

GCR0 annual report

09/10





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“...[the GCRO] has already justified the hopes, expectations and resource commitments of its founding partners...”





01

Foreword by GCRO Board Chairperson

Prof Belinda Bozzoli, Deputy Vice-Chancellor:
University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg



The Gauteng City Region-Observatory (GCRO) was launched in September 2008, with its new Executive Director formally starting work in December 2008. This meant that the 2008/09 financial year was largely devoted to the tasks – frequently complex and laborious – of establishing a new organisation. This process continued into this financial year. The early part of 2009/10 saw the setting up of financial systems, the hiring of both administrative and research staff, the procurement of essential hardware systems to hold considerable data and geographical information system (GIS) capability, and the launch of an early-version website to project a public profile. All this was accomplished successfully, and stands as testimony to the experience, and sometimes perseverance, of David Everatt and his new team.

However, 2009/10 was not just about ongoing institutional establishment for GCRO. Even as new systems were bedded down and staff settled in to new roles, the substantive work of this young organisation took off.

There were a number of highlights:

- Fieldwork for a 6 600 sample 'Quality of Life' survey was successfully undertaken between August and October 2009, data checked and processed by December, and initial results available by January 2010;

- A benchmarking study into how cities and city-regions in other parts of the world were coping with the financial and economic crisis was researched and written in August 2009. This report, requested by the MEC for Economic Development in the Gauteng Provincial Government, led to a string of further policy support work along the same lines. This included a workshop – jointly hosted with the Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA), the South African Local Government Association (SALGA) and the Presidency – on how the crisis was affecting local government; support to the Gauteng Department of Economic Development on a major economic recovery Summit in November 2009; the drafting – within the space of two months – of a Developmental Green Economy Strategy for Gauteng by January 2010; and editorial support on the Gauteng Employment Growth and Development Strategy (GEGDS);
- A workshop on how decision-makers should interpret and respond to the upsurge of violent community protests was held in October 2009;
- A major study, involving a wide range of partners, into how civil society responded to the May 2008 xenophobic violence was managed by GCRO, with GCRO staff writing three case studies, and three synthesis chapters;
- Work on a major background report for the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Gauteng Territorial Review process, being overseen by the Gauteng Planning Commission, was initiated, and the GCRO co-ordinated a successful first mission for members of the OECD secretariat in February 2010;
- The first meeting of the GCRO's Research Advisory Committee (RAC) was held in March 2010.

The GCRO is a unique institution in that it is both an academic research centre, and a policy-advice resource to the provincial and local governments of Gauteng. It is required to both undertake its own work and draw expertise in the academy into strategic knowledge generation processes and dialogues that will benefit government and its partners. It needs to be responsive to both local and provincial government, and accountable to both the Universities of Johannesburg (UJ) and the Witwatersrand (Wits). In 2009/10 GCRO demonstrated admirably that it is possible to juggle these competing requirements, and that the dynamic tensions inherent in this balancing act can be extremely productive for cutting edge and policy-relevant knowledge generation. A seminar held at UJ in March 2010, where academics from Stellenbosch and Wits debated the policy fit between the new green strategy produced by GCRO, with the MEC for Economic Development acting as discussant, in front an audience of government officials, business representatives and researchers, perhaps best exemplified this. In the same vein can be counted the launch of the RAC and various engagements facilitated as part of the OECD's first mission to Gauteng.

The GCRO is still a new organisation. It will continue to grow in strength, capacity and public profile in the years ahead. But it has already justified the hopes, expectations and resource commitments of its founding partners.

Belinda Bozzoli





02 Introduction and overview

This report covers the first full operating year of the GCRO, with the financial year April 2009 to March 2010 coinciding with GCRO staff joining the organisation and the GCRO notching up some notable achievements, even in these formative months.

The GCRO was publicly launched on 11 September 2008. A partnership between the Gauteng Provincial Government (GPG), local government in Gauteng, UJ and Wits, GCRO is a highly innovative response to the socio-economic, cultural, governance, political, growth and other challenges related to the cluster of cities that makes up the Gauteng City-Region (GCR) - the economic engine of South and southern Africa. In these straitened times of global recession, we are deeply aware of the privilege of GCRO's position as a dedicated research agency seeking to bring to bear the best of the academic world on key policy questions facing government.

The GCRO's resources are drawn primarily from the GPG and the two universities, but it is an independent, university-based research centre, tasked with benchmarking the GCR's development; mobilising the intellectual resources of both universities to grapple with the key challenges of the day to the benefit of government and the academy; providing data and using methods that meet the highest academic standards and have been tested with the rigour associated with the best academic work; and making this accessible to government officials, citizens and others who need to benefit from the work of the GCRO, while also being good academic citizens and feeding data and resources back into teaching, publishing and so on.



▲ GCRO Board: Prof Adam Habib, Prof Belinda Bozzoli, Prof Fiona Tregenna, Ms Annette Griessel, Mr Sibusiso Xaba. Inserts: Mr Daniel Mashitisho, Prof Rob Moore

This is not an easy position to occupy – to do justice to the academy’s demand for intellectual independence and methodological rigour (and publication!) and government’s demand for accessible, accurate, policy-relevant, high quality data and recommendations, while also seeking to help citizens better understand the space they occupy. Nonetheless, when our ‘Quality of Life’ survey results were released, the Premier of Gauteng, Hon. Nomvula Mokonyane, said:

“Today we are proud to share with the Gauteng public the groundbreaking work of the Gauteng City-Region Observatory - a think tank we set up a few years ago to assist us in the development of our province into a globally competitive city-region. We welcome the results of the GCRO as

they are, because we believe that we have been provided with the naked truth about our province which will help us to improve our services for our people. We intend sharing it with our municipalities and the private sector so that everyone can appreciate its implications...What this means is that the Observatory is serving its purpose and being brutally honest with us so that meaningful interventions could be made to improve the lot of our people. We are grateful that the academics at both Wits and UJ have compiled this important document. While its relevance may not be immediately felt; future generations are sure to look at the results of the survey and thank the GCRO for its honesty.”

Governance

The GCRO is overseen by a Board, made up of two representatives from UJ – Prof Adam Habib, Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Research, Innovation and Advancement and GCRO deputy-chair, and formerly Professor Peter Alexander of the Centre for Sociological Research, who resigned and was replaced by Prof Fiona Tregenna from the economics department; two representatives of Wits, Prof Belinda Bozzoli, Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Research and Chair of the GCRO Board, and Prof Rob Moore, Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Advancement and Partnerships. From the Office of the Premier, GPG, Deputy Director-General: Policy and Governance, Ms Annette Griessel, sits on the board alongside Mr Dan Mashitisho, Municipal Manager: Mogale City, representing local government in Gauteng. During the year, the Board was joined by Mr Sibusiso Xaba, Head of Planning, Gauteng Planning Commission.

While Wits and UJ serve as the GCRO's anchor institutions, its mission involves the harnessing of a range of academic and intellectual resources in Gauteng. A key mechanism in this regard is the RAC, made up of senior academics and public intellectuals. The RAC is not formally part of the GCRO governance structure – it has no management or fiduciary role – but it plays a role in intellectual governance, by contributing to the overall GCR research agenda and in overseeing and commenting on the quality and relevance of the GCRO's work.

