

Cornerstone

Learn to change the world



GRADUATION CEREMONY

Bellville

Saturday, 14 December 2024

11:00

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Registered as Cornerstone Institute (RF) NPC with the Department of Higher Education and Training as a private higher education institution under the Higher Education Act (1997), Registration Certificate No. 2001/HE08/006.

Order of Proceedings

Opening

Please stand

The academic procession enters

Cornerstone Institute's President constitutes the congregation

Please be seated.

Opening Prayer	Dr Marianne Louw Executive Dean
Welcome and Introduction	Mr Basier Dramat Chief Executive Officer
Graduation Address	Prof. Lilian Dudley (Board Member)
Student Speaker	Omolemo Thlaphane
Selected Artist	Ms Coleta Wesso
Conferring of Qualifications	Prof Crain Soudien, President Dr Marianne Louw, Exec. Dean Dr Crystal Jannecke, Registrar
Teaching Awards	Dr Marianne Louw, Exec. Dean
Academic Awards	Dr Marianne Louw, Exec. Dean
Against All Odds Award	Prof Lilian Dudley Board of Directors
President's Award	Prof Crain Soudien

Selected Artist

Ms Coleta Wesso

Vote of Appreciation

Ms Beverley Dankers

Deputy Dean: Student

Development and Support

Please stand

The National Anthem: Nkosi Sikelel' iAfrica

Closing

The congregation remains standing

The President dissolves the congregation

Please remain standing for the formal ceremonial academic exit

Thank You!

Directly after the closing, group photos will be taken of graduates in the designated area.

Welcome Message

Abdul-Basier Dramat Chief Executive Officer



Good morning esteemed guests, respected faculty, proud families, friends, and especially our exceptional Graduands.

Today, we celebrate a significant milestone in your lives, the culmination of your hard work, resilience, and commitment. On behalf of Cornerstone Institute, it is my honour to welcome you to this special occasion, your graduation ceremony.

Graduation marks both an ending and a beginning. You are transitioning from the structured environment of higher education into a world that is, today, more dynamic than ever before. This new landscape, both here in South Africa and globally, is being reshaped by rapid technological advancements, the influence of artificial intelligence, and ever-evolving demands for creative solutions. It's a world of opportunity, where careers may shift quickly, and adaptability has become a prized skill.

Here at Cornerstone, we anticipated these changes. We understand that our graduates must go beyond the academic, you need to be thinkers, doers, and agents of change. Through your education, we've fostered not just knowledge but resilience, adaptability, and a strong ethical foundation. To meet the needs of this fast-paced world, you've learned to approach challenges with integrity, compassion, and respect, values we believe are indispensable.

The CEO of Naspers, a leader in innovation, said that innovation and adaptability will define our continent's future and that it's not just about being technologically proficient, it is also about having the courage to lead, to keep learning, and to move forward even when the path isn't clear. You embody these qualities, and they will serve you well as you enter careers that may take unexpected turns, where problems don't always have clear solutions, and where your ability to think independently and creatively will be invaluable.

As Cornerstone graduates, you are prepared to engage with this world of change, to bring fresh perspectives and innovative thinking to the challenges before you. Your education has given you more than a degree; it has equipped you to lead, to drive positive change, and to contribute meaningfully to South Africa's development and beyond.

So, as you step into this new chapter, do so with confidence. The road ahead will have its challenges, but you are prepared to meet them with insight, purpose, and resilience. Cornerstone Institute is proud to have played a part in your journey, and we look forward to witnessing the impact you will make as professionals, leaders, and change-makers.

Congratulations to each of you!

Biography of our Graduation Speaker

Emeritus Associate Professor Lilian Dudley

Member of the Cornerstone Institute Board of Directors



Lilian Dudley (MBChB, MSc, FCPHM, PhD) is a Public Health Medicine Specialist, currently working as an independent public health and health systems consultant. She is an emeritus associate professor and previous Head of the Division of Health Systems and Public Health in the Department of Global Health, Stellenbosch University (SU). She holds an honorary Chief Specialist Scientist appointment at the South African Medical Research Council.

Her interests and expertise include health systems strengthening, implementation science and quality of care; as well as capacity development of health professionals, managers and researchers in LMIC's.

Prof. Lilian Dudley was previously the CEO of Health Systems Trust (HST), providing support to national and district-level health services to conduct research and develop and implement interventions to strengthen health systems in South Africa. She also spent several years as a senior manager of health services in local government and Provincial Health Departments in the Western Cape.

