt comfortable challenging and being challenged in the space and many of the comments really encouraged me to think further. Claire's work was very interesting and I would have liked more time to dissect some of the work and do some small group discussions around topics. Her work is very relevant as I learned four days later that “Narconon” have just been given space within the government space – and they are scientologists who founded Synonon, the original therapeutic communities Claire writes about. I found the other talks very interesting as well.
- A couple of ideas: 1) I would have liked to have had more open discussion time in small groups; 2) We could have started with a general discussion to decide how we conceptualised and understood some of the terms and philosophies to set the tone; 3) There should have been some appropriate representatives from the People Who Use Drugs (PWUD) community – apart from adding THE vital voice, it would have disrupted some of the recovery rhetoric and pre-conceptions that crept in at times! But overall I am enthused and enriched!

- Thank you for including me in a most impressive event - thoroughly enjoyed having all of my preconceptions and presumptions challenged! Look forward to the next steps!
- It was a great workshop.
- The workshop was quite an eye-opening experience more especially on the issue of harm reduction as I got to understand on a more deeper level what it entails. To listen to people from various academic fields tackle the subject made me further realise how much research still needs to be done. Research based on a form of applied history which includes collaboration from other disciplines and looks at substance abuse not only from the side of the government and the other parties involved. The research should bring in the drug users' perspective as well as that of the very community the person belongs to as to avoid generalisation.
- I feel as though it would be interesting to see how if communities could be taught about harm reduction and the alternative help it brings for those viewed as addicts. As most people still believe rehab is the only solution for the addicted person in question. I for one would like to experience first hand how this would work out in my community and whether it would change peoples' ideas on drug use, prevention and reduction.
- In future if such a workshop is to take place it would be great if ordinary members of the community could be invited so they can share their own views and ideas. Moreover, this would bring in a non-academic approach to the subject at hand.

6. Planned Outputs

Planning is underway for an edited volume based on recorded discussions and presentations. The volume will be edited by the organizer, who will approach participants as well as additional potential contributors named by participants in the follow up questionnaire. As per suggestions, we will work to include voices of people who use drugs, families and community members, and work to represent a range of perspectives on harm reduction, current innovations underway, and what a shift from criminalisation to reducing harm could look like in the South African context.

This is viewed as an initial project and will not seek to definitively resolve questions but rather open them through incorporating debates, even about the terms used – drugs, harm reduction, addiction, etc – from various humanities perspectives. Overall, however, it will work to disturb normative stigmatising and criminalising discourses, identify and engage with some of the barriers and difficulties in shaping policy around a rights-based perspective.

The organiser has approached the HSRC Press and has been invited to submit a proposal.