



BERTHA SCHOLARS

2012 - 2017

IN THEIR OWN WORDS



UCT GRADUATE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

ABOUT THE BERTHA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME



The Bertha Scholarship Programme has been in existence since the inception of the Bertha Centre for Social Innovation at the University of Cape Town's Graduate School of Business (UCT GSB). Over five years it has supported the studies of 55 people who are engaged in the social innovation space in myriad ways. The programme has evolved as social innovation has become more entrenched in the mainstream of the UCT GSB, as the Bertha Centre has become a more established organisation, and also in alignment with the feedback provided by individuals that have made up each year's cohort of students.

The Bertha Scholarship covers full or partial costs of a variety of academic programmes at the UCT Graduate School of Business. These include the MBA and the MPhil in Inclusive Innovation. The Bertha Scholarship is open to African citizens who are innovators, entrepreneurs, out-of-the-box thinkers, system-entrepreneurs, change-makers and social activists

from any field, provided that they are actively exploring innovative approaches to social, environmental and/or economic justice. In so doing, the scholarship programme aims to diversify the student body at the GSB, to enrich classroom conversations, and to invest in these individuals' journeys to increase their social impact as their careers evolve.

To find out more about the detailed application criteria and to apply for a Bertha Scholarship, visit: www.gsb.uct.ac.za/bc-scholarships



THE BERTHA SCHOLARSHIP

INVESTING IN CHANGE

The Bertha Scholarship Programme remains one of the core programmes of the Bertha Centre for Social Innovation & Entrepreneurship. It is one of the most direct ways that the Centre contributes to achieving both inclusion and impact in our own work, and aligns strongly with the vision of the Bertha Foundation and the GSB in its partnership.

We set out to achieve two major goals with the Bertha Scholarship:

- (i) to support the individual journeys of promising changemakers on the African continent through a business education; and
- (ii) to influence a mainstream business school campus and classroom by bringing in these alternative thinkers and doers who were in pursuit of social, environmental and economic justice.

In many cases, the Bertha Scholars would not necessarily have chosen to study at a business school, nor have had the means to afford fees for these courses, which, in the case of the MBA are considerably higher than most other postgraduate courses. In addition to embedding curriculum in social innovation into the GSB's programmes,



we hoped to enrich and provoke discussions in all courses and classrooms and on campus through the Bertha Scholars, with a diversity of voices and perspectives, grounded outside the dominant corporate purview and experiences. We hoped that in the process, we could better equip scholarship recipients to pursue their own passions – whether as conscious

innovators or “outliers” in the corporate environment, or as leaders conversant with a different language and mindset within the public and non-profit sectors.

As we set out to compile this book, we were able to reflect on the diversity within the 55 Bertha Scholarship recipients, not only in terms of demographics, but also the fields within which they work, the impact

THE BERTHA SCHOLARSHIP

INVESTING IN CHANGE

... CONTINUED

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the scholarship has had on their lives and careers, and the lessons that they have drawn from this. In terms of the scholarship programme itself, in the first year, most scholarship recipients were full-time MBA students. In 2014 the Bertha Centre was critically involved in the establishment of the MPhil in Inclusive Innovation and since then, many Bertha Scholars have also been MPhil students.

Looking at what scholars have gone on to do after their studies, some have started or grown social ventures they were working on, some have sharpened their focus on issues but changed their approach, and others have completely changed their focus and careers. Several scholars have taken up thought

leadership positions in social innovation – even seeking to replicate some of the work done by the Bertha Centre in other academic and country contexts. Encouragingly, scholars have supported each other, both at a personal level and professionally, opening doors for each other and forming social and professional relationships.

We asked each current and former scholar a simple question: **How did the Bertha Scholarship influence your life and career?** Their answers appear on the pages that follow – whilst each response is as unique as the person who wrote it, the most common theme is that the Bertha Scholarship played a pivotal role in shaping the ideas and actions of its recipients –

through the experiences they had with their fellow scholars and students, the Bertha Centre, and the faculty and practitioners in the wider GSB community.

We hope to amplify the impact of the Bertha Scholarship by galvanising the scholar community in the coming years, and we are embarking on an inclusive process with the scholars to co-create the next leg of this important journey. We have been privileged to accompany these amazing scholars on their journey of inner and outer reflection and innovation. We hope you are as inspired as we have been in reading about their journeys.



Bertha
Scholars
2012

AYANDA MAVUNDLA

Full Time MBA 2012



FINANCIAL SECTOR SPECIALIST AT WORLD
BANK GROUP

Johannesburg, South Africa

More than five years post the award of my scholarship, I still often reflect with great pride and gratitude on the consequential inflection point which catapulted me into the development finance discipline. At the time I was in search of a purpose driven career path which would afford me the opportunity to positively impact lives. The formal, structured learning supported by the scholarship allowed me to more distinctly define my interest areas and boldly pursue these. The regular interactions with fellow scholars, staff and the leadership team of the Bertha Centre

also allowed **the exchange of ideas and sharing of life lessons** - all of which were invaluable. I continue to make use of the principles and frameworks to which I was exposed through the scholarship in decision making, not only through my formal work but also through personal engagements. A heartfelt thank you to the benefactor and Bertha Centre for the opportunity, and more importantly the manner, in which it shaped my career.



DAYNE MORKEL

Full Time MBA 2012

**DIRECTOR OF GLOBAL HEALTH INNOVATION
ACCELERATOR AT PATH/MRC**

Cape Town, South Africa

As a Chartered Financial Analyst who studied finance and began my career as an Investment Banker on Wall Street, the Bertha Scholarship was **the catalyst**

that pivoted my career away from traditional finance and toward a career driven by a passion for social impact and impact investment.

DANIEL SULLIVAN

Full Time MBA 2012

**STRATEGIC SUPPORT ANALYST AT THE CITY OF
CAPE TOWN**

Cape Town, South Africa

Being part of the first cohort of Bertha Scholars helped me to justify a more **meaningful engagement with the emergent Social Innovation stream at the GSB**, making me really question what it was that I wanted to do after the MBA. The heightened awareness of a social purpose for business made me

pursue a career which is much more entrenched in the public sector than it was previously. This, combined with the tools and awareness of what it takes to enable Social Innovation has helped me to become an advocate for change from within the City of Cape Town.



KARIMI MWENDIA FONDAUMIÈRE

Modular MBA 2012

HEAD OF PROGRAMMES AT EDGE GROWTH

Cape Town, South Africa

The Bertha Scholarship quite literally changed my life. I was at a point in my career where the next step was vague. I knew that I wanted to get involved with work that had more social impact. I had also been accepted at the GSB where the social entrepreneurship focus was perfectly aligned. Unfortunately, I wasn't quite sure how I was going to afford it. The Bertha Scholarship not only

alleviated the financial pressure of doing the MBA, but **allowed me to completely embrace social entrepreneurship and social impact**. Through the course, I made a friend, who introduced me to a new organisation and a new career which was a perfect fit for the work I had always wanted to do. None of this would have been possible without Bertha.