She is a Board Member of the Office of Health Standards Compliance (2023 – 2026); co-chaired an ASSAF expert panel on Governance and Leadership of the South African Health System (2021-2023); has served on various national committees including the National Lancet Commission on Quality Health Systems (2017 – 2018); is a past president of the Epidemiological Society of SA (ESSA), the Public Health Association of SA (PHASA), and the TB Alliance DOTS Support Association (TADSA). She has served on the Board of HISP (Health Information Systems Programme); was a member of the Council for Public Health Medicine of South Africa and is currently a board member of Cornerstone Institute.

Prof. Lilian Dudley is a past Fellow of the Takemi International Health Program, Harvard Chan School of Public Health, and served on several international bodies including WHO committees for TB, primary health care and health systems research, and currently as a WHO/TDR panel member for research and training grants for implementation science.

About Cornerstone Institute

Vision

Teaching and learning in the service of others to advance human dignity and social justice for all.

Mission

Our integrative teaching approach inspires critical engagement, innovation, and research to generate knowledge that benefits humanity.

Values

Inclusivity	Excellence	Integrity
Unity	Respect	Creativity

Board of Directors

Mr Marcel Golding	Chairperson
Mr Abdul-Basier Dramat	Chief Executive Officer
Mr Edward Boateng	Board member
Prof Lilian Dudley	Board member
Dr Bernard Fanaroff	Board member
Mr Mansoor Jaffer	Board member
Mr Gary Jansen	Board member
Dr Ncebakazi Mnukwana	Board member
Dr Adrian Sayers	Board member

Senior Management

Mr Abdul-Basier Dramat	Acting Chief Executive Officer
Dr Marianne Louw	Executive Dean
Dr Crystal Jannecke	Registrar
Ms Beverley Dankers	Deputy Dean: Student Development and Support
Ms Adeliah Jacobs	General Manager

Institutional Crest and Values

Different from the branding logo of an institution, the crest is the *coat of arms* of a higher education institution, and functions as its official seal. It represents the core values, mission, and identity of the institution. Therefore, while a branding logo may change from time to time, the coat of arms remains the same as long as possible and will only be reviewed when the institution makes a fundamental change to its values, mission, or identity.

Accordingly, in preparation for Cornerstone's 50th year and as the foundation for the next half-century of our existence, the board of directors in 2018 resolved to review the institutional crest. After much careful consideration of appropriate symbols, our new crest was launched at the graduation of 2020 as a declaration of our mission and values as a scholarly community.

Historical Context

Cornerstone was originally founded in 1970 on the Cape Flats as the Cape Evangelical Bible Institute (CEBI). The institution provided theological education for unqualified black and white pastors during apartheid when black South Africans were excluded from universities. Therefore, we are deeply rooted in South African history and local contexts as a transformative institution.

Historically, Cornerstone's ethical ethos has emphasised developing leaders with professional integrity and a desire to serve others. We continue to be committed to our core identity as a scholarly community, and our foundation of faith-based values.

The Symbolism of Our Crest

The crest reflects our core identity through our motto, expressed in English and in Nama (institutional mission), our symbols of an open book (knowledge and learning), a wreath of wheat (growth and healing), a bowl of flames (leading together for transformation) wreaths of wheat, and the banner (legacy).



The **Nama translation of our motto** reflects that we want to learn from African communities and contribute to an African voice. We also seek to align ourselves with the broader process of building knowledge systems on the continent to affirm the proud place of our African voice in the world.

The **open book** represents human endeavours to acquire the knowledge and capability necessary to change the world. In the symbol, one side contains text, representing existing knowledge as a foundation for learning, while the other side is blank, symbolising the pursuit of new knowledge and the creation of a new world.

The **wreath of wheat** symbolises social, ecological, and historical rootedness and the growth and achievement that come from hard work and struggle. It also represents the belief that valuing people and healing the world is the ultimate purpose of knowledge and learning.

The **bowl** represents the tradition of collective leadership and community that characterises our African heritage. It symbolises our commitment as

a scholarly community to shared leadership in the service of human dignity and social justice for diverse communities.

The **flames** represent enlightenment, truth, and rebirth. They symbolise the human becoming that flows from reflecting on, acquiring knowledge towards, and enacting justice.

The **banner with the year of establishment** represents the contributions of all the people and organisations that built Cornerstone into the proud institution it is today. We are grateful for their legacy as we continue the work.

Graduation Symbols

A graduation ceremony is the pinnacle of any student's studies. Years of effort by students and staff all culminate in this. The institution confers qualifications on students to show that they have completed their studies and are ready to join their scholarly and professional communities and to change the world. Graduation ceremonies follow age-old traditions and include symbols that represent achievement.

