



## 1 Changing Space, Changing City

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## 5 New staff

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## 6 International conferences

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- ▶ RGS-IGB Conference in London;
- ▶ Nordic Africa Days Conference in Uppsala; and
- ▶ IGU Conference in Krakow.

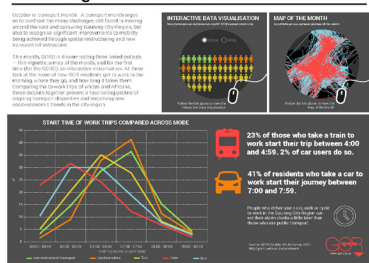
## 7 Data visualisation

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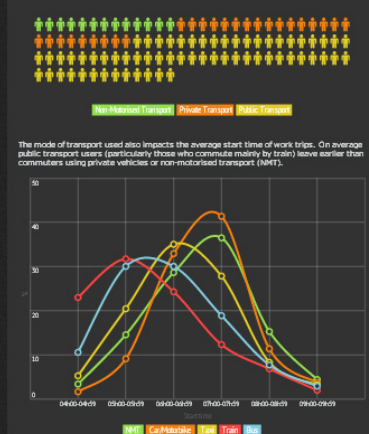
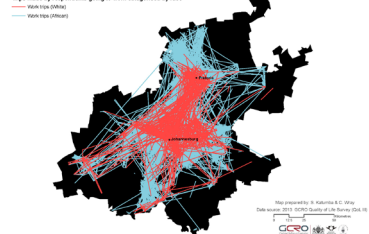
## News bytes

- ▶ Reports and publications
- ▶ Conferences, workshops and presentations
- ▶ Teaching and supervision and wider academic citizenship

### 22 Getting to work in the GCRO

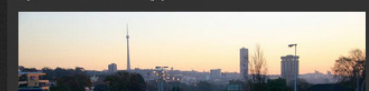


### Trips made by respondents going to work categorised by race



As illustrated here, commuting in the Gauteng City-Region is marked by historical patterns, but it is also showing some surprising new and more complex trends. In particular the relative distances to work travelled by white and African commuters suggests significant spatial and socio-economic changes underway that need deeper investigation. Future research could productively focus on:

- How does the massive development of new gated housing estates and township developments on the urban edge influence travel distance and time for different races and class groupings?
- How will the projected growth in private car use for a growing middle class influence congestion and travel time?
- How will current investment in public transport infrastructure affect the duration and start time of work trips? And will it make a difference to the overwhelming predominance of private vehicle based commuting by whites?





Graeme Gotz and Chris Wray from the GCRO are editors of a new book on spatial change in Johannesburg, with Philip Harrison and Alison Todes



Johannesburg is South Africa's premier city and is the heart of the Gauteng City-Region that accounts for over one-third of the country's economic output. Over the past decade or so there has been a growing scholarship on space, politics, development and culture in the city. This writing has established a local and global readership, with Johannesburg emerging as an exemplar of urbanism in the global South. While these studies have established a readership, and contributed greatly to an understanding of the many dimensions of change in the city, there arguably remain some important gaps in the literature.

In an attempt to address these GCRO, in partnership with the School of Architecture and Planning at the University of the Witwatersrand, recently completed an edited collection called *Changing Space Changing City – Johannesburg after apartheid*. The book, published by Wits University Press, is the first in a series of three envisaged volumes on spatial change in the city-region. The second will focus on Pretoria and its hinterland, and the third will examine trends in the industrial and mining arc stretching around Johannesburg from the East Rand, south to Vereeniging-Vanderbijlpark-Sasolburg, and west to mining towns such as Carletonville and Westonaria.

The Johannesburg book, comprising 34 chapters, was edited by Professors Philip Harrison and Alison Todes from the Wits School of Architecture and Planning, and Graeme Gotz and Chris Wray from GCRO. Four of the chapters were authored or co-authored by GCRO staff.

