

# Oscar van Heerden, PhD



## Academically grounded thought leader

Coupling expertise in political communications with academic rigour and organisational strategy builds consensus and mobilises groups **by leveraging over two decades of political and academic thought leadership** that began as a 14-year old student/youth movement leader.

Overcame disruptions to formal education from years of either being 'on the run' from Security Police, arrests/detention without trial, to become a leader in public/political discourse on International, Pan-African and National issues. Challenged the socio-economic and political "status quo" as a member of multiple national, provincial and local organisations/committees and as a published author, columnist and contributor to the *Daily Maverick* and *The Thinker* publications. Served in a number of Executive Management portfolios over a two decade long career.

## Executive Management Positions (see below - management & administration)

- Executive Manager in the City of Johannesburg (CoJ) as well as in the Executive Mayors Office. Here I was responsible for not only Infrastructure Projects, Project management, Supply Chain management and financial management but also ensuring the smooth relations with various stakeholders.
- I served as the employer representative in the bargaining council and interacted with unions and other stakeholders around wage negotiations and other labour disputes.
- I have managed Human Resource personnel and have a good understanding of the various legislation around basic condition of employment and other relevant labour laws.
- At both Mistra and CoJ non-core mandate pipelines reported to me, Finance, HR, ICT, Infrastructure and Strategy.
- In all my portfolios, Monitoring & Evaluation formed a corner stone of all my work, hence project management and log frames are familiar to me.
- As an Executive at the University of Johannesburg I notably expanded my international networks and learned a lot wrt ICT and energy saving mechanisms from the National University of Singapore.
- My management style and strengths are working with a diverse set of people in complicated situations.
- Throughout my career my political acumen coupled with good communications skills have stood me in good stead.

## Political science and international relations

- **PhD International Relations** (University of Cambridge UK)
- **Brings a solid academic grounding** in political science and international relations (encompassing security, war studies, and international political economy)
- **Experienced trainer in the South African security cluster** (State Security Agency (intelligence academy), national prosecuting authority / Hawks, SA Police – crime intelligence)
- **Part time lecturing experience in IR and defence studies**
- **Published in academic journals and in various media outlets**

## Trusted executive advisor to political principals

- **Brought expertise in research, analysis, strategy and stakeholder relations to strengthen strategic functions in political and academic offices.**
- **Acted as a Strategic Counsel to the former President of South Africa** (Kgalema Motlanthe), Johannesburg Mayor (Parks Tau), the South African Qualifications Authority Director (Joe Samuels), & ANC Youth league President (Malusi Gigaba), spanning 20 years.
- **Achieved successive unqualified audits for Johannesburg City Entity (JCPZ). Delivered verifiable financial and operational reports, monitoring and evaluating performance score cards** while safeguarding confidential leadership and governance information.

## Deal broker & networker

- **Assembled academics, labour and students for the first transformation forum at the University of the North (Turffloep) led by Prof Njabulo Ndebele**, as a student member of the SASCO executive in the 1990s.
- **Averted industrial action as Executive Manager Strategic Support at JPCZ by engaging the organised**

## Awards & elected positions

- **Johannesburg Parks and Zoo Board (ex officio)**, 2013 – 2018
- **Johannesburg Mayoral Committee**, 2013 – 2018
- **Kgalema Foundation Trustee**, 2015 – 2020
- **Mandela-Smuts Scholar**, University of Cambridge, 2007-2011
- **Shell Centenary Scholarship**, University of Cambridge, 2006-7
- **Middle Common Room (MCR) President**, Churchill College, Cambridge, 2007-2009
- **Cambridge University, Churchill College council**, 2006-2008
- **Gauteng ANC Economic Transformation Committee (ETC)**, 2002-2005
- **Exchange visit to the USA as young political leader through the United States Information Services**, 1998
- **National Secretary General of the South African Students Press Union**, 1995
- **Deputy Chairperson of South African Students Congress (SASCO), University of the North**, 1994
- **General Secretary for the South African Students Congress (SASCO), University of the North**, 1993
- **Chiasmus (EU global youth organization) country representative**, Mexico City, 1993
- **National Executive Member of the Congress of South African Students (COSAS)**, 1991
- **Peer Group Councillor for Youth Health Centre**, 1988-1990
- **Student Representative Council Chairperson, Portland Senior Secondary School**, 1987-1990

labour forum as the chief negotiator for the employer, steering negotiations to set the conditions of 5-year conditions of service agreement.

