

Constantine George Caffentzis

Caffentzis is a Professor of Philosophy at the University of Southern Maine in Portland Maine, USA. He was a co-founder of the Committee for Academic Freedom in Africa in 1991. He has written many essays on social and political topics and is the author or co-editor of the following books: "Clipped Coins, Abused Words, and Civil Government: John Locke's Philosophy of Money," "Midnight Oil: Work Energy War, 1973-1992," "Exciting the Industry of Mankind: George Berkeley's Philosophy of Money," "A Thousand Flowers: Social Struggles Against Structural Adjustment in African Universities," "Auroras of the Zapatistas: Local and Global Struggles of the Fourth World War," and "No Blood for Oil!"

Nyameko Barney Pityana

Prof N Barney Pityana is Principal and Vice Chancellor of the University of South Africa. He is prominent in higher education leadership and advocacy and past Chairperson of Higher Education South Africa (HESA), which is the voice of the higher education vice chancellors and institutions, as well as past Chairman and present member of the Executive Committee of the African Council for Distance Education.

He was previously Chairperson of the South African Human Rights Commission, and he also served a six-year term as a member of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights. He serves on the Chairman of the AU Commission's Steering Committee on African Intellectuals and the Diaspora, as well as the African Governance Institute. Prof Pityana is an Alternate Member for Africa on the Follow-up Committee: UNESCO International World Conference on Higher Education.

Dr Pityana read law in South Africa and is an admitted attorney of the High Court of South Africa. He also studied theology at King's College London and trained for the Anglican ministry at Ripon College Cuddesdon Oxford. He served as Director of the World Council of Churches' Programme to Combat Racism based in Geneva (1988-1992). He received the PhD in Religious Studies at the University of Cape Town in 1995. Prof Pityana has published extensively in theology, human rights law and politics. In April 2006, Professor Pityana received the Award of the Order of the Grand Counsellor of the Baobab: Silver from President Thabo Mbeki. Prof Pityana was presented with an Honorary Fellowship from Ripon College Cuddesdon, Oxford in May 2008 and an Honorary Fellowship from the Commonwealth of Learning in July 2008.

Ward E. Jones

Ward is Associate Professor in Philosophy at Rhodes University and the Editor of the journal *Philosophical Papers*. He has published in the areas of epistemology, philosophy of mind, ethics, and meta-philosophy.

Thaddeus Metz

Thaddeus Metz hails from the United States, where he earned a PhD in philosophy from Cornell University in 1997. Since then he has become recognised for his research on three major topics: using a moral principle of respect for human dignity to address controversies in law, politics, business and medicine; interpreting the African ethic of *ubuntu* in an analytic, rigorous way and invoking it to resolve contemporary moral dilemmas; and systematically developing and evaluating theoretical approaches to what makes a life meaningful. Metz has a book on meaning in life forthcoming with Oxford University Press, and has published more than 50 scholarly papers, most in a wide array of international journals including: *Ethics*, *Philosophy and Public Affairs*, *Oxford Journal of Legal Studies*, *Journal of Political Philosophy*, *Law and Philosophy*, *Journal for the Philosophy of Education*, *Journal of Moral Education*, *Studies in Philosophy and Education*, and *Religious Studies*. Some recent awards for Metz's research are: an Excellence Award as part of the University of Johannesburg's Talent Management Strategy for Individuals with High Levels of Skill, Scarcity or Excellence; a President's Award "A" Rating ("leading international researcher") from the South African National Research Foundation; the Vice-Chancellor's Research Award from the University of the Witwatersrand; and a Research Fellowship from the Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Study. Metz has given nearly 150 presentations, taught more than 30 different courses, supervised or examined more than 50 postgraduate research projects, and reviewed articles and book manuscripts on over 60 occasions for publishers such as Oxford University Press, Cambridge University Press, Springer, Routledge, Wiley-Blackwell, Sage, and Palgrave-Macmillan. He lectured at Cornell, UCLA, and the University of Missouri before relocating to South Africa in 2004 and joining the University of the Witwatersrand. In

2009 Metz joined the University of Johannesburg, where he is now Research Professor of Philosophy.

Richard Pithouse

Richard has edited a book on academic freedom in South Africa titled *Asinamali: University Struggles in Post-Apartheid South Africa*.

Pedro Tabensky

Tabensky is based at Rhodes University in South Africa. He is the author of *Happiness: Personhood, Community, Purpose* (Aldershot: Ashgate, 2003) and has published several papers. Tabensky is also the editor of *Judging and Understanding: Essays on Free Will, Narrative, Meaning and the Ethical Limits of Condemnation* (Aldershot: Ashgate, 2006) and of *The Positive Function of Evil* (London: Palgrave, 2009). His main areas of interest are ethics and the meaning of life and, since moving to South Africa, he has been exploring the field of African philosophy and was the guest editor of and contributor to a recent edition on African philosophy of the *South African Journal of Philosophy*. He is an executive member of the International Society for African Philosophy and Studies and a member and past president of the Philosophical Society of Southern Africa. He is currently working on two monographs, one on the roots of evil and on the complex roles evil plays in human living and the other defending a new position in the free will debate. His monograph on evil will, among other things, explore the ideas of evil (e.g., violence and the 'negro neurosis') and emancipation in the work of Fanon. Tabensky is also currently thinking and writing about issues pertaining to higher education.

