

CURRICULUM VITAE

LOURENS MARTHINUS DU PLESSIS

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Born: 31 May 1949.

Primary and Secondary Education: Middelburg (Mpumalanga), Dannhauser, Sterkstroom and Wolmaransstad, South Africa. Matriculated in 1966 with four distinctions. Head prefect.

Marital Status: Married on 3 December 1971 to Wilhelmina J (Steyn). Three daughters born in 1974, 1975 and 1979 respectively, three grandsons born in 2004, 2009 and 2011 respectively, and two granddaughters born in 2009 and 2011 respectively.

Language Ability

- Afrikaans (read, write, speak).
- English (read, write, speak).
- Dutch (read, understand).
- German (read, write, speak).

Tertiary Education

- 2000 – Hons BA (*cum laude*) (German) – University of Stellenbosch.
- 1979 – LLD – North-West University, Potchefstroom (formerly: Potchefstroom University for Christian Higher Education). **Thesis:** *Die Juridiese Relevansie van Christelike Geregtigheid (The Juridical Relevance of Christian Justice)*. **Promoter:** Prof Dr JD van der Vyver.
- 1974 – B Phil (*cum laude*) – North-West University, Potchefstroom.
- 1972 – LLB (*cum laude*) – North-West University, Potchefstroom.
- 1970 – B Jur et Comm (distinction Private Law) – North-West University, Potchefstroom.

As Student

Secretary, Students' Representative Council.

Editorial Board member of and active contributor to a critical journal, *Loog (Lye)*.

Professional Career

- Since 1 August 2011 – Research Professor in the Faculty of Law, North-West University.

- 1988-2011 – Professor in the Department of Public Law, University of Stellenbosch.
- 1997-2001 – Founding Director University of Stellenbosch / University of the Western Cape Research Unit for Legal and Constitutional Interpretation.
- 1994–1995 Part-time teaching at the University of the Western Cape.
- 1991-1993 – Professor *Extraordinaire* in the Department of Comparative and Public International Law, University of the Western Cape.
- 1989-1990 – Part-time teaching at the University of the Western Cape.
- 1989 – Part-time teaching at the University of Cape Town.
- 1981-1987 – Professor in and Head of the Department of Jurisprudence, North-West University, Potchefstroom.
- 1981-1983 – Part-time teaching at the North-West University, Mafikeng (then University of Bophuthatswana).
- 1976-1980 – Senior Lecturer in the Department of Jurisprudence, North-West University, Potchefstroom.
- 1973-1975 – Lecturer in the Department of Jurisprudence, North-West University, Potchefstroom.

Research and teaching areas

Research:

- Issues of justice from a philosophical and institutional perspective.
- Constitutional protection of human rights specially focused on religious rights.
- Theory and practice of legal and constitutional interpretation.

Teaching:

- Legal Philosophy.
- Introduction to Law.
- Interpretation of Statutes.
- Constitutional Interpretation.
- Comparative Constitutionalism.

Professional Societies

- Society of University Teachers of Law: member, Vice-president 1993-1994, President 1994-1996.
- Philosophical Society of Southern Africa: member.
- South African Political Studies Association: member.
- International Association for Philosophy of Law and Social Philosophy: member.
- International Consortium for Law and Religion Studies: member

Awards and honours

- 2008 – Rated B2 researcher by the National Research Foundation.
- 2013 – Rated B1 researcher by the National Research Foundation.
- 2004 – Study Visit Grant from the German Academic Exchange Service (Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst or DAAD).
- 2003 – 2007 – Research Award from the National Research Foundation for a project *Constitutionalism and the Evolution of South African Legal Thinking* within the research focus area *Distinct South African Research Opportunities* (Research issue 4: *Societies in transformation*).
- 2003 – Rated B2 researcher by the National Research Foundation.
- July 2002 – University of Stellenbosch *Rector's Award for Excellent Research*.
- 1997 – Awarded a Research Unit for Legal and Constitutional Interpretation by the Centre for Science Development, Human Sciences Research Council; Director of the Unit 1997-2001 and Co-Director 2001-2004.
- 1995 – University Travelling Fellowship of the Ernest Oppenheimer Memorial Trust.
- 1995 – Study Visit Grant from the German Academic Exchange Service (Deutscher

Akademischer Austauschdienst or DAAD).

