

faculty information

Faculty Development International Seminar

South Africa Final Report

Faculty Development International Seminar

"TRANSFORMATION AND MULTICULTURALISM IN THE NEW MILLENNIUM"
SOUTH AFRICA
JANUARY 3-25, 2000

Prepared by:

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I. INTRODUCTION

In the summer of 1995, Macalester College conducted its first Faculty Development International Seminar in Hungary on the theme of "Transition and Globalization in Central and Eastern Europe". In the summer of 1997, the second seminar took place in Brazil with a focus on "Landscape, Culture and Globalization: Views from Brazil". Building on the success of these two seminars in helping further internationalize Macalester's brand of liberal arts education, the third seminar, on the theme of "Transformation and Multiculturalism in the New Millennium", took place in South Africa during January of 2000. The proceedings of the South Africa seminar, in the form of commissioned papers and Macalester faculty essays, will be published in Volume IX of the College's journal of international studies, the Macalester International. An outline of the purpose, theme, structure, sites, schedule, participants, and host institutions follows.

II. PURPOSE

At Macalester College, the internationalization of liberal arts education and faculty members takes many forms. Among others, these include the hiring of tenure-track professors with diverse cultural backgrounds; the granting of sabbatical and other leaves to pursue international research; the Visiting International Faculty Program, which brings several foreign scholars to campus for one- or two-year positions; the Faculty Exchange Program (currently with Japan); the International Roundtable, which brings foreign scholars together with our faculty and students on campus each Fall semester; opportunities for faculty to be involved with study abroad programming (approximately 50% of Macalester's U.S. students study overseas as part of their degree programs), and to teach and advise an internationally diverse student body (Macalester enrolls degree-seeking students from nearly 80 countries worldwide); and other college-wide, departmental or individual undertakings which bring internationalism to campus or take faculty members abroad.

The January 2000 Faculty Development International Seminar had several explicit and inter-related purposes:

- * To have Macalester faculty jointly explore, with host society scholars, practitioners and others, an interdisciplinary theme in a particular zone of the world;
- * To foster a community of internationalist scholars among Macalester faculty;
- * To provide opportunities for individual Macalester faculty participants and host society counterparts to engage in discussions on topics of shared intellectual interests;
- * To expose faculty to study abroad programs of relevance to our curriculum and of interest to Macalester students; and
- * To share Seminar outcomes with a wider community in and beyond Macalester.

III. THE THEME OF THE JANUARY 2000 SEMINAR SOUTH AFRICA: TRANSFORMATION AND MULTICULTURALISM IN THE NEW MILLENNIUM

To accomplish the explicit goals of the Seminar, presentations and activities were organized well in advance around a broad interdisciplinary theme - Transformation and Multiculturalism in the New Millennium - which is designed to introduce participants to the new intellectual temper of South Africa and to be both focused enough to add depth to its content and supple enough to stimulate each individual participant's intellectual interests.

If there is one country today which can capture and illustrate most comprehensively some of the most notoriously complex concepts and challenges of a changing world - deep social transformation; race, democracy, and multiculturalism; natural resource conservation, biodiversity, land degradation, game management, and the inter-relationships between human and other populations; community health, child welfare, and AIDS; individual, social, and economic development; theater and cinema in a society in transition; women and gender issues; the role of science and technology in a transforming society; the struggle for inclusivity and excellence in education - it is South Africa. Among the many riveting features of South African society are its multifaceted and complex history; its enormous social challenges and its dynamic capacity for human and economic development; its diverse, splendid, and troubled ecology; its all-encompassing struggle and transformation from apartheid to democracy, including its gut-wrenching and intellectually complex inter-racial and inter-communal relations; and its social, cultural, political, scientific, and technological impact on the rest of Africa and the world.

The January 2000 Macalester Faculty Development International Seminar, focused on "Transformation and Multiculturalism in the New Millennium", was designed to help ensure that participants grapple - both intellectually and through hands-on personal experience - with some of the most compelling issues facing contemporary South Africa. It was also designed to encourage discussion of Macalester's own commitment to excellence in higher education, and to the inter-related ideals of internationalism, multiculturalism, and service to society. To help accomplish this, the Seminar included a series of commissioned papers and guest presentations; discussions with scholars and practitioners from various fields; guided visits to important cultural, ecological and historical sites, and to universities and residential areas; opportunities for independent study and collaboration with colleagues in South Africa; visits with host families; and various forums for sharing the experience and the learning gained through the Seminar.