PIETER CILLIERS

Modular MBA 2012

PROJECT MANAGER AT CPUT DESIGN GARAGE

Cape Town, South Africa

The Bertha Scholarship allowed me the opportunity to study a degree that added much needed expertise to my role in economic development in the art and crafts sector, and my own experience as an artist. The financial implications of the scholarship was that I did not need to immediately shift

careers away from the non-profit sector in order to pay off my student loans.

I could continue serving in a public benefit organisation, and bring the experience I gained through the MBA to a sector where it is sorely needed.



SHAYNE FULLER

Modular MBA 2012



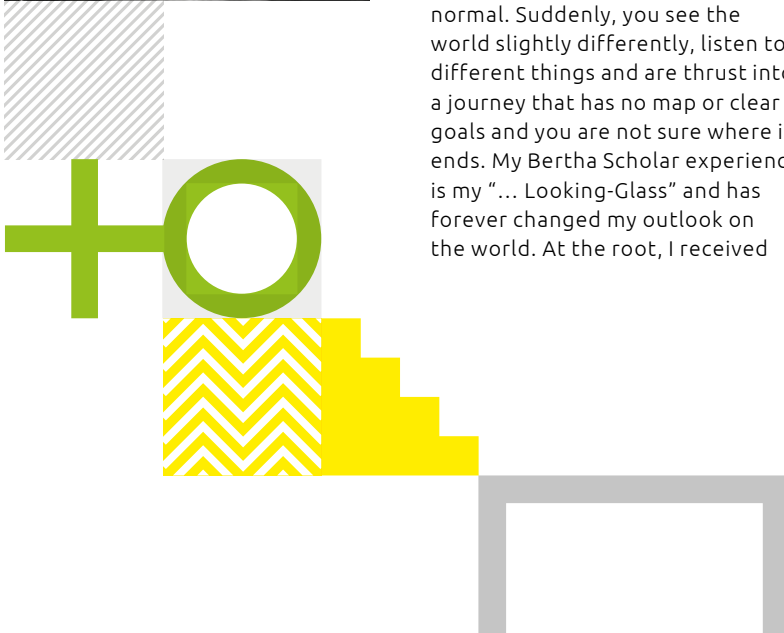
FREELANCE CONSULTANT AT CHLOROPHYLL CONSULTING

Cape Town, South Africa

To me, being a Bertha Scholar feels a little like playing Alice in “Through the Looking-Glass” where one moment you are standing in front of a mirror in a world that you recognise and the next moment you are transformed into a world that is anything but normal. Suddenly, you see the world slightly differently, listen to different things and are thrust into a journey that has no map or clear goals and you are not sure where it ends. My Bertha Scholar experience is my “... Looking-Glass” and has forever changed my outlook on the world. At the root, I received

a world class education and some insight into how the world works but more importantly, **it exposed me to individuals who are not only trying but succeeding in pioneering new systems, new ways of observing and new ways of acting in the world. They made all the difference.**

While it has not been that long since I passed through the Bertha Centre, I feel like my journey through the looking glass has just begun and I am feeling resourceful and optimistic, ready for the Jabberwocky.





RORISANG TSHABALALA

Modular MBA 2013

CHIEF EXECUTIVE AT CHAPTER ONE INNOVATION

Johannesburg, South Africa

The general perception is that creativity and innovation are results of "Eureka!" moments that happen upon the lucky few; the Bertha Scholarship enabled me to develop the philosophical foundations that have helped me to develop frameworks for structured and methodical innovation at a system-level. Importantly, it did not

provide me with the frameworks themselves, **it gave me the space and tools to develop frameworks that fit in with the context of the society i seek to impact and when they were done with that they urged me on to go and make that difference.**



AIRENI OMERRI

MPhil 2013

FOUNDER AT ISFA

London, United Kingdom

* Information from 2017 LinkedIn profile

GREG MACFARLANE

Modular MBA 2013

INVESTMENT HEAD AT EDGE GROWTH

Cape Town, South Africa



At the time of considering MBAs, I was looking for a programme which offered a combination of **cutting edge content in the social innovation and impact investing areas** while also offering the opportunity to gain practical experience through internship opportunities. While researching programmes I was attracted to the Oxford, IESE and INSEAD programmes in Europe/UK as well as the Duke, Kellogg and Yale programmes in the US, but was conflicted by the challenge of taking on a large amount of foreign debt which may have limited my ambition to effectively transition into an impact career, along with salary sacrifice in the African context. When my girlfriend at the time changed her study plans from France to Cape Town, this became the tipping point for me to return to South African shores in 2011. Around the same time, I coincidentally received an email from the University of Cape Town GSB that they had launched the Bertha Centre for Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship headed up by Dr Francois Bonnici, a global thought leader on social innovation

and entrepreneurship along with several other world class faculty from world class institutions (three of whom were from Oxford). This was an exceptional fit for me, except that the UCT full time programme did not allow for internships, which was an important component for me so I chose to enrol in the modular programme and look for internships in between modules across a range of areas such as impact investing, social entrepreneurship, non-profit and development consulting to get a feeling for the full impact ecosystem. My first internship was as Edge Growth along with two other MBA interns from Chicago Booth which was initially scheduled to be a 3 month period over the US summer but which I had decided to extend to 6 months based on my enjoyment of the company and space. During the end of my internship, I was in the process of interviewing for further internship at Dalberg when I received an offer to join Edge on a full time basis as part of the team to establish a Cape Town office. Based on my enjoyment of the work Edge was involved in (missing middle funding in the impact space) and the exceptional people, this was

an offer that I could not refuse and joined full time in January 2012 as an Investment Associate. Over the past 5 years, this has been an incredible journey in growing our Cape Town team from 3 to 15 individuals and our AUM to R400 million across two funds with a third in the pipeline in the technology/innovation space. My role has developed over the past five years into an Investment Head role, leading the Cape Town investment team across all funds. I have retained a very close relationship with both the UCT GSB and the Bertha Centre over the past 5 years, including hiring seven UCT MBAs, keeping in touch with the fellow Bertha Scholar community as well as partnering on the Bertha/World Bank Green Outcomes Fund. It would be no understatement to say that the UCT GSB and the Bertha Centre in particular has been instrumental in helping to fund my MBA as a Bertha Scholar, **inspiring my career transition into the impact investing space and continuing to be a valuable partner shaping both my career path and thinking.**



SIU MING (EDMOND) LEE

Modular MBA 2013

FINANCIAL ADVISOR AT HERFORD GROUP

Cape Town, South Africa

The Bertha Scholarship changed my life completely - it not only provided me with much needed financial assistance but more importantly a recognition of the social intrapreneurship work I was involved in. It made me believe

that I can make a more meaningful contribution towards solving social issues and **provided me with a platform to expand on my ideas and passion.**



HELOÏSE GREEFF

— MPhil 2013

DOCTORAL RESEARCHER, COMPUTATIONAL HEALTH INFORMATICS LAB AT UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

Kwale, Kenya | Oxford, United Kingdom

My time as a Bertha Scholar on the Inclusive Innovation program was **a beautiful phase in my life** when I, without realising it at the time, solidified my approach to human-centered problem solving. Following the program, I have gone on to actively seek out or influence

projects I join to have **real-world impact**. The Bertha Scholarship, through its community of like-minded individuals, reassured me that I am not (entirely) crazy and gave me the courage to follow the unconventional career path I desired.