- Facilitated the City of Johannesburg's contribution to the drafting of the sustainable development goals, at the UN General Assembly.

## Higher education insider

- Gained first-hand insights into the challenges faced by 80% of South African learners as a student receiving a Bantu education at the University of North (Turfloop)—a historically black, poor & rural—and as a mature, working, part-time graduate/postgraduate student at the Universities of the Witwatersrand, Cambridge and Johannesburg.
- Contributed to the development of the South African Qualifications Authority's National Qualifications Framework and learner records database, to recognise prior learning in assessments and education policy.
- Interacted extensively with Sector Education and Training Authorities (SETAs) in the broader education landscape.
- Serves as TVET College board member for DHET, and on finance, audit and risk sub committees.

## Boards and advisory positions

**Trustee** | Kgalema Motlanthe Foundation 2015 – 2020

**Council member** | East Midlands TVET College 2018 – PRESENT

**Council member** UniVen 2020 - PRESENT

## Academic qualifications

**Post-doctoral fellow in International Relations** | UNIVERSITY OF JOHANNESBURG 2011

*Published single authored book: Van Heerden, O (2016) Consistent or Confused: The politics of Mbeki's foreign policy years 1995-2007, Jacana Media (Staging Post): Johannesburg*

**PhD International Relations** UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE (CHURCHILL COLLEGE) 2010

*Thesis: South Africa's standing in the International Order 1995-2007*

**MPhil International Relations** | UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE (CHURCHILL COLLEGE) 2007

*Thesis: South Africa's trade relations with the European Union 1995-2007*

**BA (Honours) International Relations** | UNIVERSITY OF WITWATERSRAND 2006

**BA Sociology & International Relations** | UNIVERSITY OF WITWATERSRAND 2005

**B Uris Law (not completed)** | UNIVERSITY OF THE NORTH (TURFLOOP) 1992—1995

### Short training courses

- China Party Political School program, 2018, by invitation of the ANC
- Africa Analysis at the University of Western Cape School of Government, 2012, *Basic Analysis Course*
- Department for International Development in Southern Africa (DFIDSA), *Governance and Institutional Appraisal and Project Cycle Management*, 2001
- Infinite Development, 1999, *Executive Course in Defense and Development in South Africa*
- University of Witwatersrand Graduate School of Public and Development Management, 1997, *Business Time Management*
- Institute for the Advancement of Journalism 1995, *Editing (basic and advanced); Sub editing; Editing and design; Media Ethics; Human rights and Journalism.*

## Research publications

### Single authored books

Van Heerden (2017), 'Consistent or Confused? The politics of Mbeki's foreign policy 1995-2007', Jacana Media (Staging Post), Johannesburg, pp.1-168

Van Heerden, 'Two Minutes to Midnight' The ANC Nasrec Elective Conference from an insider's vantage point, Jacana Media Johannesburg, available March 2020.

### Book chapter

Van Heerden, O & Roberts, N. (2018) 'A holistic approach will stand us all in good stead', in (Eds) 'We are no longer at Ease'. Fees Must Fall: ISBN 978 1 4314 2678 2, Jacana Media, pp. 189-194.

### Published journal articles

Van Heerden, O. (2017) 'The sooner we exit the ICC, the better' in Pahad, E (ed) *The Thinker: A Pan-African Quarterly for Thought Leaders*, Vol. 71. pp. 34-27.

Van Heerden, O. (2016) 'It's gonna get ugly before it gets better' in Pahad, E (ed) *The Thinker: A Pan-African Quarterly for Thought Leaders*, Vol. 68, pp. 45-48.

Van Heerden, O. (2016) 'Underestimating the impact of poverty – the Conundrum of postcolonial governance' in Pahad, E (ed) *The Thinker: A Pan-African Quarterly for Thought Leaders*, Vol. 70, pp. 34-39.

Van Heerden, O. (2016) 'Political economy of trade with the European Union: South Africa's pursuit of narrow self-interest' or 'Economia Política do comércio com a União Europeia: a busca autocentrada da África do Sul', in *AUSTRAL: Brazilian Journal of Strategy & International Relations*, Vol. 5 No. 9 pp. 120-149

Hornsby, D.J., & Van Heerden, O. (2013) 'South Africa–Canada relations: a case of middle power (none) cooperation?' in *Commonwealth & Comparative Politics*, Vol. 51, Iss.2, 2013, pp. 153-172

### Conference proceedings

Van Heerden, O. (2012) 'National Liberation and its significance today', In Cornell, V. (Ed) *National Liberation: Any significance for today? Papers from the 2012 ILRIG April Conference*, Salt River: Cape Town, pp. 96-105.