Academic Dress

Officials, lecturers, and students wear special academic attire at the graduation ceremony, consisting of gowns, hoods, and caps. Each of these has distinct colours and designs that indicate the unique roles of those who wear them.

Graduating students, the graduands, wear black gowns and square-shaped caps, called mortarboards. The mortarboards represent the trowels that bricklayers use in construction – a symbol of hard work.

Lecturers wear either black or red gowns, with hoods of assorted colours. The distinct colours of the hoods represent the discipline specialisations and the levels of qualification that the wearers have obtained. Faculty members with South African doctoral degrees traditionally wear red gowns. There are institutions which signify a doctoral qualification in other colours.

Hoods come from a practice from centuries ago, when learned clergy still walked from town to town to teach without reward. They wore a hood so that people could place food and gifts in it to sustain the teachers. The registrar drapes a hood over the shoulder of a student after they receive their qualification – this shows that they now join a community of learned servants of the people.

At Cornerstone, we continue to use gowns, hoods, and mortarboards to show our commitment to selfless service to others, and to change the world for the better.

Academic Procession

The academic procession refers to the ceremonial entrance of the office bearers and academic staff of the institution into the hall. The members of the procession represent the scholarly community that confers the qualifications. The procession is led by the academic president and chairperson of the board, followed by the chief executive officer, the executive dean, the registrar, the deputy dean of Student Development and Support, and the president of the Student Representative Council. The academic managers and faculty members (lecturers) follow behind them.

Nkosi Sikelel' iAfrika

The academic procession enters the hall while the original version of the prayer *Nkosi Sikelel' iAfrika*, composed by Enoch Sontonga in 1897, plays. The prayer song holds a significant place in the struggle for freedom of several African countries, including South Africa, and was taken up in several national anthems, including our own.

Capping

Students receive their qualification through *capping*, where the Cornerstone President touches the student on the head with a graduation cap to indicate that the qualification is conferred. This is the formal action of conferring the qualification.

When a student comes forward to receive their qualification, they enter

from the ceremonial area from one side, are invited by the Executive Dean, move to the centre to be capped by the President, and exit on the other side, draped with a ceremonial hood by the Registrar.

Graduands

* *Distinction*

** *Top student in programme*

Higher Certificates

Wolfenden, Asia Mary Jainas

Higher Certificate in Business Studies

Bachelor of Arts

Chetty, Llewelyn

Mboya, Eshle Thandiswa Rheli

Magerman, Kayla Hiltinique

Hakin, Zoey Brogan**

Postgraduate Certificate in Education in Foundation Phase Teaching

Adams, Mandy

Mlotshwa, Sphehile Jacqueline

Alberts, Mieke*

Mthombeni, Khanyisile*

Anderson, Zelda*

Naidu, Krenola*

Anthony, Omara Leigh

Nel, Melissa*

Beukes, Suniet**

Nichas, Andrea Dina

Blakeway, Sarah Kathrine*

Nunes, Amber Juliana Zavattoni*

Cadle, Tanielle*

Nyanga, Sharon*

Clarke, Tazkiya*

Padiachee, Brandon

Francis, Chanel

Pakiri, Caleen Elisha*

Galatis, Cayleigh Hannah*

Palmer, Ralien

Hartley, Ruwayda*

Peters, Chanté Irma

Hendricks, Leigh Michaela*

Pillay, Natasha Diya

Heroldt, Tayla Ashleigh

Pudumo, Kafuwa Rethabile

Jack, Emily Abigail Saxty*

Reid, Shannon Jessica*

Jelley, Kayla*

Ribisi, Mary

Keyzer, Micaela Leigh*

Riffel, Caylyn-Leigh

Kollmeyer, Adri*

Sesenyi, Nolwazi

Lategan, Simone Caitlyn*

Sewlal, Shivaar*

Laubscher, Nicolette*

Smuts, Savannah*

Louis, Jo-Beth Darienne
Maharaj, Berika*
Mahomed, Sadiyah Imraan*
Mcdonald, Nicole Alene
Mchunu, Jacqueline Nokulunga Zamachunu*
Meyer, Jamie Leigh*
Middleton, Victoria-May*

Swan, Emily St Clair
Trebble, Kerry Anne*
van Zijl, Rochelle
van Zyl, Liezel*
Venter, Tasha
Werth, Chediétte
Wissing, Milja-Marié