The GCRO Board is the most important governance structure. The Board meets at least twice a year. It receives, considers and debates an annual Strategic Plan and associated budget, which sets out the work of the Observatory for each 12 month-period. The annual plan is guided by an over-arching three-year Strategic Plan, approved by the Board. All Strategic Plans are available on the GCRO website. The Board also assesses the financial and progress reports submitted by the Executive Director and the reports from the independent auditors appointed to conduct an annual financial audit. The audited reports are attached.



GCRO Staff: Ms Adele Underhay, Financial and Administrative Manager, Prof David Everatt, Executive Director, Ms Sammy Masehe, Receptionist and Junior Administrator, Mr Graeme Gotz, Research Director, Ms Annsilla Nyar, Senior Researcher, Mr Sizwe Phakathi, Senior Researcher, Mr Chris Wray, Senior Systems Analyst

In addition, GCRO has been visited by the Oversight Committee on the Premier's Office and Legislature (OCPOL), as part of the Committee's oversight role in relation to the work of the Office of the Premier.

Legal status

The legal status of the GCRO is based on an agreement signed by the respective parties at the GCRO launch in 2008 in line with the GCRO Founding Document and legislation relating to the management of public finances. In line with the agreement, Wits continues to host the offices and funds of the GCRO and takes responsibility for its financial administration. In the course of the past year, legal representatives of the respective institutions have paid attention to a revision of the legal form of the GCRO, including the development of a draft Constitution.

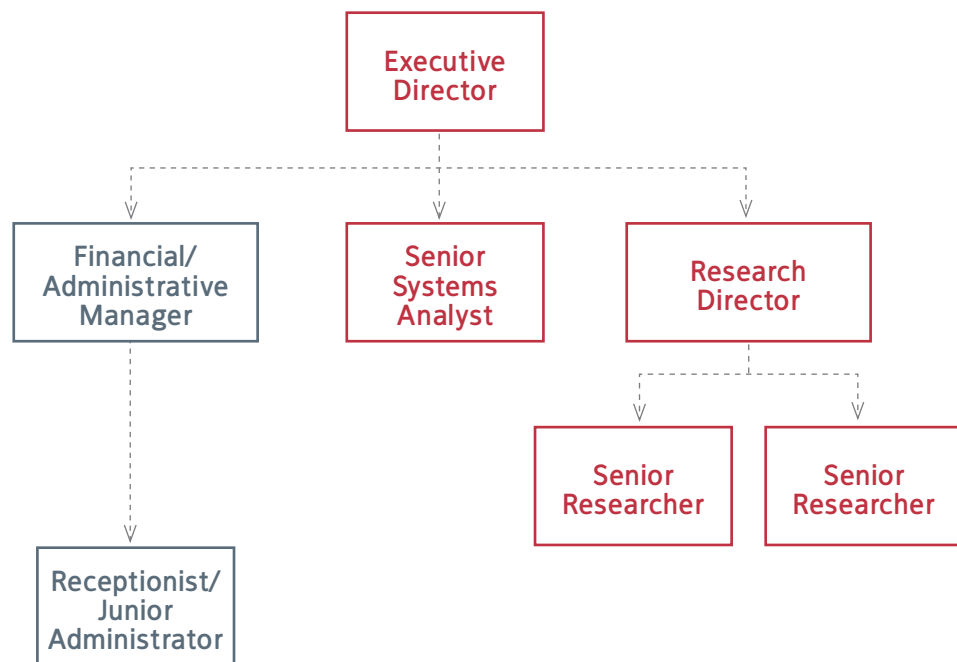


Figure 1: GCRO Organogram 2009/10

Staff and structure

The organisation is led by Prof David Everatt, Executive Director and has a Research Director, Mr Graeme Gotz; a Finance and Administrative Manager, Ms Adele Underhay; and a Senior Systems Analyst, Mr Chris Wray. Senior Researchers Ms Annsilla Nyar and Mr Sizwe Phakathi are supported by Ms Sammy Masehe, Receptionist and Junior Administrator. At least a third and fourth Senior Researcher will be needed by the organisation; and a more senior academic appointment may also be required. The office includes significant computing power, managed by the Senior Systems Analyst; and a Resource Centre, running off MS Access and managed by Sammy Masehe. There are already over 600

items loaded and accessible to staff and visitors. While the GCRO is committed to the achievement of employment equity in its recruitment and staffing, this has proven to be a challenge which the organisation will continue to address.

The organisation is small and relies heavily on very good teamwork, since virtually everything we do relies on task-sharing and multiple inputs. But GCRO is currently too small to simultaneously manage demand and maintain quality, and the organisation will have to grow over the 2010/11 period and beyond, ideally to around ten staff, including more senior research power.

GCRO staff development 2009/10

The GCRO Board and Executive Director are committed to staff development and skills enhancement, not only in terms of academic qualifications and learning, but also with regards to personal growth. To this end they support the ideas and ideals of all GCRO staff members and the two academic partners provide incentives in the form of fee subsidies to enable staff to attain these goals.

During the 2009/10 provincial financial year the following staff activities occurred:

- Annsilla Nyar (Senior Researcher) completed a presentation skills workshop at the Centre for Learning, Training and Development (CLTD) at Wits;
- Annsilla also registered for a PhD at UJ, Department of Politics, with her research interest being the quality of democracy;
- Chris Wray (Senior Systems Analyst) has registered and started with an MSc degree in Engineering at Wits;
- Chris also completed an outside course entitled 'SPSS - Putting Statistics into Practice';
- Sammy Masehe (Receptionist) successfully completed a Speed Writing Course at CLTD;



- In addition, Sammy was busy with a Degree in Psychology at Wits. This is on hold for 2010 as she is on maternity leave;
- Sizwe Phakathi (Senior Researcher) attended the 'SPSS - Putting Statistics into Practice' course.

Members of staff are hoping to avail themselves of various opportunities during the 2010/11 year. We also contribute to development via teaching and supervision:

- Graeme Gotz teaches a semester course, 'Johannesburg as a City in Africa', to 3rd year planning students in the School of Architecture and Planning at Wits University;
- David Everatt is supervising 7 Masters and 2 PhD students at the Graduate School of Public and Development Management.

Financial status

The 2008/09 Annual Report did not include an audited financial report as the organisation was only three months old. Subsequently, the Board agreed to the appointment of Price Waterhouse Coopers (PWC) as the GCRO auditor and we have been audited for both 2008/09 and for 2009/10. The brief was that GCRO had to be compliant with both the university standards of financial probity and the Public Finance Management Act (PFMA). We are proud to report that we received an unqualified audit for both financial years.

The financial statements are appended at the end of this report, and can be downloaded from our website.



GCRO is strongly committed to making data as widely available as possible, because by doing so we believe greater value is extracted

Work and challenges

GCRO is a publicly funded unit, and we regard ourselves as answerable to both the anchor universities, governments (local and provincial) and, indirectly, to the citizens of the GCR. The work we do with our grant is open to all, and shared free of charge with anyone who wants it. For example, the raw data from the 'Quality of Life' survey referred to above has already been given to some 20 individuals and research agencies. The only condition is that they, in turn, use it for teaching or research and not for private profit. Our strategic plans, workplans, audited financial statements and annual reports are all available for download from our website. Wherever possible – and after some tough negotiating, in many cases – when we purchase datasets (mainly for our GIS website - see more on this below), we try to ensure that the licence extends to students and academics at both our partner universities, so that the data can be used for both teaching and research/publication purposes. In essence, GCRO is strongly committed to making data as widely available as possible, because by doing so we believe greater value is extracted – too often data is guarded and protected, for little reason, and loses value as a result.