MICHELLE MOODLEY

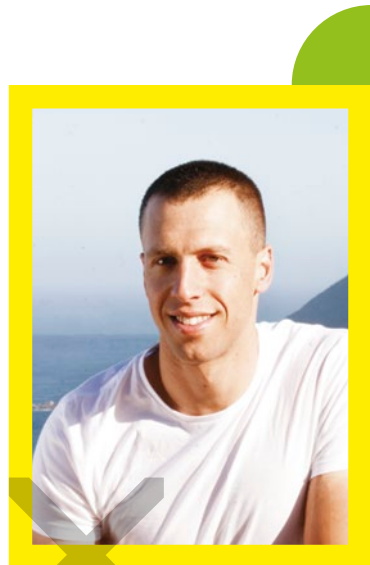
PhD 2013

SENIOR MANAGER AT NEDBANK

Durban, South Africa

The Bertha Scholarship provided me with the opportunity to pursue a PhD and has set me on a pathway towards **meaningful and**

impactful work and research in the area of social and economic development.



LEE BROOKS

MPhil 2013

SOFTWARE ENGINEER AT FLICKSWITCH

Cape Town, South Africa

I learnt that with a research-driven approach, **extremely complex problems can be solved.**



MEHUL SANGHAM

MPhil 2013

TECHNOLOGY DIRECTOR AT THE RULES

Cape Town, South Africa

* Information from 2017 LinkedIn profile

LYNN ASIIMWE

MPhil 2013

TECHNICAL SOLUTIONS ENGINEER AT GOOGLE

Zürich, Switzerland

* Information from 2017 LinkedIn profile



SUSAN DE WITT

Full Time MBA 2013

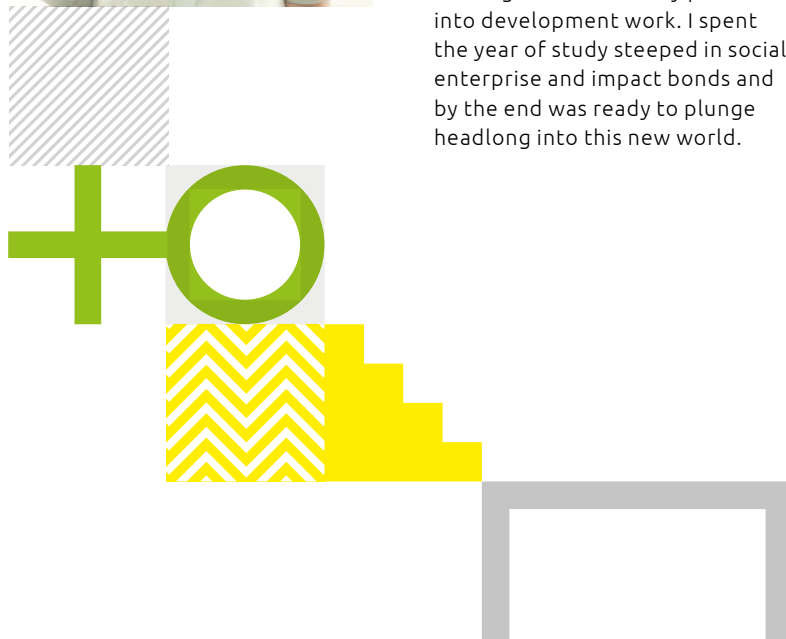


SENIOR PROJECT MANAGER AT THE BERTHA CENTRE FOR SOCIAL INNOVATION

Cape Town, South Africa

My introduction to the Bertha Centre happened the year before I signed up to do the MBA. I attended a conference about businesses that had a dual mandate of making profit and making a difference. It struck a cord as I was thinking of shifting from veterinary practice into development work. I spent the year of study steeped in social enterprise and impact bonds and by the end was ready to plunge headlong into this new world.

I returned to the Centre to work on innovative finance and have been able to apply strategy and systems thinking across multiple sectors. It has been a steep and supported learning curve and I've met incredible leaders throughout this country. It's been a pleasure to support the work that has been going on which will hopefully stand future generations in good stead.





VUSI NONDO

Full Time MBA 2013

SENIOR DEVELOPMENT MANAGER AT V&A
WATERFRONT

Cape Town, South Africa



Receiving the Bertha Scholarship allowed me to commit to and complete the MBA at UCT enabling me to develop key areas of personal knowledge related to business and commerce that would not have been possible without its award. With its focus on social enterprise and innovation the scholarship facilitated my exploration of this area through the various courses and electives offered on the MBA programme, interaction with the Bertha Centre staff and with other Bertha Scholars on campus. Subsequent to completing the MBA in 2013, as a direct consequence

I worked at executive level in the social and affordable housing sector to find socially and economically viable solutions to the sizeable housing backlog in the City of Cape Town. On a more personal level the time **I have been able to invest to discern my purpose,** a process significantly enriched by completing the MBA has lent clarity to my thoughts on how I can make a positive contribution to society and given me the **confidence to act on my convictions.**





NICOLAS PASCAREL

PhD 2013

DIRECTOR AT RECIPROCITY

Cape Town, South Africa

For me, the major impact of the Bertha Scholarship was to **increase my academic understanding of our field of activity**. This translated into a more rigorous application of research methodologies, and **a more structured approach to my day-to-day work**, especially at project level: Testing and piloting innovative business models, carrying out qualitative and quantitative research, and analyzing

results and outcomes. This allowed me and my company to be more relevant now than before.

The Bertha Scholarship experience also took a completely unexpected turn: I have not yet completed my PhD, and juggling the competing demands of running a business and researching a PhD at the same time is a challenge. It will take me longer than others but I think am on the right track.