The book focuses on the city's physical form and the extraordinary spatial changes in the period following the ending of apartheid. These changes are related to trends across the economic, political, social and cultural domains. The volume therefore seeks to bridge distinct scholarly traditions that emphasise either the 'material' or 'cultural' dimensions of the city. In terms of the material dimension its major contribution is to provide a multi-layered analysis of urban change drawing on new and updated sources of empirical data such as the 2011 Census, the City of Johannesburg's development planning information system, and GCRO's substantial data archive.

The book has four sections. The first is a full colour section of maps that visualise the dynamic changes underway.

Section A then provides an overview of macro spatial trends and the policies that have influenced them. It explores: the spatial dynamics of poverty and inequality; the reconfiguration of space from an economic perspective; the shifting patterns of private sector investment in the city; the role of state regulation and policy in shaping spatial outcomes; processes of informality within the city; the reconfiguration of natural assets within the city as development continues at a rapid pace; and changing mobility-flows and networks. Informing all of these is a consideration of underlying economic, social and political processes shaping the wider Gauteng City-Region.

Section B explores the shaping of the city at district and suburban level, revealing the peculiarity of processes in different areas. This analysis elucidates the larger trends, while identifying shifts that are not easily detected at the macro level. The section deals, for example, with: the re-organisation of work and living space in the inner city after the partial collapse of this core area; the rapid demographic and physical change of the suburbs immediately surrounding the inner city, driven in part by new patterns of international migration; the complex and differentiated transformation of Soweto; the ambiguous outcomes of a high profile urban renewal programme in Alexandra; the spatial impacts of the 2010 Soccer World Cup; the private development pressures interfaced with state regulation and policy on the north western edge of Johannesburg; and the perhaps less noticeable but still significant processes of spatial change in the northern and southern suburbs of Johannesburg.

Finally, section C is an assembly of chapters and short vignettes that focus on the interweaving of place and identity at a micro level. It looks at how people and communities come to identify with particular spaces, how space is ascribed meaning, and how identities are expressed in the transformation of space. This section explores: the spaces appropriated by migrant communities; the transversal spaces of individuals and groups such as trolley pushers and waste pickers who make their living by transecting across the city on a daily basis; and the spaces that reflect youth and middle-class identities, as well as religious identities and practices.

The book therefore brings together broad understandings of macro spatial trends and the policies that shape them, with more nuanced views provided by area-based studies and chapters exploring the relationships between place and identity. It is hoped that the diverse analytical perspectives provided by a wide range of respected academics, practising urban planners and experienced policymakers will deepen appreciation of the complexity of spatial change in Johannesburg.

For more details see <http://witspress.co.za/catalogue/changing-space-changing-city/>

## DATA

## 2 | 2013 Quality of Life survey data now available online – Chris Wray

The GCRO's third Quality of Life survey is now available online for everyone to access.