Terms of engagement

The GCRO's current stance is that we do *not* use our grant to subsidise the costs of bidding for research work. Our grant is to carry out short-, medium- and long-term research in line with the GCR developmental

agenda, not to bid for further work. It would also skew the market and potentially damage our colleagues in the research community more generally, whether at universities, in non-government organisations (NGOs) or in the private sector, who (in most cases) bid for work at competitive rates, without subsidies.

This is important in another respect, one that has become clearer over the first 18 months of GCRO's life, namely the need to stay focused on our core business and not become 'just another group of consultants'. This is more easily said than done, since GCRO is government-funded, and government departments and agencies not unreasonably feel they have a claim on GCRO's time and resources. Moreover, they commonly approach GCRO with important and exciting policy questions. As a result, GCRO fields calls from government (literally) on a weekly basis. Wherever possible, GCRO tries to assist, either directly, or by creating relationships between government (need) and appropriate academics at either university (supply).

In our initial year or so of existence, it has been (and still is) necessary to establish GCRO, to give it an identity and (we hope) a reputation for serving government and the academy well. Where we do take on work that is not in our annual workplan, we charge for any direct costs that may arise. The danger, however, is that we spread ourselves too thin, and/or try to be all things to all people, and lose sight of our 'value proposition'. As time goes by, GCRO will be working with our Board to develop 'terms of engagement' and streamline the way we work with government (and other sectors) so that we remain focused on our core deliverables and programmatic agenda whilst, where possible, responding to *ad hoc* requests that are in line with our priorities.


Three-year workplan

Key to this will be developing the next three-year over-arching workplan that will focus on a core set of intellectual questions and their practical



expression in the context of the developmental priorities facing the GCR. These may be sustainability, or spatial growth, or the green economy, or integrated governance, and so on. In essence, they will boil down to one question: how to make the GCR more of a reality than it is at present in the lives of people who live and work in it. The specific themes will be developed by the GCRO staff and Board working together. Once the 'big picture' is in place, it will inform each year's workplan. This will allow GCRO to plan medium- to long-term projects, and balance our time and budget between those and responding to short-term needs of government, an equally important part of our work.

That said, the fact that demand for our services has increased exponentially in a short space of time – GCRO has only had a staff complement beyond the Executive Director since May/June 2009 – speaks volumes for the quality of work the Observatory has been involved with and of our outputs. There have been areas where we could have done better, as there always will be; but GCRO is proud of a year of remarkable achievements, from completing the massive 'Quality of Life' survey on



time and within budget (and using satellite imagery as a back-check technique for the first time!), to hosting an extremely successful first Mission of experts from the OECD, to organising an interactive round-table for academics and government on violent community protests, to our work on xenophobia, participating in a project on service delivery for the Presidency, collaborating with academics from Wits and UJ in a range of research projects, putting in place a remarkable interactive GIS website, and so forth. These are recorded below.

Baseline year

This has been our first full year of operation, and is thus ‘baseline year’ (in reality, gathering baseline data will take at least a couple of years) – a key period for gathering data against which we will subsequently measure progress in the GCR. Core to the GCRO’s work is benchmarking the GCR globally, which includes data gathering and analysis to identify how the GCR scores globally across a range of measures. Both the ‘Quality of Life’ survey and the OECD Territorial Review (discussed below) are key in this regard. Then we have to research (which includes commissioning relevant academic experts) *why* GCR scores the way it does, and package this in forms that government and other sectors find accessible. Finally, in the longer-term, we will develop working relations with other urban observatories and researchers/academics so as to develop a body of GCR research and a suite of policy options for government to consider if we are to improve performance in any given area.

The first step – in itself a highly complex issue – is to try and understand exactly where the GCR is, how big its economy and population are, to establish its transport, population and other densities, the size of the real economy and of the unemployment challenge, the nature and impact of inequality and so on, in order to find appropriate points of comparison and thus appropriate observatories and researchers with which to partner. Collating accurate, recent datasets has proved enormously challenging – and expensive – but slowly GCRO is putting together a

profile of the city-region that has never been seen before, and which will soon move the point of comparison away from Johannesburg (which is tiny in comparison with, say, Sao Paulo or New York) and to the city-region, a more appropriate point of comparison. Growing the ‘brand name’ recognition for the GCR and Gauteng – which is internationally way behind Johannesburg – is part of the challenge. While GCRO staff are working on these long-term, complex projects, we are also responding to short-term needs, ranging from departmental requests for inputs, policy papers and so on in areas ranging from sustainability to economic growth and development, and beyond.

A possible model?

Interestingly, GCRO is also offering other provincial governments a possible model for academic/government partnerships. Toward the end of the period under review, GCRO was visited by representatives from various provincial Premier’s Offices looking for ways in which to form productive partnerships with their local universities (where these exist – Mpumalanga, for example, lacks a local university whose knowledge base it can easily draw on). It seems that the long period of reliance on private sector consultancies, many of whom are good, but many of whom charge excessive prices for shoddy work, may be drawing to a close, and governments are looking to universities to help them meet the massive challenges of post-apartheid governance. The question is, can universities rise to the challenge, and through what type of structure and engagement?

In partial fulfilment of this role, GCRO acts as a portal, where governments in the GCR can approach the Observatory in order to ask for assistance in sourcing the best academic research or researchers in their given area.

The Research Advisory Committee

During the year under review, the RAC was established. The RAC's role lies at the heart of the conceptualisation of the GCRO and its role in relation to developing and implementing a GCR research agenda in line with the GCR's developmental priorities. The RAC brings together some two-score senior academics and public intellectuals to vigorously debate key issues with GCRO staff and Board members and to contribute to the development of the research priorities. The aim, over time, is to draw RAC members into the work of GCRO as partners, as well as their playing the role of intellectual sounding board and providing external quality control in relation to the GCRO's work.

Challenges

As we look to the future, a host of exciting challenges face the GCRO. In the short-term, we need to build capacity and firm up our reputation. But beyond the organisational issues is the challenge of the GCR itself – how do we take a perspective and make it 'real'? The Gauteng City-Region is not a 'real' place – it has no formal borders or boundaries, no officials, no budget, no official status or existence – it is a perspective, a way of understanding a social economy in space. If the economy is to grow – and to grow in an inclusive way that fosters decent work and lessens inequality – then adopting a city-region perspective is key for government and the private sector alike. If the poverty and inequality bequeathed to us by apartheid are to be eradicated – for example, the massive numbers of people living in former 'homelands' on the northern borders of the GCR and commuting daily to work or search for work in cities such as Tshwane – then governments, provincial and local, private sector and civil society are all going to have to work together at a city-region level, transcending the local and provincial administrative boundaries that currently cut across the GCR.