Bertha Scholars 2014

CHARLES NYAKURWA

PDBA 2014

FOUNDER & MD AT DEAF HANDS AT WORK

Paarl, South Africa



The Bertha Scholarship allowed me to see the world very differently. I couldn't afford tertiary education and had dropped out but I had this giant goal of literally dedicating my life, creating a platform for persons living with disabilities, especially the deaf community. I have a deaf brother and since I got introduced to the Bertha family, **I've managed to grow in how I modelled my solutions to address the specific societal challenges I focus on in disability inclusion.** I personally felt a massive growth from being a Bertha Scholar and always coming back to learn continually sharpens the spear of social entrepreneurial solutions that were otherwise all over the place. As far as how my

career has been influenced by the Bertha Scholarship it would be safe to say I've always had the feeling of responsibility to do more than for myself. But that was like having a map; the moment I became a Bertha Scholar it felt like I now have been armed with tools on how to navigate the map and plot different directions to arrive at the desired destination. And to keep nurturing that sense of direction, we need to be continually be part of such an awesome family like The Bertha Foundation. For that I'm very grateful to the people who make The Bertha Centre at UCT great - both seasoned and upcoming. Thank you François, Nicolette and team.



FRANCOIS PETOUSIS

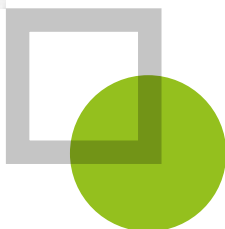
— MPhil 2014

CO-FOUNDER AT LUMKANI

Cape Town, South Africa

Having access to the Bertha Scholarship gave me access to a higher education that I would've otherwise not afforded. Through the scholarship and the network of the Bertha Centre, our organisation Lumkani, which was in its infancy at the time, had **access to finances and the right**

individuals to grow our young social enterprise. Today we're on the verge of sealing our series A investment round and have reached over 11 000 homes across South Africa with our technology.



GLORIA MUHORO

MPHil 2014

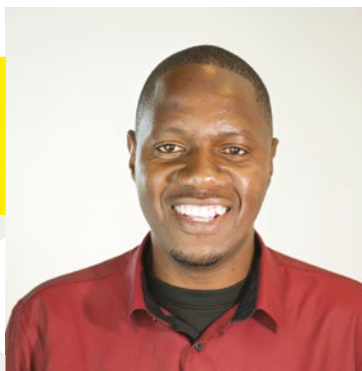
GENDER, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION AT THE
AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

Nairobi, Kenya

Through the Bertha Scholarship, I was able to pursue a Master of Philosophy in Inclusive Innovation at the University of Cape Town Graduate School of Business (GSB). At the GSB I learnt critical skills in systems thinking, social entrepreneurship, business model innovation and human centered design which I apply to run the Technology Innovations for Inclusive Growth Program at the African Development Bank. **The scholarship enhanced my belief in the power of social activism to catalyze socio-economic transformation and as a result, I work to**

explore ways in which we may integrate a critical mass of women into the access, design, and use of technology in Africa. Through the scholarship, I also met like-minded individuals who share my vision to create social impact. I still keep in touch with a few of my classmates who are all working in different fields to effect change on a local or global scale. This, I believe, is an invaluable network of change makers. Altogether, I believe the Bertha Scholarship catapulted me onto the path towards my destiny.





HILLARY JEPHAT MUSARURWA

— MPhil 2014

**FOUNDER AT PENYA FINANCE & DOCTORATE
RESEARCHER**

Edinburgh, Scotland

The scholarship awakened a hunger in me to establish myself as a social science researcher focusing on social injustice and exclusion. It has opened up academic opportunities for me and currently I am researching transformative financial services whilst tutoring business modules in Scotland. I have produced a number of papers (presented at conferences and accepted in some journals) and a book chapter from my MPhil study. I wouldn't have achieved this if I had not received the Bertha Scholarship. **It has spurred me**

on as a social entrepreneur who endeavours to use action research for the good of marginalised groups. Thanks to the opportunity to conduct research on financial inclusion, my partner and I will soon be launching our start-up, using Edinburgh as our base. We hope to play our role in bringing inclusive services in the fintech industry globally. The scholarship has made me into a person who always sees an alternative way to doing things and who endeavours to be a disrupter of the status quo in all I do.

KENNEDY KITHEKA

MPHil 2014

COUNTRY MANAGING DIRECTOR AT SEEDSTARS

Cairo, Egypt



It's difficult to determine exactly how the Bertha Scholarship has impacted my career thus far. The first thing that comes to mind is the impact my classmates have had on me, some of whom I am still in touch with today and will continue to cherish for many years to come. It would be a great understatement to say that the MPHil programme merely challenged us intellectually, as it did a lot more than that. Having already experienced a rigorous academic course before, the MPHil programme did not seem like anything that would faze me; however, the course proved most challenging in its efforts to make me delve deeper into self-reflection, to question the purpose of my life and to confront hard truths about myself. I began the

programme with a rough concept of who I was and who I wanted to be; and despite the two being somewhat similar, they could not have felt any further apart at that point in my life. **The personal growth that I experienced during my year at Bertha, interacting with individuals who continuously pushed me to dig deeper into myself and see past my personal limitations continues to influence the man that I am today.** This is perhaps the greatest impact that the MPHil programme has had on my career thus far. I came to learn so much more about myself than I had ever known before through the MPHil, and for that, I am forever grateful.



PRECIOUS NDULI

Modular MBA 2014

HEAD OF TECHNICAL MARKETING AT DISCOVERY INSURE

Johannesburg, South Africa

My background is in financial services particularly in insurance and investments/savings. I have always believed that financial services can play a bigger role in being a force for social good as that I believe is the main function of insurance. I wanted to study the MBA at UCT in particular to get access to thinking around social innovation and use that to play a bigger role in the insurance industry as it relates to financial inclusion because my firm belief was that the current models we have are not working, particularly for the majority poor. The Bertha Centre (and scholarship) was immensely helpful because I was able to afford my MBA but I was also able to have experiences that I would not have had otherwise, including writing my thesis on financial inclusion and working

with start-up companies who are working in this area. I still believe that **many of these lessons can be useful in a big corporate which has the skill and scale to really invest in and scale innovations**. The MBA and my specialisation in Social Innovation (which is in addition to my actuarial experience) led me to my current role at Discovery Insure where I look after product positioning but also provide thought leadership to all stakeholders focusing on using technology and behavioural economics to improve road safety in South Africa. I was also selected to be a member of the World Economic Forum Global Shaper community where we are working on other projects centering on women empowerment and providing internet for all.





REZAAN DANIELS

Full Time MBA 2014

AFRICA BUSINESS DEVELOPER AT FARMAMONDO

Chiasso, Switzerland

In my current position the lessons learned as a Bertha Scholar allow me to create **innovative commercial solutions for patients' unmet medical needs**. Providing access to medication that is not locally available by offering our existing know-how, product intelligence,

and handling compliance with all local regulations across Sub-Saharan Africa fulfills a need to create access to high quality medicines. The Bertha Scholarship has influenced the way I think about growing a scalable business and creating positive social impact.





MPODUMO DOUBADA

Modular MBA 2014

MANAGING DIRECTOR AT PIMP MY BOOK

Cape Town, South Africa

When I became a part of the Bertha Scholarship my company only operated in Cape Town. Bertha exposed me to ways of scaling the business and today we have stores across the country.