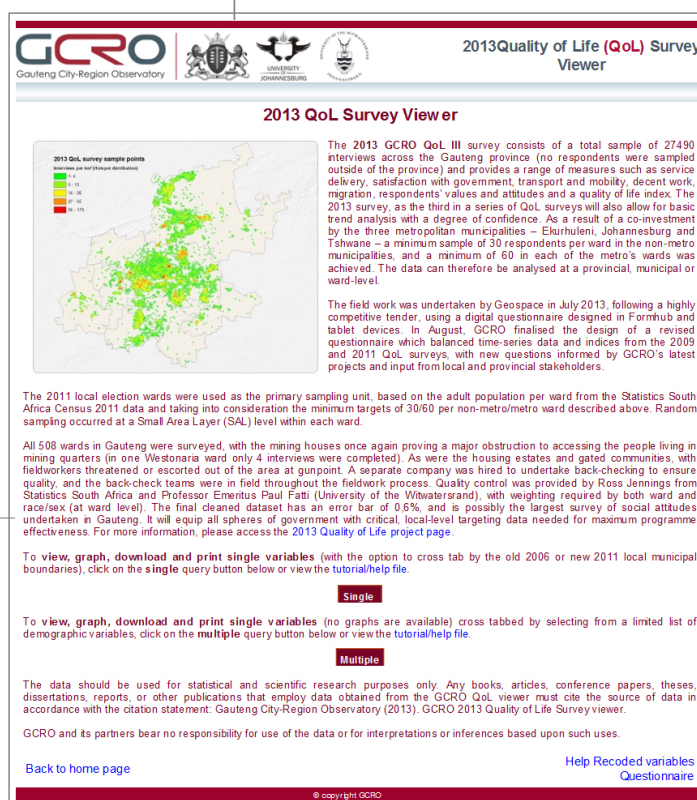
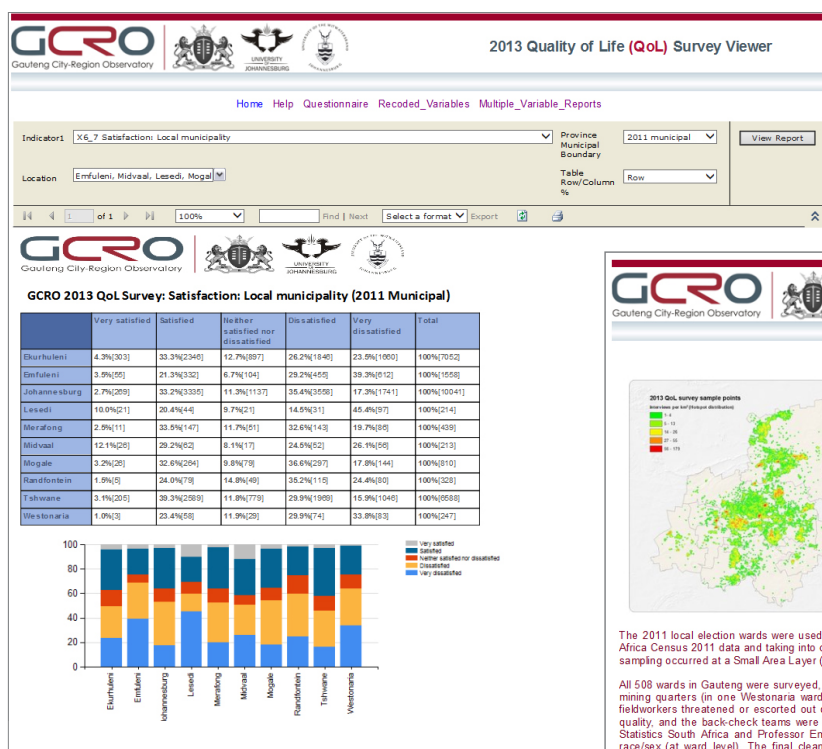
The 2013 Quality of Life (QoL) survey was formally launched in August 2014 and is the third in a series of QoL surveys produced by the GCRO (for more information, refer to the [QoL III project page](#)). The 2013 survey consists of a total sample of 27 490 interviews across the Gauteng province and is probably the largest ever survey of social attitudes in Gauteng. It provides a range of measures such as service delivery, satisfaction with government, transport and mobility, decent work and migration, as well respondents' values and attitudes.

The GCRO has always maintained an open data policy and in 2012 released the QoL Survey Viewer to provide easy online access to the 2009 and 2011 QoL survey data. The 2013 survey data is now also available in the viewer in the form of a single or multiple variable report. Single variable reports produce a table and graph once a variable is selected. Multiple variable reports provide the functionality to select

an indicator and crosstab it by a selected list of demographic variables. Tables (and single variable graphs) can be viewed as a row or column percentage. The reports are generated at a Gauteng or municipal level, in the case of the 2011/2013 data, or at a Gauteng, municipal or city-regional level for the 2009 data. The results can also be exported to Excel, PDF or Word format.

With the release of the 2013 data there are now three sets of QoL survey data available for researchers, students, government officials and the general public. This allows for basic trend analysis and a better understanding of the key challenges facing the city-region.

For more information, please access the QoL Survey Viewer via the GCRO website: <http://www.gcro.ac.za/qolviewer> or contact Chris Wray.