RAC Members

Prof Harold Annegarn
University of Johannesburg

Prof Thea De Wet
University of Johannesburg

Dr Vusi Gumede
University of Johannesburg

Dr Lulu Gwagwa
Lerako Investments

Prof Phil Harrison
University of the Witwatersrand

Prof Ian Jandrell
University of the Witwatersrand

Dr Meshack Khosa
Fresh Thinking Capital

Prof Alan Mabin
University of the Witwatersrand

Prof Bhekie Mamba
University of Johannesburg

Mr Hassen Mohammed
The Presidency

Prof Jane Morris
University of Pretoria

Prof Michael Muller
Visiting Fellow at P&DM

Prof Mark Oranje
University of Pretoria

Prof Edgar Pieterse
University of Cape Town

Prof Daniel Plaatjies
University of the Witwatersrand

Prof Rex Van Olst
University of the Witwatersrand

Prof Jackie Walters
University of Johannesburg

The challenge facing the GCRO is how to contribute to ensuring that the GCR perspective takes shape and impacts on policy and practice. The GCR is a reality to the extent that the perspective accurately describes a complex set of relationships that tie together spaces across multiple local authorities, both economically and socially within the GCR and between the GCR and its hinterlands in South Africa, the region and the continent. But giving it shape should not be confused with any attempt to try and create some new metropolitan space and government – it is about making the city-region a reality in the workplaces, schools, taxis and buses, social spaces and living spaces, of all who live and work in the GCR. The goal is that, when decisions are made – at all levels of society, government and economy – they account for the city-region as a whole. In this massive challenge, ours is a supportive role, but an important one.

We now report on the key activities undertaken in the April 2009 to March 2010 period, which are our first steps towards fulfilling that role.





03 | GCRO: year one

GCRO was operational for three months of the 2008/09 year, during which only the Executive Director was in place. That period was a combination of developing systems, locating GCRO within the host universities – who contribute significantly to our resources through in-kind support – and related activities. It was also a period when many of the major projects reported below were commissioned, including the OECD Territorial Review and the 'Quality of Life' survey.

Applied research

Central to the GCRO's work is a series of medium- to longer term applied research programmes and projects. These projects differ from GCRO's short-term initiatives in that they are generally not short-term; are not occasioned by an immediate policy imperative; and are more in-depth, substantive and analytically complex. For the most part they will be initiated through GCRO planning processes, rather than commissioned or requested by a specific government department. Their output will usually be a more detailed analytical report or set of academic publications, as well as policy documents of some sort. They are key to our role combining academic and applied research: long-term projects allow us to help government, business and civil society to think and plan in the long-term best interests of the GCR as a whole, while also potentially allowing us to raise issues not yet on government's agenda, but which should be there.

In 2009/10 GCRO initiated and/or ran with a number of longer-term applied research projects.

OECD Territorial Review

The GPG, in partnership with local government in Gauteng and with the support of the Presidency, is undertaking a Territorial Review with the OECD, based in Paris, France. Based on the GCRO's role in benchmarking the GCR, the GPG mandated the GCRO to facilitate the process. A Territorial Review follows a well-established OECD methodology to thoroughly assess the economy, social development, spatial development, governance and sustainability of a target area, usually a large city or region of cities (such as the GCR). It involves an 18-month research and consultation process that will deliver a comprehensive report on the challenges and opportunities facing the city-region, in comparative perspective. Its place in our formative, 'baseline' period, is clear.



Delegates from the first OECD mission: working meetings, discussions and a tour of Soweto, the Kliptown Freedom Charter memorial

The OECD Territorial Review is the GCRO's largest project in the short- to medium-term. It has also been proposed to OECD that their published report can form the basis of a subsequent GCRO book project. Hence, work on the project will likely continue into the 2011/12 financial year.

The Review process formally got under way during 2009/10, after an initial letter of commitment was signed in March 2009. The GCRO Executive Director, Prof David Everatt, participated in the Venice OECD Territorial Review process in May 2009 to get a sense of what the process entailed, and to formally engage the secretariat of the OECD on how the GCR process would unfold. The OECD Territorial Review concept and process was approved by the Executive Council of the GPG and a



Steering Committee involving representatives of provincial and local government in Gauteng, the GCRO and experts, was convened by the Gauteng Planning Commission.

Prof Alan Mabin (Head of Department of Architecture and Planning at Wits), and Dr Lumenga Bonga-Bonga (Head of Department of Economics and Econometrics at UJ) were commissioned to provide a quality control and advisory role over the process, and ensure that both partner universities were fully involved in the Review.

Much of the work undertaken in 2009/10 involved the research for a substantial Background Report that GCRO must deliver to the OECD. Research was organised against a lengthy standard questionnaire provided by the OECD as an organising framework. The bulk of the research was conducted internally by GCRO staff, although parts of the questionnaire where GCRO could not assemble the required information was contracted to external service providers. Initial indicative drafts of some sections of the Background Report were provided to the OECD in December 2009, and a much fuller document in 2010.

GCRO also arranged the first mission of the OECD secretariat from 15-19 February 2010. On behalf of the GPG, GCRO co-ordinated a week of meetings and tours around the GCR. Meetings were convened with members of the interim Steering Committee, national government department representatives, business and labour leaders, and civil society leaders, amongst others. Representatives of provincial departments and local government in Gauteng attended various sessions throughout the week. In total, approximately 140 participants attended the various sessions.

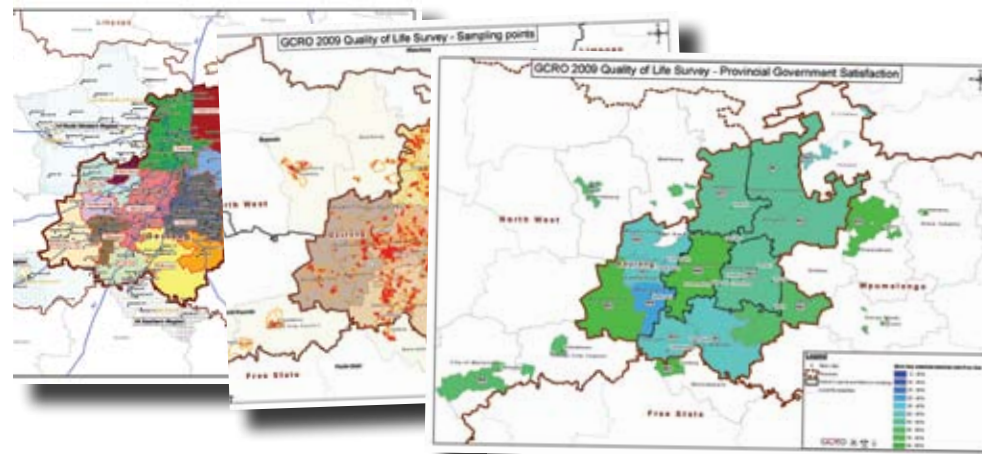
Work on the Territorial Review continues into 2010/11. The full Background Report will be submitted to the OECD. A second Mission of OECD representatives, as well as external international experts contracted

to review aspects of Gauteng's strengths and weaknesses, will be held in July 2010. The final Review document is scheduled to be presented to the OECD in May 2011. Before then, the Steering Committee will have the opportunity to engage with both the findings and the recommendations made by the OECD.

The 'Quality of Life' survey

An important project to generate new data for the GCR was the 2009 'Quality of Life' survey, commissioned by GCRO towards the end of the 2008/09 financial year. The survey measures a wide range of issues such as levels of satisfaction with government services, poverty, socio-economic status, movement within the GCR and quality of life. This survey allows comparisons across the entire GCR, including the economic footprints outside of Gauteng, with a sample large enough to allow analysis both within and across municipalities, not generally possible in previous province-wide surveys. The 'Quality of Life' survey also provides a bottom-up perspective to enable values and attitudes to be mapped and analysed on top of socio-economic variables.