IV. SEMINAR STRUCTURE

The basic structure of the Seminar, as outlined in detail below, included the following components:

- * Several pre-departure discussions, guest presentations, and orientation/planning meetings at Macalester College during the Fall, 1999 semester;
- * One pre-departure lead commissioned paper (approximately 8,000 words), keynote address, and discussion with a distinguished Africanist scholar, held at Macalester College, on the topic of democratization, cultural pluralism, and political order;
- * Four commissioned papers (6-8,000 words) and on-site presentations/discussions in South Africa with local scholars and practitioners on the following topics: race and democracy; social and economic development; environmentalism; and public health;
- * Five days dedicated exclusively to each Seminar participant's independent study (see topics below);
- * Ten additional on-site oral presentations and group discussions on selected topics of critical importance to a comprehensive understanding of South Africa, and of relevance to the overall theme of the seminar, including: science and technology; game reserve management; Afrikaner history; land degradation; environmentalism; film; the anti-apartheid movement; women and gender issues; Afrikaner identity and politics; and study abroad programs;
- * Approximately ten educational and cultural excursions;
- * Post-seminar evaluation meetings, discussions, and publication of participants' essays.

V. SEMINAR CONTENT AND SCHEDULE

Following is a detailed outline of the Seminar's content and schedule:

Saturday, September 25, 1999

7:30 - 10:00 p.m.

Seminar Reception and Discussion. Special guest: Dr. Vincent Maphai, former professor of Political Science and former director of the Democracy and Governance group at the Human Sciences Research Council in Pretoria, and currently serving as Corporate Affairs Director of South African Breweries.

Venue: chez Dr. Ahmed Samatar, St. Paul, Minnesota.

Thursday, October 21, 1999

11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Seminar Lunch Discussion: Overview of Critical Issues in South Africa, with special attention to issues of multiculturalism, transformation, and education in South Africa.

Special Guest: Albie Sachs, Justice of the Constitutional Court of South Africa.

Venue: Alumni House, Macalester College.

7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Justice Sachs' public presentation at the Mitchell Law School on his role in and assessment of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

Thursday, November 18, 1999

7:30 - 9:30 p.m.

Commissioned Paper/Public Presentation/Discussion: Africa: Democratization, Cultural Pluralism, and the Challenge of Political Order.

Presenter: Dr. M. Crawford Young, Rupert Emerson and John Bascom Professor of Political Science at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Venue: Carnegie 06, Macalester College.

Friday, November 19, 1999

11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Seminar Discussion with Dr. Crawford Young.

Venue: Old Main, Fourth Floor Lounge, Macalester College.

Wednesday, December 8, 1999

12:00 - 1:00 p.m.

Pre-departure orientation session and discussion of Seminar content and logistics.

Presenter: Mr. Michael Monahan, Director, International Center.

Venue: International Center Conference Room.

Monday-Tuesday, January 3-4, 2000

Group Flight departure from Minneapolis/St. Paul to Amsterdam.

Wednesday, January 5, 2000

Group flight arrival to Johannesburg Airport. Transportation to Pretoria.

6:00 - 10:00 p.m.

Seminar Opening Dinner: Welcome, Review of Seminar Content and Schedule, Discussion.

Presenter: Mr. Michael Monahan, Director, International Center, Macalester College.

Venue: Pride of India Restaurant, Pretoria.

Thursday, January 6, 2000

8:15: Tea/Welcome.

8:30 - 9:00 a.m. Seminar Opening Remarks by:

Dr. Ahmed Samatar, Dean of the Institute for Global Citizenship, Macalester College.

Dr. B. R. Naidu, Acting President and Executive Director of Human Resource Development, Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC).

Venue: HSRC Forum C, Ground Floor.

9:00 - 11:30 a.m.

Commissioned Paper/Seminar Presentation/Discussion: Reflections on Race and Democratization in South Africa: Problems and Prospects.

Author/Presenter: Dr. Bernard Magubane, Sociologist, Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC).

Venue: HSRC, Forum C, Ground Floor.

11:45 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.

Seminar Lunch Discussion: Race and Democracy.

Venue: HSRC, Ground Floor Patio Dining Area.

2:30-4:00 p.m. Seminar Excursion: Introduction to Pretoria city and environs.

6:45 - 11:00 p.m. Transportation to Johannesburg for performance of "Zulu" at the Market Theatre. Performance at 8:00 p.m.

Friday, January 7, 2000

9:00 - 10:45 a.m.

Seminar Presentation/Discussion: Science and Technology in the New South Africa.