QoL Survey Viewer multiple variable report view (L); Survey Viewer home page (R).



### 3 | GCRO five year strategic planning breakaway – *Caryn Abrahams*

GCRO staff spent some time away from the office in October to work collectively on the Five Year Strategic Plan.

In mid-October GCRO set aside two days at a venue in the Magaliesberg to conclude a five-year strategic planning process. The peaceful and unhurried environment, away from the pressures of work, provided the ideal space to finalise what has been a year-long process of debating, pondering, and puzzling over GCRO's strategic direction.

An external review panel finalised a systematic review of GCRO's previous five years in May 2014. The panel's report provided critical input into the planning process. For the breakaway GCRO staff were levied with the responsibility of preparing inputs on a range of issues relating to the role, impact and key focus areas of the GCRO, and contextualizing these within cutting-edge urban debates and national/provincial policy developments. Not only did we engage with our mandate and focus by looking outward, we also spent time contemplating our own 'metrics of success' and how we achieve excellence as a unit of academics.

The conclusions of this workshop were written up and presented to GCRO's Research Advisory Committee (RAC)

on 30 October. Following RAC member inputs the document was revised and will be presented to the GCRO's Board in early December for discussion and approval. It is clear that the next five years of the GCRO will be as exciting and groundbreaking as the last, so watch this space!



*Caryn and Kerry with Magaliesberg in the distance.*

### 4 | GCRO researcher selected as winner of Green Talents competition

GCRO researcher Kerry Bobbins received this prestigious German accolade for her work on Green Infrastructure.

GCRO researcher Kerry Bobbins was selected as one of 25 winners in the international Green Talents Competition 2014 for her work on Green Assets and Infrastructure. The Jury was particularly impressed by the Green Infrastructure research undertaken by the GCRO and the breadth of Kerry's practical experience. The winners of the competition were invited to attend an International Forum for High Potentials in Sustainable Development held in Germany from 27 October – 10 November 2014.

While in Germany, Kerry gained exclusive insights into the country's diverse research landscape and visited a number of institutions to engage with ground-breaking research projects on sustainability. Kerry also met with individual experts around her particular research interests and gained some international comparative insight into some of the common challenges in implementing a green infrastructure planning approach. As part of the Forum, Kerry also attended the Falling Wall conference that showcased some future breakthroughs in science and society.

Kerry received her award at the Forum for Sustainability and has been invited back to Germany in 2015 for a potentially much longer research stay at one of the research facilities she visited.



*The global Green Talents award winners*



*Kerry Bobbins receives her award from the German Federal Minister for Education and Research Johanna Wanka*

## 5 | New staff

The GCRO welcomes two new staff members, Samy Katumba and Richard Ballard.

**SAMY KATUMBA**

In September 2014, the GCRO welcomed Samy Katumba as a Junior Researcher. Holding a Bachelors of Science Honours from the University of Pretoria with a specialisation in geoinformatics, Samy has already spent his first few months producing compelling GIS maps for the GCRO. Previously, Samy worked as a GIS technician for a couple of consulting firms in the fields of civil engineering and environmental studies. His interests and areas of research include: GIS web application development, mapping, geospatial data visualisation, spatial analysis, spatial statistics and online geo-information retrieval. Samy is registered as a professional Geoinformation Science (GISc) practitioner in training with the South African Council for Professional and Technical Surveyors (PLATO) and he is currently completing a Master of Science degree in Geoinformatics at the University of Pretoria.

**PROF RICHARD BALLARD**

The GCRO is also excited to announce that well-known South African Academic, Prof Richard Ballard will be joining us as a Specialist Researcher from January 2015. Richard has a longstanding interest in the relationship between race, class and urban change. This has included studies on how white people have responded to urban desegregation, the emergence of gated communities on the South African landscape, and narratives on the 'black middle class'. He also has an interest in the politics of development and poverty including invited forms of participation established by local government, invented forms of participation such as social movements and protest, and the growing popularity of mechanisms such as cash transfers in addressing poverty. He has a PhD from the University of Wales and is currently the Academic Leader of Development Studies, and an Associate Professor, at the University of Kwa-Zulu Natal. Richard will have a key role in shaping and facilitating research at the GCRO.