The fieldwork was completed in August and September of 2009, with 6 636 respondents interviewed across 569 wards. The final dataset was delivered in December 2009 following an intensive verification during November where fieldwork coordinate capture errors were identified



using GIS – a first for both GCRO and for the fieldwork agency Data Research Africa (DRA). GCRO has been analysing the data and a set of indices (covering for example poverty and decent work) have already been developed. This work formed the basis for an official media launch scheduled for April 2010 and possible academic articles on key findings from the survey will be defined as trends emerge from the analysis. A legal data sharing agreement has been drawn up to allow access to anyone interested in analysing the data for research and non-financial gain. These successful activities fall into the period to be covered by the 2010/11 Annual Report.

State of the Gauteng City-Region Review

The State of the Gauteng City-Region will be a 'report' based on information collected from the 'Quality of Life' survey, OECD process, benchmark indicators development, and GIS data acquisition. The core product will be an interactive CD, also available as a website linked to the GCRO home page, with 'Flash' graphics and video-content. Much of the data generated by the two above-mentioned projects will be used to help shape the parameters of what promises to be a highlight of 2010/11.



'Drilldown'

GCRO is working with the City of Johannesburg, which is in partnership with a Washington firm, Social Compact, to conduct a 'DrillDown' analysis of the Johannesburg Inner City. Social Compact's DrillDown method, pioneered in US cities, uses innovative techniques to determine population and spending power in order to unlock investment interest in under-developed urban areas. The method is being piloted simultaneously in Johannesburg and Bogotá with World Bank support.

Various datasets were collected from the City of Johannesburg for Social Compact in mid-2009 and where appropriate and possible, GCRO assisted Social Compact to understand the dataset by mapping it. GCRO also assisted Social Compact to clarify to the City of Johannesburg and various external holders of data, what further information was required for a composite picture. The process slowed in late 2009 due to capacity constraints in Social Compact, and a choice to focus first on the Bogotá part of the study. Meetings were held with the project lead from Social Compact in mid-March 2010 to try to refocus the work. Continuation of the project into the 2010/11 financial year seems conditional on Social Compact securing more funding from the World Bank.

Developing benchmarks

The aim of the key benchmark indicators project is to develop key indicators with which to measure the performance, development progress and 'competitiveness' of the GCR and benchmark it against its own performance over time as well as against city-regions elsewhere in the world, while exploring options for indicators that allow worthwhile international benchmarking and tell the GCR story. A draft city-region indicators paper, and a bank of possible indicators, was completed at the end of June 2009. This fed into the finalisation of the questionnaire for the 'Quality of Life' survey, which together with the OECD Territorial Review will generate information for a number of indicators.

GCRO proposes that from the bank of possible indicators a 'shortlist' of between 30-40 core benchmark indicators be distilled. Getting data for all 40, and gathering comparative data for an agreed set of comparator city-regions, will be an iterative process. At least one and possibly more academic papers are expected to flow from this project as it engages with indicator design, analysis and narratives of cities and city-regions. The GCRO also arranged for initial comments to be given to the GPG Premier's Office on its 2004-2009 development indicators work in November 2009. Further comments, focusing on data sources and analysis, were provided to the Premier's Office in February and March 2010. Continued GCRO support and a working agreement regarding the GPG indicators, is to be discussed in more detail in April 2010. It is important to note that the GPG indicators and those GCRO develops for the city-region may be different in form (in order to be internationally comparable) and extent (the city-region is a functional social-economy that does not necessarily align directly with provincial boundaries).

Xenophobia research

During 2009/10, GCRO and Strategy & Tactics jointly commissioned a national study of civil society responses to the xenophobic violence of 2008. The study is intended to feed policy-oriented recommendations back to civil society and others regarding xenophobia itself, and lessons learned about strengthening civil society.

A geographically and institutionally diverse network of researchers working on different case studies was established. The network actively engaged in a process of regular data and information-sharing, contributing to the richness of individual and collective research. Partners include the Centre for Sociological Research at UJ, the Centre for Civil Society at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, a staff member from the University of the Western Cape, a member of Amandla, a colleague from the University of Nairobi, and Strategy and Tactics, amongst others.

GCRO staff took responsibility for two case studies, one on the role of the corporate sector, with a specific focus on the mining industry, and the other on the role of churches. In addition, David Everatt (representing both GCRO and Strategy & Tactics) wrote a case study on results from focus group discussions recorded shortly before and immediately after the xenophobic violence in 2008.

First drafts of all the case studies were submitted end of September 2009. A two-day workshop was then organised from 19-20 October 2009, together with all other researchers in the network, to consider the draft case studies. External readers were secured, to provide an outsider's view of the reports. A proposed structure for a synthesis report was developed at the workshop – the 18 case studies had to be drawn together into a set of synthesis reports, and all recommendations teased out.

Following comments received at the workshop, final case study reports were due end November 2009, and first drafts synthesis report chapters were submitted in January 2010. During February 2010 feedback/verification workshops were held in Johannesburg, Cape Town and



Durban in order to broadly disseminate the results of the research to various stakeholders, including those who had been respondents, and to get their feedback on the findings. The project phase ended after the last quarter of the 2009/10 financial year, but this project continues in 2010/11 with the production of a book based on the synthesis chapters and a special edition of *Politikon* to publish a number of case studies for an academic audience. Press briefings have occurred, and the findings have received considerable media attention.

Service Delivery Project: research into municipal revenue systems and processes

This is a 'study from below' – an ethnography – of organisational culture, dynamics, structures, and formal and informal procedures and rationales that impact on the functionality (and/or dysfunctionality) of revenue systems in two South African cities. It is part of a wider study, co-ordinated by the Sociology of Work Project (SWOP) at Wits, and conducted under the auspices of the Presidency, into the organisational reasons for state institutions not being able to effectively and efficiently deliver quality services. On completion, the case studies will be synthesised first into a report for the Presidency and then into a formal book for publication in 2010/11.

GCRO was approached by SWOP to work with Roland Hunter, a specialist in municipal finance to conduct a case study on the way revenue and billings processes work in two cities, Johannesburg and eThekweni. The study aims to bring a fresh perspective – a view from below based on careful participant observation – on the reasons some municipal revenue systems and processes apparently work well whilst others apparently do not.

The research process got underway with the development of a research guideline, and a first phase of fieldwork was conducted from 23-27

November 2009 in the City of Johannesburg Revenue and Customer Relations Management Department. Preliminary findings from this research were presented at a project workshop held on 3 February 2010. The first phase of fieldwork in eThekweni was undertaken in the week of 8-12 March 2010.

The project extends into 2010/11, with a second, and more substantial, phase of fieldwork planned for April and May. First drafts of the research findings are due to be submitted to the Presidency in June 2010.


Mapping urban growth

GCRO has linked up with a project to map urban growth within the GCR from 1960 to 2008. The project forms part of a doctoral study by UJ PhD candidate, Brian Mubiwa, entitled: "The Impact of transport corridors on urban development in the Gauteng Global City-Region". Part of the analysis will use aerial photography from the 1960's and 1970's together with satellite imagery from 1989, 2000 and 2008, to assess changes in land use over the past 50 years. This research will present a fascinating picture over time, of the urban evolution and birth of the GCR. GCRO has assisted Brian in obtaining some of the imagery datasets to be used in the analysis, with the initial results expected to become available towards the middle of 2010. The land-use data will form an important component of the spatial change in the GCR project.