Jimi Adesina

Adesina is Professor of Sociology and directs the *Transformative Social Policy Programme* at Rhodes University, South Africa. He is Professorial Research Associate at the Nordic Africa Institute (Sweden). He was educated at the University of Ibadan (Nigeria) and University of Warwick (UK), and taught at the University of Ibadan from 1982 to 2000, where he was Chair of the Department of Sociology. He has held visiting appointments at various institutions, including the University of Ulster (Northern Ireland), the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (Geneva), the UN Economic Commission for Africa (Addis Ababa), and most recently at the University of Oxford, and the Nordic Africa Institute (Sweden).

He has served as a member of the Executive Committee of the *Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa* (CODESRIA). A past President of the *South African Sociological Association*, he was elected to the Academy of Science of South Africa (ASSAf) in 2005. Professor Adesina serves on the editorial board of several journals including the *African Sociological Review* (CODESRIA), *South African Review of Sociology*, *Current Sociology* (International Sociological Association), and *Contemporary Sociology* (American Sociological Association). He is a Corresponding Editor of the *Review of African Political Economy*. Between 2003 and 2005, he was an External Research Coordinator at the UN Research Institute for Social Development (Geneva), where he coordinated the institute's Africa-regional research on "Social Policy in a Development Context."

His research and teaching interests include the Political Economy of Africa's Development, Social Theory, Methodology, and Social Policy. Among his published works are *Labour in the explanation of an African Crisis* (1994, CODESRIA Book Series), *Currents and Perspectives in Sociology* (2001, Malthouse Press, Lagos/Oxford), *African Development Challenges in the New Millennium* (2006, Zed Books); *Social Policy in Sub-Saharan Africa* (2007, Palgrave Macmillan).

John Higgins

Higgins is currently Andrew W. Mellon Research Professor in the Archives and Public Culture project at the University of Cape Town. His monograph *Raymond Williams: Literature, Marxism and Cultural Materialism* (Routledge 1999) won both the Alton National Book Award and the UCT Book Prize; and Blackwell published his *Raymond Williams Reader* in 2001. He was founding editor of the influential journal, *Pretexts: literary and cultural studies* (1989-2003), and for that, and the associated work of organising many open lectures and colloquia with leading intellectuals such as Noam Chomsky, Terry Eagleton and Edward Said, he was granted an *Award of Excellence* by *The Cape Tercentenary Foundation* for his services to literature and culture in South Africa. His main research interests are in contemporary literary and cultural theory, and debates in and around the politics of higher education. His study of Karl Marx will shortly be published in the *Routledge Critical Thinkers* series, while *Academic Freedom in the New South Africa* will appear with Wits University Press. He has been a

Visiting Professor at Columbia University in New York and the International University in Germany, as well as at UJ, Wits and UNITRAN, and has been a regular contributor on higher education matters to the *Mail and Guardian* and the *Times Higher Education Supplement*.

André du Toit

Du Toit was educated at Stellenbosch University, South Africa (M.A.,D.Phil.) and Leiden University, Netherlands (Drs. Phil.). He was an Emeritus Professor at the Department of Political Studies, University of Cape Town since 1987 (HOD 2001-3). He was also:

- Convenor: Justice and Transformation programme
- Formerly with Department of Political Philosophy, Stellenbosch University (1969-1986)
- Visiting Professor, Government Department, Harvard University 1989
- Visiting Professor, Politics Department, Princeton University, 1998
- Visiting Professor, Politics Department, Yale University, 2003

Du Toit's research included:

- Institute for Philosophy, Leiden University, 1967-8
- Southern African Research Programme, Yale University (Associate Fellow, 1978; Fellow, 1981)
- Guest researcher, Free University, Amsterdam, 1978
- Programme in Ethics and the Professions, Harvard University (Fellow, 1988-9)
- Human Sciences Research Council (Ad hoc projects: 1983-4, 1986, 1990-2)
- Member of International Comparative Project on Political Violence and Social Movements, UNRISD, Genève 1990-4
- Member of International Comparative Project on Democratic Theory directed by Ernesto Laclau (Essex)
- Centre for Human Values, Princeton (Fellow, 1998)

His publications

- South Africa's Political Alternative, Sprocas 1973
- Afrikaner Political Thought I : 1780-1850 (with Hermann Giliomee), 1983
- Die Sondes van die Vaders, 1983
- Political Violence and the Struggle in South Africa (with Chabani Manganyi), 1990
- Towards Democracy: Public Accountability in South Africa (1991)
- Autonomy as a Social Compact (2007)
- Numerous conferences, papers and articles in anthologies and journals including American Historical Review, Comparative Studies in Society and History, Les Temps Modernes, Social Dynamics, S.A. Journal of Philosophy, Journal of Southern African Studies, Politiques Africaines etc.

Du Toit was also:

- Founding co-editor and publisher of Die Suid-Afrikaan, (1984- 94)
- Chairman of the Philosophical Society of Southern Africa (1983)
- Review editor, The South African Journal of Philosophy, 1982-8
- Political columnist, The Cape Times and papers of SAAN group, 1982-9
- Trustee, IDASA 1987 and member of the South African group meeting with ANC in Dakar, Senegal (July 1987)