Postgraduate Certificate in Education in Intermediate Phase Teaching

Altern, Tyron Paul*
Beetge, Jordyn Leigh
Colbert, Ricardo Brenden
Crain, Kaitlyn*
Davids, Luke Leonard Ryan
De Oliveira, Danielle*
du Venage, Annice*
Fenske, Friedrich Roland
Frost, Alexander David**
Giffard, Carys Michelle*
Havenga, Gregory*
Hunt, Kim-Kelly*
Kabe, Phuti Jacobeth
Khoza, Siphesihle
Le Roux, Melissa
Lee, Kristen Rema*
Loureiro, Carmen Octavia De Gouveia*
Mabotja, Evodia Kwena
Manqele, Nomalungelo Precious
Maphula, Tsireledzo
Martin, Raheema*

Mcaba, Afikile
Mogami, Tsholofelo Charlotte
Mokgara, Resego
Mpshe, Ephenia Keneilwe
Mzotho, Londiwe Portia
Netshipale, Avhafarei Gloriah
O'Brien, Tanyia
Osman, Muhammad
Osman, Maryam*
Raath, Felicia Nika
Rathebe, Aogeng
Roebeck, Nicolas Neil
Rohde, Joanna Georgia
Shange, Sebenzile Adelaide Thembile
Singh, Janine
Tabakeng, Kehilwe Magdeline
Tshabalala, Khanyisile Portia
van de Vent, Tineal
van der Merwe, Celeste Ulani*
van Dyk, Alicia*
Veeran, Kyle Darren

Bachelor of Arts Honours in Psychology

Makgoba, Paballo Mamosana Karabo

Parker, Rukhsar

Bachelor of Arts Honours in Psychology (BPsych Equivalent)

Blanckenburg, Julia Deborah**

Brogneri, Gahlia Athena*

du Plessis, Tara*

Duba, Tlou Shereen

Hamid, Chane Betty

Holmes, Brendan Wesley

Isaacs, Dominique Ann

Killton, Sindy Tsanana

Lu, Hui Mei*

Mackriel, Kauthar*

Matoba, Mahlahaneng Hannah

Mibey, Angela Chepkosgey*

Muller, Christo John Frederick*

Namawa, Tariro Bianca

Ozhekh, Sara*

Pilane, Tebogo Kamogelo*

Rightford, Matthew William Bevan*

Rossier, Qaanita*

Rubenstein, Allan Bruce

Samuels, Taahirah*

Shardlow, Sarah Bryony*

Shopane, Cynthia Ntswaki

Stoffberg, Elan Jeanette*

Merit Awards

Teaching Awards

The Teaching Award recognises teaching excellence in line with Cornerstone Institute's values. All permanent and adjunct faculty who lectured during the relevant period are eligible for nomination.

Two award categories per semester are presented at every graduation:

- Teaching excellence in the contact (on-campus) delivery mode
- Teaching excellence in the distance (online) delivery mode.

Academic Award

The Academic Award is presented to the highest achiever in each type of qualification in a particular graduating cohort. To be eligible for the award, students must complete their qualification in the minimum time required.

Against All Odds Award

The Against All Odds Award recognises a student who overcame unusual challenges to qualify for graduation. Eligible candidates must have demonstrated courage, determination, and integrity, and be in good standing with the Cornerstone community.

President's Award

The President's Award is presented to the graduating student who best represents Cornerstone's core values. Eligible candidates are not necessarily top academic achievers but must have demonstrated

consistency of character, active involvement in the broader community, support of fellow students, and spiritual, social, and academic acuity.

National Anthem of South Africa

*Nkosi Sikelel' iAfrika
Maluphakanyisw' uphondo lwayo
Yizwa imithandazo yethu
Nkosi sikelela; thina lusapho lwayo*

*Morena boloka sechaba sa heso
O fedise dintwa le matswenyeho,
O se boloke, o se boloke
Sechaba sa heso
Sechaba sa South Africa
South Africa!*

*Uit die blou van onse hemel
Uit die diepte van ons see
Oor ons ewige gebergtes
Waar die kranse antwoord gee*

Sounds the call to come together
And united we shall stand
Let us live and strive for freedom
In South Africa our land!

Welcome, Cornerstone Alumni!

Today is the beginning of a new phase in your relationship with Cornerstone Institute. Our alumni are our bedrock, and we aim to build this institution to new heights with your support.

We are proud of our inclusive and diverse learning community, of which you are now part. Collectively, we remain committed to transformative scholarship, expanding its impact across South Africa and the world.

We want to remain connected to you. Please stay in touch with us and let us know when any of your contact details change.

You can email us at alumni@cornerstone.ac.za and we look forward to continued engagement with you!



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