Future planning

Medium- to longer-term applied research will likely become the main part of the GCRO's work going forward. Considerable time was spent during 2009/10 identifying appropriate and feasible programmes of applied research to be taken forward over the next year and beyond. A plan was approved by the GCRO's Board. While the projects listed here will all be taken forward, and completed, in 2010/11, GCRO already started gearing up for other approved projects to start in April 2010.





These include, amongst others, detailed research into the Gauteng space economy, into spatial change, into the nature of the GCR and how stakeholders perceive it, and into the benefit that the 2010 FIFA Soccer World Cup is likely to have on micro-enterprise in the GCR.

Short-term projects

As we noted earlier, GCRO has to balance the longer-term research projects with short-term work. For example, GCRO undertook two projects for the Gauteng Department of Economic Development in 2009/10, starting with a benchmarking study into how cities and regions in other parts of the world were responding to the economic crisis. Strategic support to the department continued with participation on the Steering Committee that set up the provincial Economic Recovery Summit. The benchmarking study has been widely disseminated, and now forms the first in the new GCRO series of Occasional Papers, published by GCRO.

The second project was a large and complex project, but by necessity squeezed into the period November 2009-January 2010, namely drafting a strategy for a developmental green economy for Gauteng.

GCRO's work on the responses of cities and city-regions to the global financial crisis indicated that creating 'green jobs' and investing in a low carbon future would be key to counter-cyclical spending world-wide. As a result, the Gauteng MEC for Economic Development, Firoz Cachalia, asked GCRO to draft a 'green economy' strategy to feed into the evolving Gauteng Growth Employment and Development Strategy.

GCRO completed the 'Strategy for a Developmental Green Economy in Gauteng' in January 2010, working with experts from a range of sustainability institutes both in the academy (from the universities of Cape Town and Stellenbosch as well as Wits) and the private sector. GCRO and the Gauteng Department of Economic Development (GDED) arranged a 'ratification workshop' where multiple GPG departments

attended a day-long workshop where Prof Mark Swilling, one of the lead authors, presented the strategy which was then debated by the various departmental representatives present. GCRO is negotiating a longer-term engagement with GDED (on behalf of GPG more broadly) in this key area.

Other *ad hoc* support

GCRO provides on-going *ad hoc* support and information to provincial government, the local sphere and others. These are listed in detail in our activity reports that can be downloaded from www.gcro.ac.za. Much of this reflects our role as a portal where government can find what it needs from the academy.

Government/academia portal

Government and universities in the GCR are still developing close working relationships. Some distance between the two is both understandable and desirable – but the need for points of contact is equally clear, and GCRO is precisely one of those points. Academics need space to do 'disinterested' research without the (additional) pressure to produce policy recommendations or meet externally set deadlines; government benefits enormously from a vigorous engagement with an independent, critically-engaged academy, whether through debate or innovation or foresight.

GCRO has an explicit collaborative function. Its role as a 'portal' is envisioned in terms of helping government access academic expertise and knowledge; and in turn linking academics with decision-makers and policy platforms. This is combined with the grant we receive – we can both put parties together and, where appropriate, provide some funding as well. GCRO's 'portal function' will assist in enhancing mutual understanding and building relationships between government and academia.

The RAC has been created with this goal in mind. The RAC is a body of senior-level academics with some private sector representation, which is convened by GCRO at least six times a year. It is responsible for helping design a research agenda for the GCR and providing foresight inputs on relevant policy issues and research. The inaugural RAC meeting was held on 16 March 2010 and was chaired by Wits University Deputy Vice-Chancellor for Research, Professor Belinda Bozzoli. Already the RAC has debated the Gauteng 2055 planning document, the GCRO 'Quality of Life' survey, brainstormed the characteristics of 'a vibrant, futuristic, Afropolitan Gauteng City-Region' and other issues.

Bringing the universities and City of Johannesburg together

GCRO was tasked by participants at a City/UJ/Wits meeting to help facilitate development of a new Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the three parties. The basis from the side of the City was that the existing MoU had somewhat lost momentum, while from the side of the universities was a desire to raise the level of engagement from that of 'service provider' to one of 'strategic partner'. Given the key role that academic/city partnerships have played world-wide, GCRO happily took on the role.

After a series of meetings, GCRO has submitted a MoU to the City, where it has gone into the cycles that precede political approval. Once approved, this MoU will formalise a strategic collective partnership amongst GCRO, Wits, UJ, and the City of Johannesburg.

It is possible that the University of South Africa (UNISA) may soon be joining this partnership. UNISA is the largest university in South Africa and also one of the largest correspondence universities in the world. The possible addition of UNISA to this already powerful university-government alliance, will be welcomed by all.



▲ RAC members: Dr Julian Rumbelow (visitor, HSRC), Prof Adam Habib, Prof Jane Morris, Dr Meshack Khoza, Prof Ian Jandrell, Prof Belinda Bozzoli, Mr Khulekani Mathe, Prof Mike Muller

Data, data infrastructure, data visualisation, indicators and benchmarks

This focus area concentrates on the collection of data, surveys, development of new data sources, GIS mapping and analysis work, indicators and creation of innovative data projects.

A key interface between GCRO and local and provincial government is through the GCRO website. The first phase of the GCRO website project was rapidly deployed on 30 June 2009 with information regarding GCRO projects, news and events, staff, board membership, and contact details. During the second phase, various website design and content enhancements were identified and an improved redesigned website went live on 5 February 2010. New features included detailed descriptions of the GCR and the GCRO, downloadable maps, a full description of each of the GCRO's current and archived projects, and downloadable GCRO reports, presentations and data spreadsheets. The development of the GCRO website will be an ongoing process with a third phase scheduled

for the 2010/11 financial year to incorporate an online interactive State of the GCR application.

The main GCRO website now includes a link to a publicly accessible interactive GIS mapping website to be developed in 2010. This GIS website project coincides with Chris Wray's Masters study: "A Web 2.0 G-government solution for the GCRO". GCRO is working with the Wits-based Johannesburg Centre for Software Engineering (JCSE) to develop this website in an Adobe Flex viewer format. A design specification was prepared in February 2010 which includes integrating Google base map layers with GCRO administrative layers and various dynamic themes such as demographics and 2009 'Quality of Life' survey results linked to pop-up graphs. The specification has been accepted by the JCSE and two students from the JCSE were identified to assist with the development of the interactive mapping site. The students started working from GCRO's offices in March 2010.

In order to begin to understand the GCR and obtain data for spatial analysis and inputs for the interactive GIS mapping website, it was crucial that various GIS data sourcing projects were quickly initiated to source datasets covering the city-region. Various meetings were held with key institutions such as StatsSA, DBSA, GPG Economic Planning, GPG Roads and Transport, the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), Eskom etc., to establish GIS data networks and obtain copies of the latest available data. The list of datasets obtained so far includes:

- StatsSA: Census 2001, 2009 wards with census 2001 data, Community Survey 2007;
- CSIR SAC: SPOT (2008) and Quickbird (2007) satellite imagery;
- Landsat imagery for the years 1989/91 and 2000/01;
- Municipal Demarcation Board: Administrative boundaries and base data (such as main roads, railway etc.);
- SASSA: poverty node data (2007);

- Chief Directorate Surveys and Mapping: 1:50000 base maps;
- GPG Department of Economic Development: Development Planning: Gauteng GIS datasets;
- GPG Department of Roads and Transport: GPG base data sets;
- DBSA: income, population and unemployment per municipality.