Most importantly, **Bertha reassured me that business can both do good and be profitable.**

TAMUTSWA DUTUMA

Modular MBA 2014

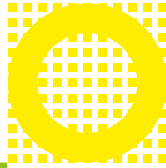
ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT AT CITI INVESTMENT BANK

Johannesburg, South Africa

It opened doors for me, and was **a springboard for me to the world.** It shaped the way that I view the world in my thinking. The Bertha Centre taught us how to think innovation in different spheres of the world – be it in society or in business / corporate, where traditionally the thinking is

shaped by profit and shareholder value maximisation. I have been able to view the world through a different lens and it has helped me create shared value both in my work and the society that we serve.





THERESA LE ROUX

Modular MBA 2014

HEAD OF BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AT
BEAUTIFUL GATE SA

Cape Town, South Africa



The Bertha Scholarship assisted me in completing my MBA and focussing my research on social entrepreneurship within the non-profit sector. Having made a career change from the corporate to the social sector more than a decade ago, through my research, **I was able to further explore the tensions I have long**

felt between “mission” and “money”. I am grateful to be an alumnus of this prestigious scholarship and continue to learn from and be inspired by others who are navigating these tensions and striving to find innovative and sustainable solutions to urgent issues of social justice.



ELLA SCHEEPERS

Full Time MBA 2015



STRATEGIST & INDEPENDENT CONSULTANT AT THE BERTHA CENTRE FOR SOCIAL INNOVATION & OTHER ORGANISATIONS

Johannesburg, South Africa

New friends and new worlds:

The Bertha Centre brought together MBA and MPhil scholars and meeting the other scholars opened my world. I have been lucky enough to work with Fergus at the Muizenberg Festival, to have built on new ideas with Penny, Shamillah, Christy and others. Their worlds continue to intertwine with mine in beautiful and critical ways.

New knowledge and new tools:

The scholarship put me in between two worlds - the MBA and my social justice background. Without the scholarship I would not have gone to business school; I would not have learnt these new institutional languages. **The space gave me the tools to create business models and organisations I hope to see in the world, but also forced me to strengthen my social justice work through various institutional struggles at the GSB.** It also

sparked my interest and critique of social innovation; its potential and its pitfalls.

To remain critical. Of ourselves as scholars, of Bertha and of GSB:

The experience of GSB through the scholarship at the Bertha Centre wasn't perfect, it was very challenging especially during the #feesmustfall 2016/2017 period. We created and directed our purpose and practice as scholars, resulting in us organising different platforms for scholars and other staff and students at the GSB to speak about experiences of institutional injustice and to engage around national issues of #outsourcing and #feesmustfall. This critical and proactive collective approach remains present and continues as I work with the Bertha Centre and other organisations.



LUDWICK MARISHANE

MPHil 2015

MANAGING DIRECTOR AT HEADBOY INDUSTRIES

Johannesburg, South Africa

The Bertha Scholarship gave me a valuable opportunity to study for the MPHil Inclusive Innovation degree at the UCT GSB. This grew my network of social innovators, and also exposed me to a substantial amount of social innovation work & insight developed through the Bertha Centre. Although I ended up dropping out of the

programme due to the MPHil being assessed on the thesis only, the experience helped me to develop **a more experimentally academic process towards business model validation**, and the wisdom to approach Masters studies through a more practical lens.





FERGUS TURNER

MPhil 2015

DIRECTOR AT THE HIVE; PROGRAM MANAGER AT URBAN RESILIENCE INITIATIVE

Cape Town, South Africa

The Bertha Scholarship has **nurtured the maverick nature of my work, and provided space for powerful ideas, friendships and energy to grow.** My recent career endeavours, in setting out to establish an ecosystem of companies that directly facilitate my vision and passion in the world,

have been directly affected by the confidence and learning that has come from experiences with the Bertha Scholar community. The Bertha Scholarship has been an affirmative and encouraging platform which has catalysed daring and creative actions to tackle the challenges and opportunities of our world with glee and joy.





JOHN BAZLEY

Full Time MBA 2015

SENIOR CONSULTANT AT DALBERG GLOBAL
DEVELOPMENT ADVISORS

Johannesburg, South Africa

The Bertha Scholarship gave validation to my nascent efforts within social innovation/development, and gave me encouragement to pursue a career within it. The funding allowed me to extend my exchange

at Duke University's Fuqua School of Business, where I was able to immerse in their Advanced Seminar on Social Entrepreneurship. During the additional semester at Duke I met my fiancée.

MERHAWI K. OKBASELASIE

Modular MBA 2015



DIRECTOR OF PROJECTS AT SLUM DWELLERS INTERNATIONAL (SDI)

Eritrea | Cape Town, South Africa

The Bertha Scholarship changed my life and career in so many ways. Firstly, I was able to finish my MBA, which was a big deal for me because of financial challenges. Although I had a decent job, I actually struggled to pay the MBA fees for the first year, because I was also financially supporting my family back home in Eritrea. So, when I received the Bertha Scholarship, which covered the full fees for the second year, I was able to concentrate on my studies.

I was also able to plan my career based on my passion, and not necessarily for a quick financial gain, which would have been a completely different story, had I finished my MBA with a big debt. Secondly, I

secured my current job with SDI immediately after my graduation. SDI and the Bertha Centre have similar core values and I definitely think that my association with the Bertha Centre helped me in getting my current job, although in a very subtle way. Thirdly, during my tenure here with SDI, I have contributed towards the creation of some sort of partnership between SDI and the Bertha Centre. The Innovative Finance team from the Bertha Centre worked with SDI over 8 months and helped SDI create **a road map to explore new financial solutions in order to create an inclusive market in informal settlements** as part of a broader goal of creating inclusive and connected cities.



MICAH SHAKO

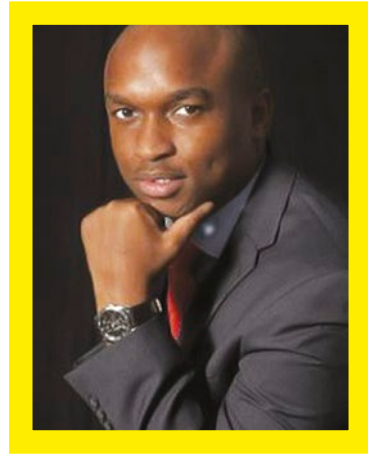
Full Time MBA 2015

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AT TSAVO
INNOVATION LAB

Nairobi, Kenya

The Bertha Centre and the scholarship were very influential in how Tsavo Innovation Labs has evolved. **I learned how to run a social innovation centre** and I brought what I learned, particularly human-centred design, storytelling and design thinking, back to Kenya. More importantly It was incredible

to meet other Bertha Scholars at the GSB, Africans who want to contribute to the transformation of our continent, and to have **the freedom to look at the world differently, and to speak openly around the change that we want.**



ZARINA NTETA

MPhil 2015

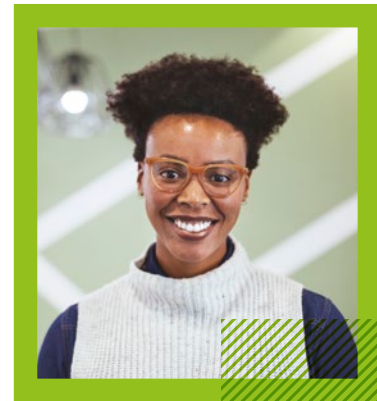
CONSULTANT AT DALBERG GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT
ADVISORS

Johannesburg, South Africa

The Bertha scholarship and community facilitated **a rewarding academic experience, that guided me into critical thinking about society and the impact of the enterprise.**

I am grateful for the gentle encouragement of the broader Bertha team, and the support network that the scholar cohort provided me.