Presenter: Dr. M. Jeenah, Associate Director, Department of Arts, Culture, Science and Technology (South African Government).

Venue: HSRC, Ground Floor, Forum C

10:45 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Seminar Excursion: Soweto.

Saturday, January 8, 2000

1:30 - 3:00 p.m.

Seminar Presentation: Game Capture: A Management Tool in Modern Day Conservation.

Presenter: Mr. Douw Grobler, Vaccination and Relocation Programme, Kruger National Park.

Venue: HSRC, Room 1019.

Sunday, January 9, 2000

8:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Seminar Presentation and Excursion: The Voortrek and Afrikaner History.

Presenter: Ms. Estelle Pretorius, Cultural Historian, The Voortrekker Monument.

Venue: The Voortrekker Monument.

Sunday, January 9, 11:30 a.m. - Friday, January 14, 6:00 p.m.

Independent Study Period. No scheduled Seminar group program.

During this time, participants pursued independent projects and intellectual and cross-cultural interests in Pretoria, Cape Town, Durban, and elsewhere in South Africa with scholars, practitioners and others while observing first-hand the diversity of South African society.

Friday, January 14, 2000: Seminar reconvened in Cape Town.

Lodging at the All Africa House, Middle Campus, University of Cape Town.

6:00 - 6:45 p.m.

Group Meeting at All Africa House Lounge regarding the Cape Town component of the Seminar.

Presenter: Mr. Michael Monahan, Director, Macalester College International Center.

7:00 - 11:30 p.m.

Seminar Dinner, Independent Study Project Reports, observations by Provost Daniel Hornbach.
Venue: Constantia Uitsig Restaurant, Constantia.

Saturday, January 15, 2000

9:30 - 11:30 a.m. Seminar Excursion: Orientation to Cape Town.

11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Seminar Presentation: Land Degradation in South Africa: Prehistorical, Historical and Contemporary Perspectives. Presenter: Dr. Michael Meadows, Professor of Paleo-Ecology, Department of Geographical and Environmental Sciences, University of Cape Town.
Venue: Kirstenbosch National Botanic Institute Seminar Room.

1:30 - 2:45 p.m. Seminar Lunch Discussion on Land Degradation and Biodiversity.

2:45 - 4:15 p.m. Exploration of Kirstenbosch National Botanical Institute.

6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Optional Seminar Dinner at Baxter Theatre, University of Cape Town.

8:00 - 10:30 p.m. Seminar Theatre: "SUIP" (Overindulgence: Life in Cape Town). UCT Baxter Theatre.

Sunday, January 16, 2000

8:30 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.

Seminar Excursion: Orientation to the Cape Peninsula, Cape Point and Cape of Good Hope Nature Reserve.

7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Seminar Presentation/Film: African Cinema: XALA, A Contemporary Form of African Oral Tradition.

Presenter: Professor Anny Wynchank, Head of the French Section, Department of Modern and Classical Languages, University of Cape Town.

Venue: All Africa House Seminar Room, University of Cape Town.

Monday, January 17, 2000

1:15 - 5:30 p.m. Seminar Excursion: Robben Island.

7:00-11:00 p.m. Dinner and discussion hosted by Cecil Callahan, Member, Macalester Board of Trustees.

Venue: Steenberg Hotel, Tokai.

Tuesday, January 18, 2000

5:30 - 9:30 a.m. Optional Excursion: Table Mountain ascent by foot.

10:15 a.m. Transportation to University of the Western Cape.

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Commissioned Paper/Seminar Presentation: Social and Economic Development in South Africa.
Author/Presenter: Dr. Pieter le Roux, Professor of Economics, Institute for Social Development,
University of the Western Cape.

Venue: Vice Chancellor Seminar Room.

1:00 - 2:00 p.m.

Seminar Lunch Discussion: Social and Economic Development.

Venue: Seminar Room.

2:00 - 3:30 p.m.

Seminar Presentation and Discussion: The International Anti-Apartheid Movement and the
African National Congress in Exile.

Presenter: Mr. Barry Feinberg, Director of Mayibuye Center.

Venue: Mayibuye Center, University of the Western Cape, Main Library, Lower Level.

3:30 - 4:00 p.m. Brief Update on Higher Education and the University of the Western Cape.

Presenter: Dr. Jan Persens, Professor of Mathematics and Director of the UWC International
Office.

Venue: Mayibuye Center, University of the Western Cape.

4:00 p.m. Group transportation from UWC Main Library to UCT All Africa House.

