University of Cape Town  
Research Report 2005  

Faculty of Science  
Department of Botany  

(Including the Bolus Herbarium and the Institute for Plant Conservation)  

Head of Department: Associate Professor J.J. Midgley  

Departmental Profile  

Botany is a vibrant department, which strives towards the development of a centre of excellence for research and teaching of the ecology, evolution, physiological ecology and systematics of marine and terrestrial plants of southern Africa. The department includes two research units, the Bolus Herbarium and Leslie Hill Institute for Plant Conservation, and is also home to the Department of Environmental Affairs & Tourism Chief Directorate: Marine & Coastal Management. Research thrusts include plant population, community and reproductive ecology, systematics, floristics, biogeography and evolutionary biology of the unique Cape Floral Kingdom and its response to different land use practices, ecology and economics of marine and freshwater algae, the ecophysiology of plant responses to pollution and global change, the physiology of plant nitrogen-fixing symbioses and dendrochronology and palaeoecology. The Institute for Plant Conservation is actively researching the conservation status of and threats to the Cape Floristic Region and communicating these results to policy makers and the broader community, while the Bolus Herbarium is researching the taxonomy of and curating a specimen collection of over a third of a million southern African species. Staff are also active on Research Councils, policy-making forums and advisory committees.  

Departmental Statistics  

Permanent and long-term contract staff  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Professors</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate Professors</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Lecturers</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lecturers</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Technical Support Staff</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative and Clerical Staff</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>21</strong></td>
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Honorary staff  

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<tr>
<td>Honorary Professors</td>
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<tr>
<td>Honorary Research Associates</td>
<td>15</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
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Students

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Count</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Postdoctoral</td>
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<tr>
<td>Doctoral</td>
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<tr>
<td>Masters</td>
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<tr>
<td>Honours</td>
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<tr>
<td>Undergraduate</td>
<td>484</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>556</strong></td>
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Research Fields and Staff

Permanent staff

Associate Professor Jeremy Midgley
Head of Department; plant ecology; evolutionary biology; forest ecosystem dynamics

Professor John J. Bolton
Phycology; marine and freshwater biology; mariculture

Professor William J. Bond
Plant ecology; evolutionary biology; conservation biology; fire and community dynamics

Dr Samson B. Chimphango
Physiology, nitrogen fixation

Associate Professor Mike D. Cramer
Physiology, ecophysiology, plant nutritionist

Dr Edmund February
Senior Lecturer; palaeoecology; ecophysiology

Professor Terry Hedderson
Plant systematics; bryology; molecular systematics; life history traits

Professor Timm M. Hoffman
Director of the Leslie Hill Institute for Plant Conservation: plant ecology; conservation biology; community ecology; biodiversity

Dr Anthony G. Verboom
Lecturer; plant systematics, ecophysiology, biogeography

Honorary Professors

Professor Richard Cowling
Plant ecology; conservation biology; community ecology; biodiversity

Professor Brian Huntley
Director of the SA National Biodiversity Institute; landscape ecology

Professor Peter Linder
Honorary Research Associates

Dr R.J. Anderson  
Phycology

Dr P.V. Bruyns  
Systematics

Dr J.J. Donaldson  
Ecology

Dr A. Ellis  
Ecology

Mrs E. Esterhuysen  
Taxonomy

Mr S.A. Hammer  
Taxonomy

Dr J. Manning  
Systematics & evolution

Dr G.F. Midgley  
Ecophysiology

Dr E.J. Moll  
Ecology

Dr C.F. Musil  
Ecophysiology

Dr A.G. Rebelo  
Ecology

Dr M. Rouget  
Conservation planning

Dr G. Scott  
Systematics

Prof W.D. Stock  
Ecophysiology

Mr G. Williamson  
Taxonomy
Contact Details

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Web Page: http://www.uct.ac.za/depts/botany/

Research Output

Articles in peer-reviewed journals


Bond, W.J. 2005. Large parts of the world are brown or black: A different view on the 'Green World' hypothesis. Journal of Vegetation Science, 16: 261-266.


Non peer-reviewed published conference proceedings


Theses and dissertations passed for higher degrees


Unrefereed journal articles