Subsequent to my Bertha-supported Masters, I moved into international development consulting, and I still refer and draw from the teachings and insights I developed in the many enriching and tense conversations we had during my time at the business school.



XOLISA DHLAMINI, CDFA

PhD 2015



PHD CANDIDATE; SASIE PHD FELLOW; MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES AT IDH FOUNDATION

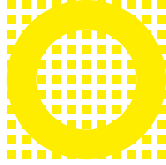
Cape Town, South Africa

The Bertha Scholarship has been extremely instrumental in my shift in career towards knowledge creation and sharing, specifically in the field of Sustainable and Responsible Investment (SRI) .

The Bertha Scholarship and the work I have done in my time as a scholar has provided a practical medium for me to advocate for social impact in the investment industry as well as a powerful network to draw upon in my entrepreneurial endeavors as an independent consultant and aspiring academic.

The funding of my PhD has relieved the financial burden of studying

full time and has allowed me to develop as a young academic. I have been able to make great progress on my PhD and to develop skills in practitioner and academic research. Through the Bertha Scholarship I have been able to work on the Bertha Centre Investing for Impact Barometer which has expanded my knowledge of the SRI field in Sub-Saharan Africa and to contribute to industry and academic knowledge . My association with the Bertha Centre as a Bertha Scholar and researcher has also been extremely instrumental in building further my professional profile amongst practitioners and academics in the field of SRI.



HOW DID THE BERTHA SCHOLARSHIP INFLUENCE YOUR LIFE AND CAREER?

Bertha Scholars 2016



LULAMILE MAKAULA

— MPhil 2016

RESEARCH ANALYST AT UCT GSB AND NETWORK FOR BUSINESS SUSTAINABILITY (SOUTH AFRICA)

Johannesburg, South Africa

The Bertha Scholarship programme has significantly improved my research and leadership skills, but most importantly - **it made me think bigger, strategically, systemically, and globally.**

As a result of the MPhil in Inclusive

innovation that I earned through the scholarship programme, I have started developing local and international networks that are assisting me to build a career in sustainability and social innovation research.

ZAMANDLOVU NDLOVU

— MPhil 2016

COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER AT THE SOUTH
AFRICAN RESERVE BANK

Johannesburg, South Africa

The Bertha Scholarship planted the idea of business school which wasn't initially in my plans but through it I came across the MPhil and I really liked the idea so applied. Since then my life has taken a 180 degree turn to what I thought the degree would do for me. I thought I was gaining skills to work in a 'typical' social enterprise but the MPhil made me realise that I'm a creature of large institutions and I'm an institutional entrepreneur. I learnt that I'm most impactful when I am working towards changing a large creature because small change goes a long way in big

institutions. Of course I carry great anxiety because I feel like this is not what the foundation paid for. I also feel a heaviness because I'm not surrounded by fellow colleagues who speak the language of social change but **I hold a hope that my mere presence in this traditional space is disruptive and the programme and the 'fellowship' of the scholarship has given me the mental model and frameworks that I can reference when I think about planting seeds of change in deeply established institutions.**





SINQOBILE NDLOVU

MPHil 2016

CONCEPT DEVELOPER & CHAIRPERSON AT THE
ABOVE GROUND MINING PROJECT

Bulawayo, Zimbabwe

I completed my first degree at the age of 19. Although the natural expectation was for me to proceed to Masters, at the time I didn't have clarity on what I wanted to specialise in, and in addition I was held back by financial constraints.

After finding a programme that aligned to my professional interests, the Bertha Scholarship **not only significantly reduced the financial burden, but also allowed me to indulge fully in my MPHil research.**

PENELOPE YOUNGLESON

MPHil 2016

WRITER, THEATRE MAKER, DIRECTOR, DESIGNER,
MUSICIAN, PERFORMER, TEACHER & EDUCATION
CONSULTANT

Cape Town, South Africa

The Bertha Centre encourages a non-linear path for disruptors and change agents...and whilst I was more than prepared to shake up everyone in my class and on the faculty, I was not expecting to have to reevaluate so many of my own perceptions and processes! Coming from a social justice and theatre background, studying Social Entrepreneurship completely provoked how I view my work: **it has enabled me to imagine my passions as a career; streamlined my goals with**

my networks; and allowed me to be the change I want for my community - without compromising on excellence, viability and delivery. Without the Bertha Centre, I wouldn't have attended business school. I always despised spaces like it and assumed they were the shortest point between privilege and corruption! The last two years have, rather, become a bridge between purpose and actualisation. And I am very grateful for that lesson in humility and entrepreneurship. Thank you.





ZEBEDIA NTINI

Raymond Ackerman Academy Programme 2016

OPERATIONS MANAGER AT GREENCAB

Cape Town, South Africa

Being associated with the Bertha Centre brand has **helped me land new business**. The Bertha Centre is using my services.

THEMBEKA SIKOBI

MPhil 2016

PROGRAMME MANAGER AT NETWORK ACTION GROUP

Port Shepstone, South Africa

* Information from 2017 LinkedIn profile





CLINT MAGGOTT

Modular MBA 2016

CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST IN PRIVATE PRACTICE

Cape Town, South Africa



The Bertha Scholarship has, firstly, given me access to an education which would not have been possible without significant financial strain on both myself and my family. I am incredibly grateful for this. The scholarship has also given me a broader perspective on what career paths are possible with a business education. This broadening occurred not only in terms of application of that

education but in terms of identity. **The scholarship has changed my idea of “who” studies at a business school.** This occurred mainly through the relationships I formed with Bertha Centre staff and fellow scholars. These relationships have also been a source of true support during a challenging period of learning and growth. Thank you.