Wednesday, January 19, 2000

9:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Commissioned Paper/Seminar Presentation/Discussion: The Development of Environmentalism
in South Africa: A Socio-Political Perspective. Presenter: Ms. Farieda Khan, Department of
Geographical and Environmental Sciences, University of Cape Town.

Venue: Senate Room, Bremner Building.

11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Seminar Lunch Discussion: Environmentalism in South Africa.

Venue: Baxter Theatre, University of Cape Town.

3:00-5:00 p.m. Seminar Excursion to District Six.

Thursday, January 20, 2000

9:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Commissioned Paper/Seminar Presentation/Discussion: Public Health in South Africa: Child
Welfare and AIDS. Authors/Presenters: Dr. Peter Barron, Public Health Practitioner and Head of
the Health District Development Program of the Health Systems Trust, and Dr. Marian Jacobs,
Professor of Paediatrics, Head of the Child Health Unit of the University of Cape Town, and
Chair of the Health Systems Trust and the Medical Research Council.

Venue: Senate Room, Bremner Building.

11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Seminar Lunch Discussion: Public Health in South Africa

Venue: Baxter Theatre, University of Cape Town.

3:00 - 4:30 p.m.

Seminar Presentation and Discussion: Women and Gender Issues in South Africa.

Presenter: Dr. Amina Mama, Director, Gender Research Institute, University of Cape Town.

Venue: All Africa House Lounge.

Friday, January 21, 2000

8:30 a.m. Transportation to the University of Stellenbosch.

10:00 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.

Seminar Presentation and Discussion: Afrikaner Identity and Politics in the New Millennium: Exclusivity or Inclusivity? Presenter: Dr. W. J. Breytenbach, Professor of Political Science, University of Stellenbosch.

Venue: Seminar Room, Main Administration Building, University of Stellenbosch.

12:00 - 1:30 p.m. Lunch discussion with Stellenbosch faculty and staff.

Venue: International Office Lounge

1:30 - 4:00 p.m. Guided Tour of University of Stellenbosch by Dr. Robert Kotze, Director of the International Office and free time in Stellenbosch city.

4:00 - 6:00 p.m. Excursion to Franschoek and environs.

6:00 - 9:30 p.m. Seminar dinner and discussion with Stellenbosch faculty and staff.

Venue: Oude Libertas Restaurant, Stellenbosch.

Saturday, January 22, 2000

8:30-11:00 a.m. Optional visits to District 6 and/or Bo Kaap Museums.

11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Seminar Presentation, Lunch and Discussion: Study Abroad Programs in Cape Town for U.S.

Undergraduates. Presenters: Ms. Lesley Shackleton, Director, International Academic Programmes Office, University of Cape Town; Mr. Quinton Redcliffe, International Student Officer, University of Cape Town; Mr. John McGladdery, Academic Director, School for International Training College Semester Abroad Program; Ms. Christine Hudson, Director, Council on International Educational Exchange Program; Dr. Sharyn Spicer and Ms. Laura Potts, Director and Assistant Director, LEXIA International.

Venue: Senate Room, Bremner Building, University of Cape Town.

4:00 - 8:00 p.m. Homestay Family Visits. Arranged by Lexia International/University of the Western Cape.

Sunday, January 23, 2000

8:30-11:45 a.m. Township visits.

12:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Final seminar discussion and closing lunch.

Venue: Noon Gun Restaurant in Bo Kaap ("Malay" quarter of Cape Town).

Monday-Tuesday, January 24-5, 2000

Group transportation to Cape Town airport. Group travel from Cape Town to Minneapolis/St. Paul.

Monday, January 31, 2000

Macalester College Spring Semester classes began.

Wednesday, March 1, 2000

Deadline for submission of Seminar participants' final reflective essays (3-4,000 words) for publication in the Macalester International.

VI. SEMINAR SITES: PRETORIA AND CAPE TOWN

The two primary sites of the academic program, apart from those which Seminar participants will visit in conjunction with their independent projects, are two of South Africa's most important and attractive cities. Pretoria, (nicknamed the City of Jacarandas), now the capital of the Republic of South Africa, was the creation of Dutch Africans (Boers or Afrikaners) who fled English rule centered in Cape Town. In 1836 they began their Great Trek to the north and east seeking independence in Zulu country. Pretoria is named for Andries Pretorius, the Boer leader who defeated the Zulus at the Battle of Blood River in 1838, thus securing a large territory for the Afrikaners to colonize. The city's monuments reflect its Afrikaner history (e.g., the Voortrekker Monument, the Transvaal Museum). It also features the University of Pretoria, the Human Sciences Research Council, and the University of South Africa. Pretoria has been overshadowed since the late 1800s by its much larger neighbor, Johannesburg, just 31 miles to the south. This gives it some advantages similar to those St. Paul has in its relationship with Minneapolis. One can easily visit the larger, more exciting, and more dangerous big city, then retreat to the comfort and relative safety of the capital.