These datasets will form the basis of the mapping and analysis for the GIS website, State of the GCR report and OECD Territorial Review, and have already provided input for datasets produced by the GCRO, such as a poverty index for the GCR and population density mapping. GCRO will continue to break down inter-governmental data barriers to open up access to public sector information. GCRO will also continue to expand the GCR spatial database, where appropriate, through the purchase of commercially produced data such as satellite-derived data on land-cover and urban change from Geo-Terra Image and other providers.

'Visitors series'

GCRO initiated a 'visitors series' in 2010. This aims to secure visiting high-level researchers, or practitioners aiming to reflect on and write up their work experiences, to work within the GCRO offices for a defined period. The visitors series kicked off in 2010 with NRF Chair in Urban Planning and Modelling, Phil Harrison, taking up space in GCRO offices on 1 April 2010. (The visit came to a rather sudden end with GCRO's unavoidable move into temporary office space at the end of August, and with Prof Harrison finding alternative space in the School of Architecture and Planning.) The visit laid a foundation for ongoing co-operation with Prof Harrison as a member of the RAC, through the launching of a joint seminar series, and through the design of a collaborative book series project on spatial change in Gauteng – but also made space for a new 'Visitor' once GCRO moves back to our offices in University Corner.



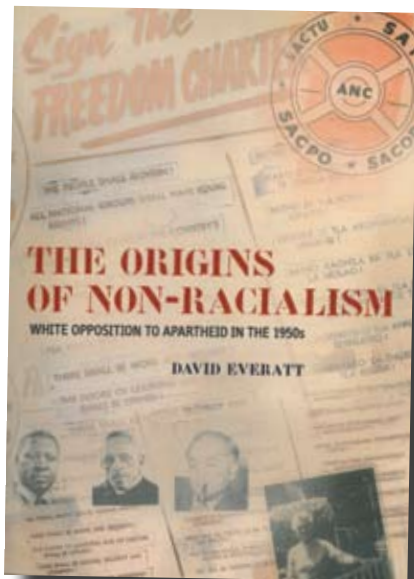
04

GCRO: research outputs 2009/10

Academic and other publications are critical for an academic institution, particularly those appearing in peer reviewed journals, which are key in maintaining standards and pushing researchers to higher standards. This will grow over time – GCRO has not been in existence long enough to generate enough of our 'own' data, and so publications tend to reflect what staff were working on prior to joining GCRO.

Books

Everatt, D. (2009) *The origins of non-racialism: white opposition to apartheid 1945-1960* (Wits University Press, Johannesburg).



Journal articles – peer reviewed

Everatt, D. (2009) 'The undeserving poor: poverty, politics and provision in the poorest nodes of South Africa', *Politikon*, 36(1), July 2009.

Phakathi, S. (forthcoming) 'Workplace change and frontline supervision in deep-level gold mining: Managerial rhetoric or practice', *Transformation* (Accepted for publication in January 2010 as part of the Journal's special issue to be displayed at the 2010 International Sociological Association (ISA) Conference in Sweden).

Everatt D., Marais H., and Dube N. (2011) 'A review of public participation in local development in South Africa', *Politikon*, 37(2-3), December 2010.

Journal articles – non-peer reviewed

Phakathi, S. (2009) 'Planisa! Gold Miners' Underground Practices', *South African Labour Bulletin*, 33(5):13-15, December 2009.

Wray C. (2010) 'Working towards a successful Gauteng City-Region, *Position IT*, Jan/Feb 2010, pp. 38-43.

Chapters in books (peer reviewed)

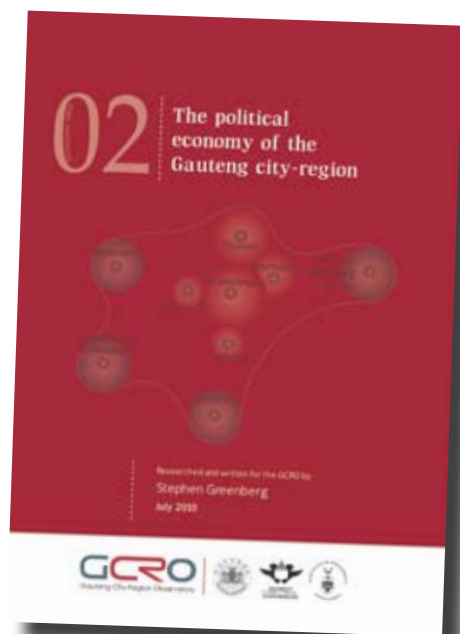
Everatt, D. (2009) 'Despatches from the 'war on poverty' in South Africa's poorest nodes, 1996-2006' in McLennan A. and Munslow B. (eds.) *The State and the Politics of Delivery in South Africa* (Wits P&DM Governance Series, Wits University Press, Johannesburg).

Research reports

Everatt, D., Gotz, G., Phakathi, S. and Makgetla, N. (2009). Benchmarking the ways cities and regions around the world are responding to the global recession. Research report prepared for the Gauteng Department of Economic Development, August 2009.



Greenberg, S. (2009). The political economy of the Gauteng City Region: A review of literature. Commissioned by GCRO, September 2009.



Greenberg, S. (2009). The Gauteng City Region: Consolidating hegemony or transformative potential? GCRO commissioned occasional paper.

Spencer, F., Swilling, M., Everatt, D., Muller, M., Schulschenk, J., du Toit, J., Meyer, R. and Pierce, W. (2010). A strategy for a developmental green economy for Gauteng. Report prepared for the Gauteng Department of Economic Development, January 2010.

Nyar, A. (2010). The response of the corporate sector to the May 2008 xenophobic violence. Case study research report submitted to The Atlantic Philanthropies and Strategy and Tactics, March 2010.

Phakathi, S. (2010). The response of churches to the xenophobic violence

of May 2008. Case study research report submitted to The Atlantic Philanthropies and Strategy and Tactics, March 2010.

Everatt, D. (2010). 'That violence was just the beginning ...': Views on 'foreigners' and the May 2008 xenophobic violence as expressed in focus groups at the time. Case study research report submitted to The Atlantic Philanthropies and Strategy and Tactics, March 2010.

Presentations made at conferences/seminars/workshops

David Everatt (April 2009) presented on GCRO to South African Cities Network: Indicators Reference Group.

Sizwe Phakathi (June 2009) 'Race and the changing nature of work in the South African gold mining workplace'. Hard Labour: Sociology and the Transformation of Working Life, A Colloquium in Honour of Professor Edward Webster, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, 27-28 June 2009.

Sizwe Phakathi (June/July 2009) 'Worker reactions to the stope team incentive scheme: Manufacturing consent or conflict?' South African Sociological Association's (SASA) Annual Conference, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, 28 June - 2 July 2009.

David Everatt (July 2009) 'The Gauteng ANC election campaign: data and implications'. P&DM, Wits.

David Everatt (September 2009) 'Class, nationalism and non-racialism: the search for convergence'. 'Yusuf Dadoo Centenary Conference: Marxism, non-racialism and the shaping of South Africa's liberation struggle', University of Johannesburg, September 2009.

Graeme Gotz (September 2009) 'Spatial development outcomes in

South African cities'. World Bank and National Department of Human Settlements Workshop, Pretoria, 29 September 2009.