CHANTEL LINDEMAN

Full Time MBA 2016

ACTIVATIONS MANAGER AT JUMO WORLD

Cape Town, South Africa

Being offered a scholarship from the Bertha Centre has been one of the highlights of my working career. This opportunity is one which I am truly grateful for but also feel great responsibility for. During my year of studying, I was reminded how fortunate I was to be associated with the Bertha Centre, especially as last year a lot of pressure was being placed on the university about "fees must fall". The thing I came to admire of the Bertha Centre was the open dialogues which were offered that allowed ignorant people like me to ask questions which I found difficult to raise. Furthermore, by being affiliated to the Bertha Centre, I became someone to whom people came to discuss the "hard" questions, which I found difficult to deal with as this was way out of my comfort zone. But I found over time, I really enjoyed these honest dialogues

and landed up learning more from them than I ever expected. After finishing the MBA, I joined Jumo as **I wanted to continue finding ways to develop solutions in the digital sector especially for people who had not had a financial footprint.** Jumo aims to provide financial services access to customers who have been excluded from the formal financial system. My role at Jumo is to find ways for customers to have a digital footprint who traditionally have been excluded in this sector. This has been due to a lack of data being available to build any predictable assets for these customers. A large part of what I do is owed to the time I spent with the Bertha Scholars and Centre to better understand the needs of someone who is living in different circumstances and being bold to ask the "hard" questions.





SHAMILLAH WILSON

— MPhil 2016

CHIEF IGNITER AT PROJECT IGNITE

Cape Town, South Africa

The Bertha Scholarship came at a time when I was searching for different frames, ways or channels to advance social justice. As a result of being awarded a Bertha Scholarship, I had the privilege to explore, question, think and engage. It allowed me some much needed space to ask some really difficult questions. I had to step back from the work I was doing and

view it objectively. It also meant I had to ask myself whether in fact I was helping or hindering. **The Bertha Scholarship renewed my commitment and drive to social justice. It connected me to a new community and allowed me to start a process of repositioning that is still not yet complete.**



ADRIAAN BRAND

Modular MBA 2016



PROJECT DIRECTOR; MUSIC MANAGER AT DELTA TRUST; MUSIC VAN DE CAAB HERITAGE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT AT SOLMS DELTA

Cape Town, South Africa

The Bertha Scholarship was a quantum breakthrough on multiple dimensions. I received it after decades of life invested in cultural entrepreneurship, new South African identity agency, and utilizing every possible opportunity to invest back into our country and nation every ounce of support and talent I'd received, in community development and grassroots wellness intervention. I always chose my calling over financial security. I reached a stage where I had figured out how to do the work, through committedly continued studying, investing all spare pennies earned and borrowed in my education, and applying every possible capacity in designing sustainable, effective solutions, teaching others how to use them, and providing psycho-social support as my peers buckled under pressure in the field. Deeply socialist at heart, I viewed resource distribution and sharing as a matter of calling. Progressively, however, I saw one funding stream after

the other crack and crumble. My solution-making quest changed focus. I progressively targeted revenue resource generation-oriented process design and implementation. But I did not manage to achieve sufficient success to plug the holes in the boats. My thorough experiential and qualitative groundings were insufficient for this particular tier of challenges. With a creeping sense of hopelessness, feeling deeply misunderstood, I realized I was reinventing wheels while staring at the outlines of state-of-the-art Ferrari factories in the distance. It was time. I applied and gained admission to the UCT GSB MBA. Readying myself to take on an immense debt burden, I was not deterred. And then it came: the validation for years of demonstrated tenacity. Not only financial support that would allow me to focus on my studies without financial anxieties, but also TRUST. **I entered business school with a particular set of visions,**



and outgrew them within the first four months.

In a deep panic, I contacted my supervisors and disclosed that I no longer believed in the ideas I trumpeted in my scholarship application essays. I am now disoriented at the expanse of possibilities, and have new ideas forming. Should they wish, I would understand if they withdrew the scholarship. But that did not happen. Instead, I was given freedom to explore, in fact encouraged to do so! It was a most profoundly healing experience. I grew like Jack's beanstalk. My brain has been rewired, and I no longer primarily look towards resource distribution, but towards generating optimal amounts of it to spread around. It's tempting to say something like "now let's get down to building those Ferraris," but I've actually already started! And I can get down to the grit of the work without the constraints of a massive debt burden hanging over my decision-making. Thank you, Bertha Centre!

SHERRI LE MOTTEE

— MPhil 2016

CHANGE4CHILDREN LAB ORIGINATOR; EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT CONSULTANT

Cape Town, South Africa

The Bertha Scholarship created access to a learning opportunity that has opened new ways of thinking and tackling social challenges in my working life, every day! Coming to a business school mindfully with a Bertha Scholarship as the facilitator of access from the development sector was a bit of a shake up but it really got me thinking about "So what, what does all this mean? **How do you bring these conversations to development AND how do you bring development to these conversations? The shifts in thinking, discourse and even pace ignited something in me.**

I have been able to bring these new thoughts and approaches, rooted in innovation, into the work I do in early childhood development which has enriched not just my thinking but what I produce. Much of my work goes to the strategic intentions of my partners and so this opportunity awarded through the Bertha Scholarship, expands to influence thought leadership, activists' action for young children through my engagement with the Early Learning Partnership of the World Bank Group, UNICEF's global office and closer to home in my relationships with NGOs active in the sector.

Bertha Scholars 2017

NEO HUTIRI

MPhil 2017

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FOUNDER AT TECHNOVERA

Johannesburg, South Africa

The Bertha Scholarship came at the point in my life where I needed to answer a lot of questions that are pivotal and would ultimately shape our organisation. This phase had a lot of trial-and-error approaches and requires insights that often come from exposure to specialised programs such as the MPhil in Inclusive Innovation. Being the founder of Technovera, I was searching for help in formulating ways on how to ensure that social impact remains at the core of how we build Technovera. The scholarship has enabled me to tap into a community that has helped us to think through impact through technology, and to use that to drive our sustainability in the long run.

It's offered me an opportunity to learn from an amazing community of practitioners and researchers.

Ultimately, this opportunity is enabling my ability to chart my social impact journey better, gain other tools that will become invaluable in running a hybrid enterprise that has set out to disrupt the chronic medication dispensing models. **I am blessed to be learning in a research capacity while implementing these new concepts out in the field and seeing what works.** At a personal level, I feel a lot more curious as a result of this experience.





BATHABILE MPOFU

Modular MBA 2017

MANAGING DIRECTOR AT NKAZIMULO APPLIED SCIENCES

Durban, South Africa

The scholarship paid for my fees and enabled me to graduate. I could celebrate that achievement with my family in Cape Town and **the whole experience around**

graduation was a blessing to me and my family. Without the scholarship, this would not have happened.





KIM SMITH

MPhil 2017

**SOCIAL RESEARCHER AND SPECIAL PROJECTS AT
PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT OF THE WESTERN CAPE**

Cape Town, South Africa

Being a Bertha Scholar and studying Inclusive Innovation has had a profound influence on how I approach the work I do. I work with the most vulnerable in society and am often tasked with researching and designing programmes for vulnerable communities.