### Publications (currently under review)

Landsberg, C. & van Heerden, O. (under review) "Manna from Heaven! South Africa's Search for Relevance in the BRICS Constellation", in David Monyae & Bhaso Ndzendze (eds.), *The BRICS Order: Assertive or Complimentary to the West*, Palgrave, MacMillan

Landsberg, C. & van Heerden, O. (under review) Global Political Governance and Multi-lateralism in South Africa's Foreign Policy, submitted to the *Journal of International Politics*.

Landsberg, C. & van Heerden, O. (under review) The Strategic Objectives of the Zuma Government's Foreign Policy: A Retro-active Assessment, submitted to *AUSTRAL: Brazilian Journal of Strategic and International Affairs*.

### Presentations & representation in forums

Nassan, B. (chair), Brits, E., Ingouville Burton, M & van Heerden, O. (2017) *Researching history*, 19 May 2017, Franschhoek Literary Festival

Davis, R. (chair), Ledger, T. & van Heerden, O. (2017) *Measuring the rift*, 19 May 2017, Franschhoek Literary Festival

Van Heerden, O. (2013) *National liberation and its significance today*, The 2012 International Labour Research and Information Group (ILRIG) April Conference, Community House, Salt River, Cape Town, 20-21 April 2012

van Heerden, O. (2012) *Social context of sustainable development*, MISTRA, Cape Town

van Heerden, O. (2012) *The Great Recession and its implications for human values and the philosophy of social relations*, MISTRA, Cedar Park

van Heerden, O. (2012) *ANC centenary* Franschhoek Literary Festival, panelist

van Heerden, O. (2012) *The state of the ANC in the developmental state*, presentation to ILRIG, Cape Town

van Heerden, O. (2010) *Socio-economic analysis of South Africa*, presentation to Daimler executive board

van Heerden, O. (2010) *African Renaissance rapporteur* Thabo Mbeki Foundation launch conference, Sandton Convention Centre

van Heerden, O. (2010) *Thabo Mbeki's foreign policy*, Department of International Relations and Cooperation (DIRCO) conference on South African Foreign Policy white paper

van Heerden, O. (2007-2012) *South African Foreign Policy*, Chatham House (London) Africa Group, ongoing engagement while in UK

van Heerden, O. (2008) *Economic analysis of South African foreign policy*, British International Studies Association (BISA) Africa Group, Open University Milton Keynes

### Industry research outputs

Kelello Consulting (2009) *International norms and the developmental state in SADC*, for Helical Consulting, UK

Kelello Consulting (2009) *Youth development strategy* for Eden district municipality.

Stellenbosch University in collaboration with Distinctive Choice and Kelello Consulting (2006) *Social survey for Eden district municipality*

Common Ground in collaboration with Kelello Consulting (2008) *Youth development and skills audit*, for Stellenbosch Municipality

Common Ground in collaboration with Kelello Consulting (2005) *Socio economic survey*, for the Stellenbosch municipality

Singizi in collaboration with Kelello Consulting (2008) *Situational analysis of youth development programmes in Johannesburg metro*

Kelello Consulting, (2006) *Study on Diakonia's future role in South Africa: PART ONE - Critical issues emerging from the present socio-economic and political situation in South Africa and Kwazulu Natal in particular*

Kelello Consulting, (2006) *Study on Diakonia's future role in South Africa: PART TWO - Partner Review*

Kelello Consulting, (2005) *Advertising Skills Needs Analysis Research Report*, MAPPP SETA

Kelello Consulting, (2005) *Factors Influencing Technology Trends*, Department of Science and Technology

Kelello Consulting, (2005) *Evaluation of First, Second and Fourth Phases of the MTN Universities Connect Project*, SchoolNet Nigeria

## Teaching and instructional design

**Associate researcher/lecturer** | UNIVERSITY OF THE WITWATERSRAND & SCHOOL OF GOVERNANCE (WSG)

2013-2018

Lectured mature students from the security sector on 'International & Regional Security' and 'Approaches to Security' at the Wits School of Governance; first year classes on 'South African Foreign Policy' focusing specifically on International Relations theory applications and International Political Economy; Honours & Masters courses on International Organisations; and supervised one masters student to completion as an external examiner and moderator.