- 1995/96 – Research Award for Established Researchers of the Centre for Science Development, Human Sciences Research Council.
- October 1994 – Enhanced Visitor's Programme: United States Information Service/Agency.
- December 1983 - February 1984 – Award for research on Intergroup Relations, Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC), Washington DC, USA.
- May 1981 – Exchange Scholar, United States-South Africa Leadership Exchange Programme.
- 1973 – Price of the Incorporated Law Society of the Transvaal for the best LLB student at the North-West University, Potchefstroom.

Visits at other institutions

- July 2012 – February 2013 – Visiting Research Fellow Max-Planck-Institut für ausländisches öffentliches Recht und Völkerrecht, Heidelberg, Germany
- 10 March-2 April 2011 – Visiting Professor, Fredric G Levin College of Law, University of Florida, Florida, USA
- December 2010/January 2011 – Visitor at the Research Unit for the Study of Society, Law and Religion (RUSSLR), Law School, University of Adelaide, Australia
- May/June 2008 – Visiting Research Fellow Max-Planck-Institut für ausländisches öffentliches Recht und Völkerrecht, Heidelberg, Germany
- March 2008 - Visiting Scholar, South African Institute for Advanced Constitutional, Public, Human Rights and International Law (SAIFAC), Constitution Hill, Braamfontein, Johannesburg.
- 2 May-27 July 2004 – Visiting Professor, University of Trier, Germany.
- November/December 2003 – Visiting Professor, University of Trier, Germany
- June/July 2002 – Visitor, Faculty of Law, University of Melbourne, Australia.
- January 1998 – Visiting Professor, College of Law, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida, USA.
- January 1997 – Visiting Professor, Stanford Program in International Legal Studies (SPILS), Stanford University School of Law, Palo Alto, California, USA.
- September 1994 – Visiting Professor, College of Law, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida, USA.

Doctoral Students

As promoter (11):

- 2008-2010 – Dr A le Roux-Kemp – Dissertation: *A Legal Perspective on the Power Imbalances in the Doctor-Patient Relationship* (University of Stellenbosch).
- 1995-2002 - Dr JL Gildenhuys – Dissertation: *An Assessment of Constitutional Guarantees of Religious Rights in South Africa* (University of Stellenbosch).
- 1997-2001 - Prof L van der Poll – Dissertation: *The Constitutionality of Pornography* (University of Stellenbosch).
- 1997-2000 – Prof L Feris – Dissertation: *The Development of a Conceptual Model for Environmental Justice within the Framework of the South African Constitution* (University of Stellenbosch).
- 1996-2000 – Prof PF de Vos – Dissertation: *Sexual Orientation, the Right to Equality and South Africa's 1996 Constitution* (University of the Western Cape).
- 1997-1998 – Dr JL Epp Buckingham – Dissertation: *Realising Religious Freedom: The Application and Limitation of the Canadian Understanding of Religious Freedom to South Africa* (University of Stellenbosch).
- 1993-1997 – Prof Dr N Moosa – Dissertation: *An Analysis of the Human Rights and Gender Consequences of the New South African Constitution and Bill of Rights with Regard to the Recognition and Implementation of Muslim Personal Law* (University of the Western Cape).
- 1992-1995 – Prof Dr JJ Sarkin – Dissertation: *The Effect of a Constitution and Bill of Rights on Abortion in South Africa: A comparative Study* (University of the Western Cape).
- 1990-1992 – Prof Dr JR de Ville – Dissertation: *Moontlike Veranderinge in die Administratiefreg na aanleiding van 'n Menseregteakte (Possible Changes in Administrative Law as a result of a Bill of Rights)* (University of Stellenbosch).

- 1986-1990 – Dr TJ Kruger – Dissertation: *Die Wordingsproses van 'n Suid-Afrikaanse Menseregtebedeling (The Genesis of a South African Human Rights Dispensation)* (North-West University, Potchefstroom).
- 1984-1986 – Prof Dr W du Plessis – Dissertation: *Die Reg op Inligting en die Openbare Belang (The Right to Information and the Public Interest)* (North-West University, Potchefstroom).