## 6 | International conferences

Over the past few months GCRO researchers have attended a number of high profile international conferences. These include the RGS-IGB Conference in London, the Nordic Africa Days Conference in Uppsala, and the IGU Conference in Krakow.

**RGS-IGB CONFERENCE, LONDON**

*Christina Culwick and Caryn Abrahams*

The Annual RGS-IGB (Royal Geographical Society – Institute of British Geographers) conference was held in London from 26-29 August 2014. The conference took place at the historic RGS building in South West Kensington. Senior researcher Caryn Abrahams and researcher Christina Culwick attended and presented at this conference along with nearly 2 000 participants. The theme of the conference was 'Geographies of co-production' and it consisted of over 400 sessions, which were held at various venues in South Kensington at the Imperial College London campus and the RGS. The centrality of the location also allowed for some exploration of London after conference sessions.



*Caryn Abrahams and Christina Culwick at the RGS\_IGB Conference*



The conference content was incredibly varied and rich, and included current debates concerned with, for example, the 'post-recession generation', 'planetary geopolitics' and 'greenest cities'. It also included more established debates such as 'rural innovation', 'climate change' and 'extraction and resource frontiers'. The conference was also 'occupied' with timely, though historically resurgent, themes such as 'diaspora strategies by and beyond the state' or 'armed forces and civil-society' in the context of progressively diverse and economically volatile cities in the global north. While theoretically grounded, the aim of every session was to understand the realities around transforming society through policy and/or practice. This is seen as increasingly urgent in an economically and politically insecure time globally.

GCRO was represented at the 'Visualising Economic Geographies' poster session hosted by Geoforum and the Economic Geography Research Group. The poster entitled 'Visualising Core and Peripheral Areas in the Gauteng City-Region' was authored by Sally Peberdy and Chris Wray, with Kavesha Damon (Strategic Environmental Focus, South Africa).

Christina Culwick presented a paper entitled 'Navigating the co-production process: Reflections from the Gauteng City-Region Observatory's Green Infrastructure Citylab'

in a double session, sponsored by RGS's Planning and Environment Research Group, on 'Mobilising expert knowledge in sustainability research'. The session was well planned, well facilitated by two discussants, and it led to vibrant debate between the presenters and other participants. Other stand-out sessions for Christina included 'Impact by who, for who: science for, with or by policy(makers)' and 'Co-production of environmental knowledges: the key to innovative management or a utopian goal?: Reflection on theory'.

Caryn Abrahams presented a paper on 'Envisioning and Enacting the National Project in post-apartheid South Africa' in a session entitled 'Spaces of Active, Activist and Insurgent Citizenship'. The double session was hosted by the Political Geography Research Group, and brought together scholars working on citizenship and politics in South Africa, Indonesian, Germany, the UK and Lebanon. One of the key conference highlights for Caryn was attending a double session on 'Governing Diversity', which focused on urban equality, integrationist housing policy and inclusive cities.

The conference provided a great opportunity to meet, reconnect and engage with geographers and other researchers from around the world, and more especially to position GCRO's work in the context of current geographical debates.

## NORDIC AFRICA DAYS CONFERENCE IN UPPSALA, SWEDEN

*Darlington Mushongera*

GCRO researcher Darlington Mushongera took part in the Nordic Africa Days 2014 Conference during September in Uppsala, Sweden. Nordic Africa Days (NAD) is a biennial conference, which the Nordic Africa Institute has organised for the past 15 years. The event was attended mainly by individuals interested in African Studies and Africa related knowledge production. The Nordic Africa Days 2014 had a thematic

focus on assumptions of governance in Africa. Darlington was one of 247 participants from 31 countries that attended this prestigious gathering of scholars. He presented elements of his PhD work on the challenges of water service delivery in the City of Johannesburg on a panel focussed on South Africa after 20 years of Democracy.