Government can be quite a clinical environment to work in and the obsession with chasing numbers and meeting quarterly deadlines can easily result in excluding the very voices we are meant to serve.

The scholarship and course I am doing promotes principles of social justice, inclusivity

and innovation and I make it my business to promote the same ethos in our directorate, our office and in my team. I

often tell my colleagues that if we truly believe in equal dignity and respect for all, then there would be no room for complacency in the work we do. And so I encourage that we stop; that we dig deeper and think broader. And this is how I have learned to use my circle of influence, whether at work, at home or in the communities I engage with, to advocate for and to uphold these principles in all that I do.



LILLIAN MASEBENZA

— MPhil 2017

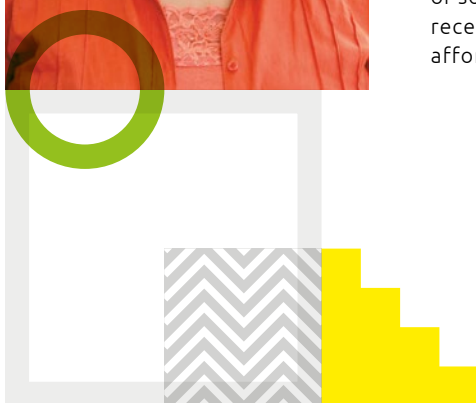
**FOUNDER AT MHANGI GINGI SOCIAL
ENTREPRENEURIAL NETWORK**

Cape Town, South Africa



The Bertha Scholarship which partners with the Bertha Foundation, has had a great influence in my life. It is not only philanthropic, but strongly supports social and economic justice – a strong pillar of my life. Being a social entrepreneur and an Ashoka Fellow, it is an honour to be part of the Bertha legacy of social change. My career will receive a huge boost in that I can afford to conduct research as a UCT

GSB MPhil student, my study being aimed at innovatively including the participation of People with Physical Disability (PWPD), in urban agriculture. Increasing numbers of food producers will have a huge positive effect in addressing the problem of food insecurity, not only in South Africa but also in Southern Africa. **Being a Bertha Scholar opens doors to being part of an amazing dynamic alumni network!**





MAYRA HARTMANN

Modular MBA 2017

DEVELOPMENT CONSULTANT & CIVIL ENGINEER AT SHACK/SLUM DWELLERS INTERNATIONAL

Cape Town, South Africa

As an engineer who has spent most of her career in development work, the Bertha Scholarship has given me access to the MBA classroom. The learning experience has been

plentiful, in which **I challenge my own assumptions but am also able to contribute a perspective not normally present.**

MANDISA MBALIGONTSI

MPhil 2017

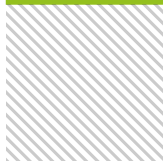
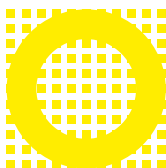
BERTHA SCHOLAR AT UCT GSB

Cape Town, South Africa

I feel that as a scholar, one of the great gifts of the scholarship is to have **the privilege of immersing myself within a**

solution seeking space to deepen my inquiry into social issues that I'm passionate about.





DEAN HAND

— MPhil 2017

IMPACT INVESTMENT STRATEGIST AT ASHBURTON INVESTMENTS

Cape Town, South Africa

Were it not for the scholarship, I would not have had the opportunity to research and study an area within which I have worked for a long time.

Applying academic rigour and discipline to praxis gives one a rich insight, the ability to

question commonly accepted norms and to develop new perspective. Having access to a cohort of like-minded people that all choose to shift thinking is powerful too.





JOHN DUNCAN

Modular MBA 2017

**SENIOR MANAGER: MARINE PROGRAMME AT
WWF-SOUTH AFRICA**

Cape Town, South Africa

Being able to do my MBA with the help of a Bertha Scholarship has given me **a new lens to view the world through**. Coming from an NGO background, business is often viewed as part of the problem, but

the MBA and the Bertha Centre have opened up new possibilities for business and myself to imagine a world in which these forces can work together for good.



THE BERTHA CENTRE FOR SOCIAL INNOVATION

The Bertha Centre for Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship is a leading academic centre dedicated to advancing social innovation and entrepreneurship. It was established as a specialised unit at the UCT Graduate School of Business in late 2011, in partnership with the Bertha Foundation.

Its mission is to pursue social impact towards social justice in Africa, through teaching, knowledge-building, convening and running catalytic projects, and using a systems lens to view social innovation. In collaboration with the GSB, the Bertha Centre has integrated social innovation into the business school curriculum, galvanised communities of practitioners in its focus areas, and awarded over R6-million in scholarships to students from across Africa through the Bertha Scholarship Programme.

The Bertha Centre was the 2015 recipient of UCT's Social Responsiveness Award, and in 2017 was profiled by the Bridgespan Group amongst the top five centres for social impact based in academic institutions around the world.

UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN GRADUATE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

The UCT GSB offers a range of academic programmes including the Master's in Business Administration (MBA), MBA in Executive Management (EMBA), Master of Commerce in Development Finance, Master of Philosophy in Inclusive Innovation, a PhD Programme and the Postgraduate Diploma in Management Practice. In addition, the school's Executive Education unit offers numerous short courses, as well as customised courses for corporate and other clients.

The UCT GSB is one of only three business schools in Africa to have the prestigious triple-crown accreditation (AACSB, AMBA & EQUIS). It is also a member of AABS, a unique African accreditation, which promotes excellence in management education in Africa through collaboration, capacity building and quality improvement. The UCT GSB full-time MBA programme was ranked in the Financial Times Global Top 100 MBAs for 12 consecutive years.

The GSB's teaching, learning and research is directed towards building a more economically prosperous, more equitable, and more integrated continent. The school's faculty is

inspired to transform innovative ideas into relevant solutions for emerging market problems and to generate top-notch teaching materials to help others to do the same. The school is constantly investing in quality scholarship and strong partnerships to support these aims.

THE BERTHA FOUNDATION

The Bertha Foundation fights for a more just world by supporting activists, storytellers, and lawyers who are working to bring about social and economic justice and human rights for all. A family foundation with its operational base in London, the Bertha Foundation supports field-building and collaboration between activists, storytellers and lawyers from around the world. The Foundation funds the core activities of the Bertha Centre for Social Innovation, including the Bertha Scholarship Programme.



The space gave me the tools to create business models and organisations I hope to see in the world, but also forced me to strengthen my social justice work through various institutional struggles at the GSB.

ELLA SCHEEPERS

MBA - BERTHA SCHOLAR 2015



I hold a hope that my mere presence in this traditional space is disruptive and the MPhil programme and the 'fellowship' of the Bertha Scholarship has given me the mental model and frameworks that I can reference when I think about **planting seeds of change in deeply established institutions.**

ZAMANDLOVU NDLOVU

MPHIL - BERTHA SCHOLAR 2016

**Bertha Centre for Social Innovation & Entrepreneurship,
University of Cape Town Graduate School of Business**

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