Graeme Gotz (October 2009) 'On walls – safety in the South African city'. Goethe Institute, GTZ and CSIR Seminar on Cracking Walls, Johannesburg, 6 October 2009.

Graeme Gotz (October 2009) 'Possibilities for planning the South African City'. Wits School of Architecture & Planning Beyond Modernism workshop to launch the UN Habitat Sustainable Cities Report, Johannesburg, 21 October 2009.

Chris Wray (October 2009) 'The GCRO: Changing the way GIS data is visualized and accessed in the Gauteng City Region'. GIMS User Conference, Drakensburg, 21-23 October 2009.

Graeme Gotz (October 2009) 'Visualisations? Infrastructures? Institutional conditions?' Think Metropole Workshop, Wits School of Architecture & Planning, Johannesburg, 22 October 2009.

David Everatt (October 2009) 'Think Metropole, Think ... city-region, Think ... democratic space or planner's wet-dream?' Think Metropole Workshop, Wits School of Architecture & Planning, Johannesburg, 22 October 2009.

Graeme Gotz (November 2009) 'Making local government work better: City structures and governance', DBSA Knowledge Week, Midrand, 4 November 2009.

Chris Wray (November 2009) 'The GCRO: Changing the way GIS data is visualized and accessed in the Gauteng City Region'. Geo-Information Society of South Africa (GISSA), North-West inaugural meeting, Potchefstroom, 12 November 2009.

David Everatt (November 2009), 'Access to services, social cohesion and xenophobia', presented to National Department of Social Development national conference on social cohesion and xenophobia, Pretoria.

Annsilla Nyar (November 2009) "'Re-inventing the Foreigner': Critical Reflections of Identity Politics in South Africa". South African Association of Political Studies (SAAPS) Colloquium, 19-20 November 2009, University of KwaZulu-Natal.

Graeme Gotz (November 2009) 'Transformation of Human Settlements'. DBSA internal learning session, Midrand, 27 November 2009.

Annsilla Nyar (February 2010) 'The response of the corporate sector to the May 2008 xenophobic violence'. The Wedgewood, Melville, 3 February 2010.

Sizwe Phakathi (February 2010) 'The response of churches to the xenophobic violence of May 2008'. The Wedgewood, Melville, 3 February 2010.

Chris Wray (February 2010) 'Working towards a successful Gauteng City-Region: the role of GIS in the GCRO'. GISSA Gauteng AGM, Centurion, 25 February 2010.

David Everatt (February 2010) 'What is non racialism – past and current debates'. Deepening non-racialism conference, Ahmed Kathrada Foundation, Lilliesleaf Farm, 27 February 2010.

David Everatt, Chris Wray and Graeme Gotz (March 2010) 'The City-Region now'. Think Metropole workshop – how large city-region thinking and action have been changing in diverse ways, Wits School of Architecture & Planning, 4 March 2010.

Key conferences, seminars and symposia attended by GCRO

Sizwe Phakathi (May 2009) World Social Science Forum, International Social Science Council (ISSC), Bergen, Norway, 10-12 May 2009.

Annsilla Nyar, Graeme Gotz, David Everatt, Chris Wray and Sizwe Phakathi (June 2009) South African City Studies Conference, Centre for Urbanism and Built Environment Studies (CUBES), University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, 24-25 June 2009.

Chris Wray (June 2009) Spatially Enabling Government Conference, Ekurhuleni, 24-25 June 2009.

Conferences, seminars and symposia organised by GCRO

17 April 2009: Colloquium on the Global Meltdown

GCRO was approached by the Gauteng Economic Development Agency (GEDA) to arrange a colloquium on the global meltdown, to help them and other GPG departments and agencies better understand the scale and likely impact of the crisis. The workshop was opened by the Vice-Chancellors of UJ and Wits, and speakers included MEC Mandla Nkomfe, Prof Alan Mabin, Dr Neva Makgetla, Ben Turok MP, DR Rudolf Gouws, Leon Louw, Simphiwe Mgcina (Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU)). The facilitated afternoon session generated good participation from local sphere participants.

22 October 2009: Think Metropole

GCRO assisted Alan Mabin to define, advertise and convene a seminar, 'Think Metropole', on 22 October 2009, as part of the Wits School of Architecture & Planning's Beyond Modernism festival. The seminar

considered the recent Grand Paris project of visualising alternative futures for the Paris region.

11 November 2009: City economies

GCRO worked with Alan Mabin to host a small discussion between interested academics and visiting senior World Bank Institute economist, Shahid Yusuf, on 11 November 2009, at the Wits School of Architecture & Planning.

1 March 2010: A sustainable green strategy for Gauteng?

In response to the global economic crisis the Gauteng Provincial Department of Economic Development commissioned both an industrial strategy and a strategy for a sustainable 'green' economy for Gauteng. GCRO co-ordinated the development of the green economy strategy, working with various specialists. On 1 March 2010, GCRO convened a seminar at the University of Johannesburg which saw Prof Mark Swilling, lead author of the green economy strategy, and Dr Susan Newman, lead on the industrial strategy, present their work to an audience of 50 participants. MEC for Economic Development, Firoz Cachalia, acted as discussant, explaining the scope and scale of the challenge facing his department. The event was chaired by David Everatt.

05 | GCRO: financial reports

Report of the independent auditors

To the members of
GAUTENG CITY-REGION OBSERVATORY (GCRO)

Report on the financial statements

We report that we have performed an audit and have examined the accounting records of the University of the Witwatersrand insofar as they relate to the Gauteng City-Region Observatory (GCRO), which are located at the University of the Witwatersrand.

Audit opinion

Based on our examination thereof, we have satisfied ourselves that the attached financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2009 are in agreement with the University of the Witwatersrand accounting records insofar as they relate to GCRO.



PricewaterhouseCoopers Inc.
Director: MA Horsfield
Registered Auditor
Johannesburg
30 June 2010

Notes to the annual financial statements

for the period ended 31 March 2009

1. Accounting policies

1.1 Basis of preparation

The annual financial statements are prepared on the historical cost basis and include the following accounting policies used by the GCRO:

1.2 Revenue recognition

Revenue received by the project for designated specific purposes arises from contracts, grants, donations and income on specifically purposed endowments. In all cases any such revenue is brought into the income statement in the financial period in which the project is entitled to use the funds.

1.3 Funds

Funds comprise specifically purposed income relating to funds that have been provided in agreements stipulating the purpose for which they may be expended and the directors have no discretion over the use of these funds.

1.4 Taxation

No provision is made for taxation as the project falls under the University of the Witwatersrand, which is exempt from taxation.

2. In-kind contributions

The following in-kind contributions were provided by the University of the Witwatersrand and the University of Johannesburg respectively R2 647 448 and R1 576 370.

3. Unexpended funds

The above unexpended funds have been committed to being expended on items required for the Gauteng City-Region Observatory's continued operations but have not physically been expended as at year end.

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3. Funding received

The total funding received by the GCRO s as follows:

	2010	2009
	R	R
Funding in the project account	3 978 947	8 065 000
Funding administered by the University of the Witwatersrand Foundation	4 900 000	
TOTAL	8 878 947	8 065 000

The amounts were received from the Gauteng Provincial Government; R8 800 000 (2009: R8 065 000 and Strategy and Tactics R78 947 (2009: nil).





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