*Uppsala conference*

## INTERNATIONAL GEOGRAPHERS UNION REGIONAL CONFERENCE IN KRAKOW, POLAND

Kerry Bobbins

In August 2014, GCRO researcher Kerry Bobbins attended the International Geographers Union (IGU) Regional Conference held in Krakow, Poland. The conference was hosted by the Jagiellonian University, which was allocated the first Chair of Geography in 1849. The conference also coincided with the University's 650th anniversary and jubilee year celebrations.



Historic centre of Krakow where Kerry attended the IGU conference

Kerry was awarded a travel grant by the IGU to assist her participation at the conference and received her award at the closing ceremony.

The conference brought together a diverse set of geographers from all disciplinary fields to engage with the contemporary changes that have occurred in the environment, society and the economy over the 21st Century. The conference was structured into a set of plenary events, thematic sessions and workshops that allowed for academics and researchers to engage more closely within their topics of interest.

Kerry presented her work on Green Assets and Infrastructure at a thematic session on Creating Sustainability, which was positioned under the Urban Commission for understanding Urban Challenges in a Complex World. While at the conference, Kerry also participated in a workshop on understanding current trends in landscape fragmentation and connectivity assessment. She hopes to use some of the mapping techniques she learned to assess the connectivity of Gauteng's green networks as part of the next phase of work on Green Assets and Infrastructure.

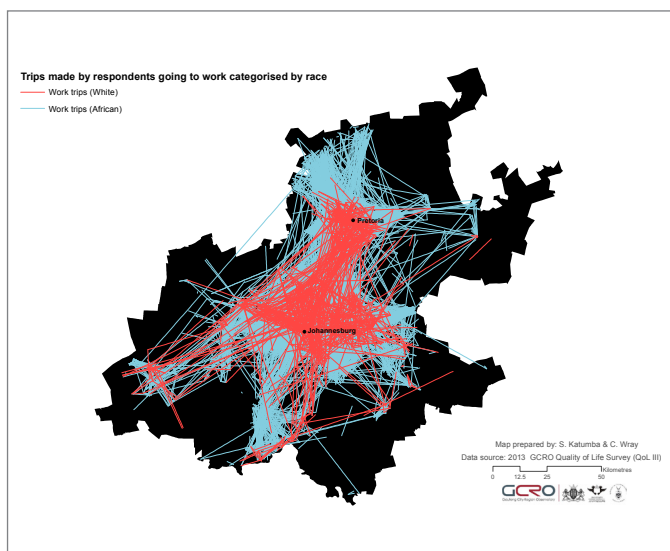
## 7 Data visualisation

The GCRO explores new data visualisation techniques for the October transport month Vignette and Map of the Month.

October was transport month and the GCRO decided to interrogate the dynamics of getting to work in the city-region through a Map of the Month, a Vignette and (for the first time), an interactive data visualisation. The results of the research indicate that while the city-region's spatial dynamics are changing, an apartheid spatial legacy still exists. This is

evident in the fact that African residents on average have to leave for work much earlier than white residents and it takes African residents longer to get to work than white residents. Please view the interactive visualisation here:

<http://www.gcro.ac.za/interactive-vis/2014/10/transport-work-trips>.

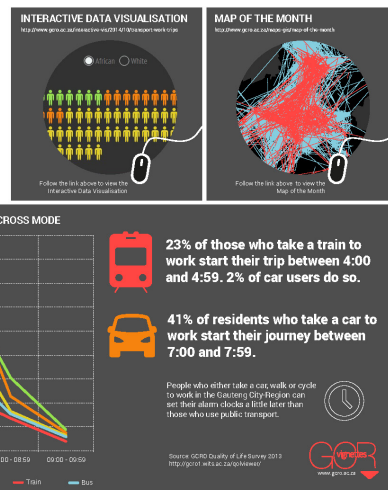


Map of the Month and Mobility Vignette

### 22 Getting to work in the GCR

October is 'transport month'. A transport month urges us to confront the many challenges still faced in moving around the vast and sprawling Gauteng City-Region, but also to recognise significant improvements to mobility being achieved through spatial restructuring and new transport infrastructure.