As co-promoter (3):

- 1997-1999 – Dr DB Ross – Dissertation: *The Constitution, Hermeneutics and Adjudication: Points of departure for Substantive Legal Argument* (University of South Africa).
- 1994-1997 – Dr M Breytenbach – Dissertation: *The Manipulation of Public Opinion by Censorship of the Media during the Demise of White Rule in Southern Africa (1974-1994)* (University of Stellenbosch).
- 1982-1985 – Prof Dr AWG Raath – Dissertation: *Menslike Vryheid in Konteks en Perspektief (Human Liberty in Context and Perspective)* (University of the Free State).

Masters Degree Students (2):

- 2001-2002 - Ms C Shackelford – Thesis: *The Fate of Heath's Special Investigating Unit: An Evaluation in Terms of the Separation of Powers Doctrine* (University of Stellenbosch).
- 1989-1993 – Dr E Bonthuys – Thesis: *The Legitimacy of Group Rights in the South African Legal System* (University of Stellenbosch).

Academic and other Journals

- External referee for a variety of law (and other) journals on a regular basis.
- 1990-1992 – Founding Editor of the *Stellenbosse Regtydskrif (Stellenbosch Law Review)*. Member of the Editorial Board since 1993 and Editor again 2005-2006.
- 1985-1987 – Member of the Editorial Board of *Die Tydskrif vir Regswetenskap (Journal for Juridical Science)*.
- 1985-1999 – Member of the Editorial Board, *South African Journal on Human Rights*.
- 1981-1986 – Editor-in-Chief, Monthly Journal, *Woord en Daad (Word and Work)*.

Experience as a Practising Lawyer

Admitted as an Advocate of The Supreme Court of South Africa in 1973. Practised actively, but on a limited scale and in a part-time capacity, between 1973 and 1987. Did mostly civil and criminal trials and appeals as well as opinion work. Practising activities limited during the period 1988 to present.

Positions held in Professional Bodies and NGOs

- 2010 – Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Greater Stellenbosch Development Trust.
- 1999 – Vice-chair and member, Board of Directors, Institute for Justice and Reconciliation.
- 1999 – 2000 Member, Advisory Panel for History, Law, Philosophy, and Political Sciences, Division for Social Sciences and Humanities of the National Research Foundation.
- 1993-1998 – Member, Magistrates Commission established in terms of the Magistrates Act of 1993.
- 1993-1996 – Member, Council of the University of the North.
- 1993 – Convenor, Technical Committee on Fundamental Rights during the Transition at the Multi-Party Negotiating Process. The Committee was responsible for drafting South Africa's first Bill of Rights.
- 1983-1986 – Member of the Work Committee: Juridical; Aspect of the HSRC Investigation into Intergroup Relations.
- 1982-1989 – Council and Executive Committee Member of The International Association for the Promotion of Christian Higher Education.
- 1980-1982 – Member of the HSRC Investigation into the Normalisation of Sporting Relations.

Activities in a broad socio-political Context

- 1993-1995 – Facilitator, Stellenbosch Discussion Forum on local government.
- 1989 – Discussions with the African National Congress in Harare, Zimbabwe at a conference on *The Role of Law in a Society in Transition*.
- 1987 – Visit to and exploratory discussions with members of the then banned African National Congress in Dakar, Senegal.
- 1981-1986 – Member of the Executive Council of the Reformational Movement of South Africa.
- 1977 – Leader of a group drafting and distributing the *Koinonia Declaration*, a profound critique of the apartheid system, two weeks before an all-white general election.

Publications and Papers at Conferences

- 8 books for the academic expert (as author and co-author).
- 9 shorter academic monographs.
- 53 chapters in academic books.
- 6 research reports.
- 109 articles in scholarly journals.
- 7 book reviews.
- 42 papers at international and 67 papers at national conferences and meetings.
- Participated in and presented several seminars, training sessions and LLM programmes on the interpretation of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa 200 of 1993.
- 203 popular and popular scholarly articles.

[See list attached.]

Hobbies and Interests

- Music (mainly classical).
- Art films.
- Hiking.
- Angling.