- Supervised to completion a master's degree candidate at the University of the Witwatersrand (2017)
- Lectured Honours students at the University of the Witwatersrand in International Relations (2016)
- Lectured part-time at the University of the Witwatersrand, both in the Department of International Relations as well as the School of Governance, (2014 – 2017). Including: Defence Studies, International Relations and International Political Economy
- Conducted external examinations for the University of the Witwatersrand in International Relations (2014 – 2017)

**Trainer/lecturer** | AFRICA ANALYSIS AND AFRICAN CENTRE FOR SECURITY AND INTELLIGENCE PRAXIS (ACSIP)

2014-PRESENT

Designed courses and trained various intelligence operatives in South Africa.

- Basic and Advanced Analysis courses, Crime Intelligence of SAPS
- Basic and Advanced Analysis courses, NPA/Hawks
- Basic and Advanced Analysis courses, Intelligence Academy

- Basic and Advanced Analysis courses, South African State Security Agency (SSA)

### Trainer/lecturer | KELELLO

2012-PRESENT

*Designed courses and training interventions in the intelligence sector. Invited guest lecturer for Sanlam graduate programme, and University of Witwatersrand colloquium.*

- State Security Agency: National security course and, international political economy training course, SSA seminars: Nuclear energy, Foreign policy, Patriotism, "National Interests"
- Intelligence academy: Facilitation on "the energy sector as security imperative", and facilitation on the BRICS development bank
- Ekurhuleni Metro Police: Communications and Media training for the in collaboration with the Institute for the Advancement of Journalism
- SANLI, UNISA: Capacity building and training for community development workers learnership
- Van Heerden, O. (2012) *Reflections on the socio-economic dynamics in South Africa*, presentation to the SANLAM graduate leadership programme.
- Van Heerden, O. (2011) *South African political landscape*, presentation to Sanlam Graduate leadership programme
- Van Heerden, O. (2012) *South African government's domestic priorities and how these find expression in its foreign policy*, South Africa Canada Colloquium, University of Witwatersrand

### Qualification and materials designer | KELELLO

2005-2014

*Design, development and accreditation for whole qualifications and learnerships for various Sector Education and Training Authorities (SETAs)*

- Chemical Seta (Chieta): Contribution to facilitation of buy in campaign for Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) and promoting RPL policy and manual for on behalf of Singizi
- CATHS Seta: Strategic management intervention
- Mapp Seta: Analysis of skills needs and BEE in the Advertising Sector
- Umsombomvu Youth Fund: research to investigate the viability of National Youth Service Programs in the country.
- Breede Valley Municipality: Ward councillor and stakeholder engagement process
- Breede Valley Municipality Ward Summit with 18 wards: Facilitation and documentation of the summit
- Eden municipality: Youth Development strategy for (in collaboration with Common ground)
- Services Seta (Seta Personnel): Development of qualification, curriculum and implementation tools for an identified learning program
- P.Seta: Development of qualification, curriculum and implementation tools for an identified learning programs
- Skills development workplans: Development of a NQF Toolkit for usage by companies. This was in partnership with two other organizations.
- Services Seta: Support for development of a qualification and learnership on temporary employee administration
- ETDP Seta: Development of a qualification and learnership on membership administration
- Public Service Seta: Development of learnerships
- Leadership a Simpler Way: Development of a qualification and accreditation

## Management and administration

### Deputy Vice Chancellor: Institutional Support/Fort Hare University

June 2021 - Present

My portfolio consists of HR, ICT and Properties & Services. In the main I am responsible for the non-core mandates of the university. The core being, teaching, learning and research.

### Academic: University of Stellenbosch/Faculty of Military Science

December 2020 – June 2021

I joined the military academy as a senior lecturer in Political Science and International Relations

### Director: Operations | MISTRA

2019 – PRESENT

*[Budget: R14M, Employees: 28]*

*Mapungubwe Institute for Strategic Reflections (Mistra) is a think tank based in Johannesburg tasked with providing strategic research work. It applies itself to issues such as economics, sociology, history, arts and culture and the logic of natural sciences. Its overarching question is, why do nations succeed?*

- Experienced manager with executive, supervision and fundraising capacity
- Oversee the development and implementation of MISTRA's financial, human resource, communications, publications, information technology and organisational policies and procedures and maintenance of the relevant systems
- Responsible for Strategic Reviews and Annual Planning processes of the Institute
- Effective reporting to the Board of Governors, Council of Advisors, and all Board Committees
- Drive the implementation of the Resource Mobilisation Strategy
- Develop and manage MISTRA's partnership strategy

### Senior Director | DIVISION FOR INTERNATIONALISATION, UNIVERSITY OF JOHANNESBURG

JUNE – NOVEMBER 2018

*[Division Budget: R15M, Employees: 15]*



Member of the Executive Leadership Group of the University of Johannesburg tasked with driving the institutional quest for enhancing UJ's national and global reputation and building the university's profile for Global excellence and stature.