Cape Town, considered by many to be both the cultural center of South Africa and a major focal point for political transformation, is world-famous for its physical beauty in a setting of magnificent splendor between mountains and ocean. It is known as a cosmopolitan, optimistic, and open-minded city, and is home to the University of Western Cape and the University of Cape Town. Located near the southern tip of the African continent, Cape Town was founded by the Dutch in 1652. The English took it over in 1795, making it the capital of their Cape Colony, and initiated practices in the city whose effects are still felt today: war against certain native groups; the importation of slave labor from the East Indies; and settlement of the hinterland with independent-minded farmers. Modern South Africa, with its four major and sometimes antagonistic populations - Native, English, Afrikaner, and Coloured - began in Cape Town.

Cape Town is situated on a plain beneath Table Mountain, with a Mediterranean climate and a flourishing tourist and wine industry, and sharp contrasts between the material development of the Waterfront and wealthy suburbs on the one hand, and townships and squatter camps on the other. Sites of interest include churches and government buildings, the world-famous National Botanical Institute and Kirstenbosch Gardens, a variety of art and culture museums, District 6, and the Muslim quarter. South of the city, on the Cape of Good Hope itself, there are fishing villages, beaches, and a nature reserve. The famous Robben Island, Nelson Mandela's prison home for 17 years, can be reached easily by boat from the Cape Town harbor.

VII. MACALESTER PARTICIPANTS

Frank Adler

Department: Political Science.

Independent Project Topic: South African Jews and Apartheid

Kendrick Brown

Department: Psychology.

Independent Project Topic: Coloured and Black Relations in South Africa: The Burden of Racialized Hierarchy

Janet Carlson

Departments: Chemistry & Comparative North American Studies.

Independent Project Topic: Moving the Edge: The South Africans Who Are Chinese

Beth Cleary

Department: Dramatic Arts and Dance.

Independent Project Topic: The Spaces I Travelled: Notes on Theater and the Legacies of Apartheid in South Africa

Duchess Harris

Department: Political Science and Gender Studies.

Independent Project Topic: Multicultural Feminism Transforming Democracy

Bert Ifill

Department: President's Office and Multicultural Affairs

Independent Project Topic: Transforming an Open University: Examining the University of Cape Town

David Itzkowitz

Department: History

Independent Project Topic: The Double Journey of a Jewish-American Academic

Leola Johnson

Department: Communication Studies.

Independent Project Topic: The Social Bandit after Apartheid

David Lanegran

Department: Geography.

Independent Project Topic: The Post-Apartheid City and the Globalization of Eroding the Landscape of Apartheid

David Moore

Department: International Studies and English

Independent Project Topic: Of Transitions, Fast and Slow: Writing South Africa at the Turn of the Millennium

Peter Rachleff

Department: History.

Independent Project Topic: "On The Ground" With the South African Labor Movement

Truman Schwartz

Department: Chemistry.

Independent Project Topic: Night Thoughts About Dawn Over the Beloved Country

Vasant Sukhatme

Department: Economics

Independent Project Topic: Institutions and Economic Development: Some Thoughts on the Transition

Jim von Geldern

Department: Russian.

Independent Project Topic: The Battlefields of KwaZulu-Natal and the Revision of South African History

VIII. SEMINAR HOST INSTITUTIONS AND PARTICIPANT LODGING

While the Macalester Seminar is a collaborative effort with a wide range of individuals and institutions in South Africa, the primary sites of Seminar activities and participant accommodations in South Africa were:

January 5-9, 2000:

The Human Science Research Council (HSRC) of South Africa

134 Pretorius Street, Pretoria, South Africa 0001.

Phone: (021) 302-2426; Fax: (021) 302-2479/2220.

Pretoria Hof Hotel

Corner Pretorius and Walt Street, Pretoria 2323, South Africa 0001.

Telephone: +27-12-322-7570; Fax: 27-12-322-9461; Email: phho@global.co.za

January 14-24, 2000:

The University of Cape Town All Africa House

Middle Campus, Rondebosch 7701, Cape Town, South Africa.

Macalester College Contact:
Michael D. Monahan, Director of International Center.
Cell phone in South Africa: 082-370-5303.