This month, GCRO is disseminating three linked outputs – this vignette, a map of the month, and for the first time (for the GCRO), an interactive visualisation. All three look at the issue of how GCR residents get to work in the morning, where they go, and how long it takes them. Comparing the to-work trips of whites and Africans, these outputs together present a fascinating picture of ongoing transport disparities and surprising new socio-economic trends in the city-region.



# N<sup>bytes</sup>/S

## Reports and publications

- Bobbins, K. and Culwick, C. (2014), 'Incorporating green infrastructure into Gauteng City-Region planning', Green infrastructure Handbook, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) / Alive2Green, October 2014
- Harrison, P. Gotz, G. Todes, A. Wray, C. (eds) (2014), *Changing Space, Changing City: Johannesburg after apartheid*. Johannesburg, Wits University Press, October 2014
- Harrison, P. Gotz, G. Todes, A. Wray, C. (2014), 'Materialities, subjectivities and spatial transformation in Johannesburg' in Harrison, P. et al (eds.) *Changing Space, Changing City: Johannesburg after apartheid*. Johannesburg, Wits University Press, October 2014
- Gotz, G. Wray, C. Mubiwa, B. (2014), 'The 'thin oil of urbanisation'? Spatial change in Johannesburg and the Gauteng city-region', in Harrison, P. et al (eds.) *Changing Space, Changing City: Johannesburg after apartheid*. Johannesburg, Wits University Press, October 2014
- Everatt, D. (2014), 'Poverty and Inequality in the Gauteng City-Region', in Harrison, P. et al (eds.) *Changing Space, Changing City: Johannesburg after apartheid*. Johannesburg, Wits University Press, October 2014
- Gotz, G. and Todes, A. (2014), 'Johannesburg's urban space economy' in Harrison, P. et al (eds.) *Changing Space, Changing City: Johannesburg after apartheid*. Johannesburg, Wits University Press, October 2014
- Trangoš, G. (2014), 'Buffer zones and golf estates: Do we really need more Garden Cities?' In *The Architectural Review*, October 2014 (not peer reviewed but IBSS listed)
- Wray, C., Peberdy, S. and Damon, K. (2014) 'Visualising Core and Peripheral Areas in the Gauteng City-Region, South Africa' (poster). RGS-IGB (Royal Geographical Society – Institute of British Geographers) conference, London, UK, 26-29 August 2014
- Wray, C., Kibirige, D. & Trangoš, G. (2014) 'Creating policy debates through data visualisations & GIS mapping in the Gauteng City-Region, South Africa' (poster). GI Forum Conference, Salzburg, Austria, 1-4 July 2014
- Everatt, D. (2014), 'Short-Term Profits, Missed Opportunities: How small traders in South Africa benefited from FIFA World Cup 2010' (Kurzfristige Gewinne, verpasste Chancen – Wie Kleinhandler in Südafrika von der Fussballweltmeisterschaft 2010 profitieren'). *TourismWatch*, 75 (June 2014)