- **Developed a coordinated approach for international branding:** The approach finds measure by way of attracting top student applications, improved international student enrolment yield, increased participation and attraction of brightest scholars globally and ranking.
- **Strengthened UJ's partnership with internationally recognised ranking agencies,** such as with Quacquarelli Symonds (QS), Times Higher Education (THE), and others
- **Played an active and influential role in the national landscape** regarding developing of internationally friendly policies and procedures – an approach that allows for strengthening diversity and, in the long term, for socio-economic returns
- **Raised R15 million funding grant**

#### **Executive Director | KELELLO CONSULTING**

2002 – 2018

*Kelello Consulting is a management consulting firm based in Johannesburg primarily tasked with providing services in Monitoring & Evaluation projects, education consulting in mathematics, technology and vocational training.*

*Lent fiduciary, strategy, client relations and consulting team oversight for over 100+ international, Pan-African, national, provincial and local education and development projects. Provided educational investors—governments, funders and corporates—services ranging from monitoring and evaluation (M&E) to political analysis and input on key regional events, international political economy, and the 'state of the nation'. Company profile available on request.*

- **Successful project and HR management of SMME** with over 100 completed assignments for various international and local clients, since 2002.

#### **Executive Manager | JOHANNESBURG CITY PARKS & ZOO (JCPZ)**

2013-2018

*[JCPZ: Budget: R950M, Employees: 1600] [Zoo: Budget: R70M, Employees: 160]*

*A member of the mayoral committee for the City of Johannesburg simultaneously fulfilled three distinct strategic support roles: the JCPZ Executive Manager Strategic Support, Acting Executive Manager of the Johannesburg Zoo, and the seconded International & Stakeholder Relations Manager to the Private Office of the Executive Mayor (Parks Tau).*

- **Realized the successful merger of the Johannesburg City Parks and Johannesburg Zoo** as a significant contributor to the change management process.
- **Contributed to the transformation of Johannesburg into a green, clean, active world class African city** by introducing green management. Implemented an organisational scorecard and strategic objectives aligned to the city's sustainability goals.
- **Attained annual unqualified audits from 2013-2016 by improving the company systems and procedures** including the introduction of intranet and knowledge management systems.
- **Delivered greater community engagement and betterment with multiple infrastructure initiatives** including a new Oliphantvlei cemetery, and 15 new parks in disadvantaged communities over the period.
- **Drove external relations with stakeholders across the Council, Section 79, and Technical Clusters Committees.**
- **Re-acquired the Johannesburg Zoo's accreditation from the Pan African Association of Zoological Gardens & Aquaria (PAAZA)** and completed R55M in capital infrastructure projects including a new hospital wing and multi-story parking structure at the JHB Zoo.

#### **International & Stakeholder Relations Manager | PRIVATE OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR**

JULY 2014 - SEPT 2016

*Seconded at the request of the Executive Mayor of Johannesburg, set protocol strategy as the contact point for all persons, entities, organisations and corporates needing an audience with the Executive Mayor and/or the City, and coordinated foreign and domestic city stakeholders, strategic documents and international events.*

- **Elevated the Mayor and city's position amongst global and BRICS nations by concluding city-to-city agreements** with the BRICS country capitals.
- **Assembled African leaders in Johannesburg with the revival of the AfriCities conference.**
- **Facilitated the Executive Mayor and city's contribution to the sustainable development goals at the UN General Assembly** as well as the global partnership ICLEI (International Environmental Organisation) in hosting the Eco- Mobility month.

