

A-rated researchers

Professor Quarraisha Abdool Karim – University of KwaZulu-Natal

Ground-breaking contributions in understanding the evolution of the HIV epidemic in South Africa, its impact on society and in advancing its prevention in women, while simultaneously fighting for the rights of people affected by HIV and Aids, have contributed to Professor Quarraisha Abdool Karim's reputation as one of the world's foremost medical and scientific authorities in the field of HIV and Aids research.

She obtained her BSc from the University of Durban-Westville (now the University of KwaZulu-Natal), honours degree from Wits University, Diploma in Higher Education from the University of South Africa, and master's in parasitology from Columbia University in the US, before completing her PhD in medicine at the University of KwaZulu-Natal. Currently the director of the Columbia University-Southern African Fogarty Aids International Training and Research Program and associate scientific director and head of the Epidemiology and Prevention Organisation Centre for the Aids Programme of Research in South Africa, she started her career as a research assistant at the South African Institute of Medical Research.

Her interest and research in the field of HIV and Aids span over two decades. Abdool Karim chairs the South African National Aids Council Prevention Technical Task Team, is a member of the UNAIDS Scientific Expert Panel, and scientific advisor to the executive director of Unaid. She is an advisory board member of the Higher Education and Training HIV/Aids Programme, scientific advisory board member of the US President's Emergency Plan for Aids Relief (PEPFAR), chair of the Pepar Adolescent Girls and Young Women Expert Working Group, a member of the HIV Centre Strategic Advisory Committee, and the National Institutes of Health OAR Microbicides Planning Group. She has served on the National Aids Task Team to develop SA's first Aids National Strategic Plan.

Abdool Karim has played a significant role in the fight against HIV and Aids in Africa, particularly in women.

She was principal investigator of the landmark study CAPRISA 004 Tenovir Gel Trial, which provided proof of concept for microbicides, and was highlighted by Science as one of the top 10 scientific breakthroughs in 2010. The study was heralded by Unaid as one of the key milestones in the first 30 years of the

Professor Jean Cleymans has made considerable contributions to the area of plasma and particle physics with a particular focus on relativistic heavy ion collisions. He obtained his doctorate in physics at the Universite Catholique de Louvain in Belgium and completed his post-doctoral thesis on Habituation in Theoretical and Condensed Matter Physics at the Universität Bielefeld in Germany. He joined the University of Cape Town as a senior lecturer in 1986, and later became professor and head of the physics department. He is currently emeritus professor and senior scholar at UCT.



Professor Quarraisha Abdool Karim

Aids epidemic. Her contributions have been characterised by her passionate promotion of human rights, underscored by her testimony to the Constitutional Court case that forced the Mbeki government to implement the drug Nevirapine to prevent mother-to-child transmission of HIV and Aids.

She has published over 170 peer-reviewed articles, as well as several books and book chapters, and has served on various editorial and advisory boards. She is a foreign associate member, Institute of Medicine of the USA National Academies (considered one of the highest honours in the field of health and medicine), fellow of the Royal Society of South Africa, fellow of the Academy of Science of South Africa, fellow of the African Academy of Sciences, and fellow of The World Academy of Sciences. She is currently vice-president (Southern African Region) of the African Academy of Sciences.

Abdool Karim is the recipient of several prestigious awards, including South Africa's highest honour, the Order of Mapungubwe, from the president of South Africa for outstanding work in HIV/Aids and tuberculosis research and health policy development, the African Union's Kwame Nkrumah Prize for Science and Technology, and the TWAS-Lenovo Prize. She also received the Department of Science and Technology Distinguished Women in Science Award, the ASSAf Science-for-Society Gold Medal, and the SA Medical Research Council Gold Medal.

Professor Eric Bateman – University of Cape Town

Professor Eric Bateman's major research interests include the pharmacology and management of asthma, chronic obstructive airways disease, community-based interventions to improve the care of patients with chronic respiratory diseases, and tuberculosis.

Trained as a specialist pulmonologist, he completed an MD at the University of Cape Town (UCT) in 1984. One of Bateman's proudest achievements was, without a doubt, the founding of the UCT Lung Institute. Today he is still full-time director at the institute and an Emeritus Professor and Honorary Life Fellow of UCT.

Another major achievement has been the adoption of his approach to asthma treatment not only on a local level, but also in international guidelines.

Bateman delivers invited lectures in approximately 17 countries each year. He is also a regular invited speaker in symposia and plenary sessions at the two major annual congresses in pulmonology: the Annual

Meeting of the American Thoracic Society and the Annual Congress of the European Respiratory Society. Throughout his career he has served with top experts in the fields of allergy and pulmonology, on the scientific advisory boards of nine pharmaceutical companies and acted as a consultant to an additional eight companies on drug development.

He has authored more than 300 publications, and his work has been cited over 9 400 times in the last eight years.

Recent awards include the Lifetime Achievement Award (platinum medal) from the South African Medical Research Council; Alan Pifer Award from UCT for outstanding welfare-related research; Fellowship in the Art and Science of Medicine Award (gold medal) from the South African Medical Association; President's Award from the European Thoracic Society for his global contribution to respiratory medicine; and Honorary Life Fellowship of the South African Thoracic Society.



Professor Eric Bateman

Professor William Bond – South African Environmental Observation Network

Professor William Bond is an ecologist with broad interests in the processes most strongly influencing vegetation change in the past and present, including fire, vertebrate herbivory, atmospheric CO₂ and climate change.

Bond obtained a PhD degree in ecology at the University of California, Los Angeles in the US in 1987. He started out as a scientist at the forestry department, Sasveld Forestry Research, and later moved on to the University of Cape Town where he is now an emeritus professor in biological sciences. He is currently chief scientist at the South African Environmental Observation Network.

Bond has served on the boards of the South African National Botanical Institute and of Cape Nature, and on the editorial boards of several journals. In 2013, he was elected a foreign associate of the US National Academy of Sciences. He is frequently invited to give talks at international conferences and symposia, and has reviewed for many journals.

He has authored and co-authored nearly 200 papers and three books. He has been invited to co-author and contribute to several pieces, including a completely new introductory book on world fire, an article on fire ecology for an *Encyclopaedia of*



Professor William Bond

Professor Jean Cleymans – University of Cape Town

contributed to the SA-Joint Institute for Nuclear Research with Russia and was Leader of the UCT-ALICE Collaboration at CERN. As a consequence, South Africa has become a major player in the field of nuclear and particle research.

Cleymans has authored or co-authored more than 300 refereed articles on theoretical physics in journals such as the *European Physical Journal*, *Physical Review*, and *Physics Letters*, which have garnered over 16 000 citations. He also edited two books and contributed one book chapter. He has acted as referee for *Physical Review* and *Physics Letters* and served as chair-

man of the SA-CERN Programme. To date, he has supervised 21 MSc and 13 PhD students, one of which recently won the prize for Academic Leadership from the University of Minnesota in the USA.

Cleymans has been an NRF A-rated researcher since 1985, and was the recipient of a number of awards throughout his career, including the Alexander von Humboldt Research Prize in 1999, the Prize of the Polish Ministry of National Education for Research Excellence in 2000 and for Outstanding Team Research in 2003.

Professor Jean Cleymans