## Conferences, workshops and presentations

- Caryn Abrahams (October 2014), 'Imagining the nation: 20 Years of nation-building in South-Africa', *Reconciliation in South Africa after 20 Years of Democracy* author workshop, Institute for Justice and Reconciliation (IJR), 30 October 2014
- Darlington Mushongera (October 2014), 'GCRO Barometer' at a conference *Beyond GDP: Innovative ideas on a regional dashboard*, hosted by the Governance Innovation Institute, University of Pretoria, 28-29 October 2014
- Sally Peberdy (October 2014), 'Social Protection and Cross Border Traders in the SADC', *Southern African Social Protection Experts Network*, 29 October 2014
- Sally Peberdy (October 2014). 'Keynote address: Migration and Development' High Level Seminar Managing Migration for Development, *African-European Parliamentary Dialogue on Migration and Development*, AU & AWEPA, 3 October 2014.
- Darlington Mushongera (September 2014), 'Crafting and managing water service in a polarised city – the case of Johannesburg', *Nordic Africa Days Conference*, Sweden, 26-27 September 2014
- Darlington Mushongera (September 2014), 'Crafting and managing water service in a polarised city – the case of Johannesburg', Economic Research Southern Africa (ERSA) workshop on *Political Economy / Public Choice Economics workshop*, Soweto Hotel, Johannesburg, 18-19 September 2014
- David Everatt (September 2014), 'Youth 20 years into democracy: who cares?' *Youth work Symposium – Youth as Agents of Change & Transformation*, Department of Practical Theology, University of Stellenbosch, 4 September 2014
- Kerry Bobbins (September 2014) 'Towards a guideline green infrastructure plan for the Gauteng City-Region'. Section 80 Committee: Environmental Management Meeting, West Rand District Municipality, 3 September 2014.
- Kerry Bobbins attended the Resilient Cities conference - 5th Global Forum on Urban Resilience and Adaptation, 29-31 May.



- Christina Culwick (August 2014) 'Navigating the co-production process: Reflections from the Gauteng City-Region Observatory's Green Infrastructure Citylab'. RGS-IBG annual conference, 29 August 2014.
- Co-authored poster (Kavesha Damon, Sally Peberdy & Chris Wray) 'Visualising core and peripheral areas in the Gauteng City-Region, South Africa' was shown at the RGS-IBG conference, London, 27-29 August 2014
- Caryn Abrahams (August 2014), 'Envisaging and enacting the national project twenty years after democracy', RGS-IBG Conference, London, 27-29 August
- Guy Trangoš (August 2014), chaired a panel discussion at the *Tshwane Urban Design Seminar*, 22 August 2014.
- Graeme Gotz (August 2014), chaired a panel discussion on inner city regeneration at the *Tshwane Urban Design Seminar*, 22 August 2014
- Kerry Bobbins (August 2014), 'Building a Green Infrastructure concept and process for the Gauteng City-Region, South Africa'. *International Geographers Union (IGU) Regional Conference*, 19 August 2014.
- Darlington Mushongera (August 2014), 'GCRO Barometer', *GCRO's Quality of Life III launch event*, 14 August 2014
- Presentations of the third GCRO Quality of Life Survey have included:
  - Distressed Mining Towns workshop in Westonaria, 15 August (Graeme Gotz)
  - Tshwane urban design seminar, 22 August (Graeme Gotz)
  - Johannesburg Mayoral Committee, 3 September (Graeme Gotz)
  - Gauteng Safety Indaba, 25 September (Claudius Chikozho)

- Premier's Coordinating Forum, 26 September 2014 (Chris Wray)
- Ekurhuleni Lekgotla, 29 September (Claudius Chikozho, with Christina Culwick and Guy Trangoš)
- Policy Research and Strategy Forum organized by the Gauteng Department of Human Settlements, 30 September 2014 (Koech Cheruiyot)
- Tshwane Mayoral Committee, 1 October 2014 (Caryn Abrahams)
- Ahmed Kathrada Foundation Board Meeting, 11 October 2014 (Caryn Abrahams)
- Ekurhuleni legislature strategic planning session, 4 November 2014 (Christina Culwick)
- Chris Wray was invited to review a journal article for the *UFS Journal of Town and Regional Planning* and *South African Journal of Geomatics*

### Teaching and supervision and wider academic citizenship

- Chris Wray is an external examiner for a fourth year engineering project supervised by Prof Rex van Olst
- Kerry Bobbins presented a guest lecture at the Wits School of Geography, Archaeology and Environmental Studies on the application of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) at the GCRO on 10 October 2014.
- Kerry Bobbins also participated in a workshop on Assessing Current Trends in Landscape Fragmentation and Connectivity Assessment using geographic information systems (GIS) and remote sensing workshops run by the International Geographers Union (IGU) in collaboration with Jagiellonian University during August 2014.