### **Early career & student/youth movement leadership**

#### **Research Associate | GETTI MERCORIO AND ASSOCIATES**

2000-2002

*Managed three major projects including a Learnership support for the Departments of Labour and Education; the College Collaboration Fund for the National Business Initiative; and Strategic advice for the Defence and Intelligence SETA, on skills development and training programmes.*

#### **Executive Assistant to the Director | SOUTH AFRICAN QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY**

1999-2000

*Established the first National Qualifications Framework (NQF) legislative framework, recognising prior learning in assessments and national education policy. Founded understanding of common standards and qualifications for each industrial sector, how to create legal frameworks, funding governance, and how secondary, tertiary, technical and vocational training intersect and apply to industry and government.*

#### **Executive Assistant to the President & Ex-officio Member of the National Executive Committee | ANC YOUTH LEAGUE**

1997-1999

*Coordinated programmes for the President and Deputy President, lending tactical advice, managing confidential information, and coordinating political and international programmes. Acted as media liaison to the ANC's International Department including press conferences, press releases and radio interviews and compiled reports for department heads.*

- **Secured funding of R1b in bursaries and seed capital funding for small, medium micro enterprise development** in the youth sector by establishing the National Youth Umsobomvu Fund.
- **Conceptualized and realised the National Youth Commission,** a quasi-government entity to tackle the challenges facing South African youth.

#### **Media & Communications Officer | UNIVERSITY OF THE NORTH (CORPORATE SERVICES)**

1997

## Community involvement

*Raises funds, leverages networks, and shares ideas with wide range of communities. Thought leader and opinion shaper, making use of a range of media and communication platforms for this role*

### Fundraising

Successful fund raising for various entities:

- R3.6 million, for Mistra, 2019
- R15 million, third stream revenue for UJ in my capacity as Senior Director: Internationalisation, 2018
- R5 million, in my capacity as a Trustee on the Kgalema Motlanthe Foundation, 2017
- In my capacity as a National Administrator for the South African Students Press Union (SASPU), various amounts in 1993-1995.

### Thinktanks and professional associations

Oscar participates in a number of think tanks related to International Relations and Politics:

- Concerned Africans Forum (CAF) - a grouping consisting of mostly, but not exclusively former Diplomats and Ambassadors and we concern ourselves with the International Relations on the African Continent.
- Mapungubwe Institute for Strategic Reflections (MISTRA) where we engage in conversations, debates and research on topics that addresses the challenges facing our society at large.
- African Leadership Initiative (ALI), a leadership program aimed at young South Africans through the ASPEN leadership program in the USA.
- BRICS Universities Initiative in Cape Town, which further cemented my understanding of the initiative and what it aims to achieve in the long run.
- Royal Society of International Relations, Chatham House, and have presented on several occasions at their offices in London.
- Assist the Sub Committee on International Relations of the governing Party the ANC in a advisory capacity.

### Political analysis and international relations commentary

Regular invited commentator on current affairs and international events by various media outlets:

- Radio: Radio Sonder Grense, Cape Talk, 702
- Television: SABC news, ENCA, Al Jazeera

### Political engagement and service

- 2017 Drafting committee member at ANC national elective conference, NASREC
- 2012 Drafting committee member at ANC national elective conference, Mangaung
- 2007 International relations sub-committee commissions at ANC national elective conference, Polokwane
- 2002-2005 Gauteng ANC Economic Transformation Committee (ETC)
- 2002 International relations sub-committee commissions at ANC national elective conference, Stellenbosch
- 1998 Representative of the ANC as a young African political leader through the United States Information Services (USIS)
- 1997 International relations sub-committee commission at ANC national elective conference, Mafikeng

### Media articles (this is ongoing)

Van Heerden, O. (September 2016) *Confronting institutional, structural and systemic racism*, Joburg Post

Roberts, N. & Van Heerden, O. (19 October 2016) Open letter to Minister Gordhan in response to Wits academic Dr Kelly Gillespie, Daily Maverick

**Oscar writes a weekly column for the online, Daily Maverick** (<https://www.dailymaverick.co.za/author/oscarvanheerden/>):

The most recent of these include:

van Heerden, O. (19 December 2019) *Just get on with the job SA*, Daily Maverick

van Heerden, O. (11 December 2019) *Eskom: The grinch that stole Christmas*, Daily Maverick

van Heerden, O. (3 December 2019) *Its not only about power politics good people- Civil society reimaged*, Daily Maverick

The early columns included:

van Heerden, O. (24 October 2016) *Justice cannot trump peace*, Daily Maverick

van Heerden, O. (10 November 2016) *Bradley Effect' strikes again: A Trump Presidency and some home truths*, Daily Maverick,

van Heerden, O. (11 January 2017) *South Africa's Foreign Policy: A fine balancing act in a world beset with duality politics*, Daily Maverick,

van Heerden, O. (16 February 2017) *Where's the 'Pan African Unity' Project?*, Daily Maverick