

# CURRICULUM VITAE

## DR. HANNAH J. DAWSON

### PERSONAL DETAILS

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### EDUCATION

- 2014-2019     **DPhil (PhD)** Anthropology, University of Oxford.  
Dissertation: '*The productivity of unemployment: emerging forms of work and life in urban South Africa*'.
- 2010-12     **M.Phil** International Development, University of Oxford.
- 2009     **B.A. Honours** Human Geography (Cum laude), University of the Witwatersrand.
- 2006-2008     **B.A.** Sociology and Human Geography (Cum laude), University of the Witwatersrand.

### RESEARCH POSITIONS

#### Current position

- April 2021-present     Senior Researcher, Southern Centre for Inequality Studies (SCIS), University of the Witwatersrand.
- July 2020-present     Senior Researcher (part-time), Centre for Social Development in Africa, University of Johannesburg.

#### Previous positions

- 2019-2021     Postdoctoral fellow, The Society, Work and Politics Institute (SWOP), University of the Witwatersrand.
- 2013-2014     Senior Researcher, Studies in Poverty and Inequality Institute (SPII), Johannesburg.

- 2013 Researcher, Simanye Economic and Empowerment Development, Johannesburg.
- 2012 Programme Coordinator (Junior Dean), Georgetown University's Oxford Graduate Programme in International Development
- 2010 Research and Learning Officer, World Vision South Africa, Johannesburg.

## PUBLICATIONS

### Manuscript in Progress:

*Beyond the job: emerging forms of work and life in urban South Africa*

Manuscript accepted for review with Cambridge University Press that examines how mass joblessness is engendering new forms of social, economic and political life in South Africa and beyond.

### Journal Articles

- n.d. 'Negotiating fatherhood and paternal obligations in a time of unstable earnings and unions', *Men and Masculinities*. **Under review**
- n.d. 'Faking it or Making it: The politics of consumption and the precariousness of black mobility in South Africa', *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute*. **Under review**
- 2021 'Making plans through people': the social embeddedness of informal entrepreneurship in urban South Africa, *Social Dynamics*.
- 2021 [Book Review] Marco Di Nunzio, *The Act of Living: street life, marginality and development in Urban Ethiopia*, Ithaca: Cornell University Press, *AFRICA* 91 (1): 113-34.
- 2020 with E. Fouksman, 'Labour, laziness and distribution: Work imaginaries among the South African unemployed', *AFRICA*, 90 (2): 229–51
- 2014 'Youth politics: waiting and envy in a South African informal settlement', *Journal of Southern African Studies*, 40 (4): 861-882.
- 2014 'Patronage from below: political unrest in an informal settlement in South Africa', *African Affairs*, 113 (453): 518-539.

2013 'Monitoring the progressive realisation of socio-economic rights in South Africa - the case for a comprehensive monitoring tool', *ESR Review* 14(2).

2013 'HIV/AIDS, the erosion of social capital and the collapse of rural livelihoods in the Nkomazi district of South Africa', *African Journal of AIDS Research*, 12(4): 185-194.

### **Book Chapters**

2021 'Be your own boss': entrepreneurial dreams on the urban margins of South Africa, chapter in Monteith, W., Vicol O. and Williams, P. (eds.), *Beyond the Wage: Ordinary work in Diverse Economies*, Bristol University Press. **Forthcoming**

2017 'Protests, Party Politics and Patronage: A view from Zandspruit Informal Settlement, Johannesburg' in Paret, M., Sinwell, L. and Runciman, C. (eds), *Global Resistance in Southern Perspective*, Ashgate.

### **Short articles, policy reports and media commentary**

2021 South African president extends special COVID-19 grant. Why this is not enough, 12 February 2021, <https://theconversation.com/south-african-president-extends-special-covid-19-grant-why-this-is-not-enough-153942>

2020 "Under pressure": negotiating competing demands and desires in a time of precarious earnings, *Developing Economics*, 7 December 2020, <https://developingeconomics.org/2020/12/07/under-pressure-negotiating-competing-demands-and-desires-in-a-time-of-precarious-earnings/>

2020 Extending Covid grant a step towards income guarantees, *Business Day*, 11 October 2020, <https://www.businesslive.co.za/bd/opinion/2020-10-11-extending-covid-grant-a-step-towards-income-guarantees/>

2020 Youth, precarious work and the gig economy: rethinking social policy responses, 8 July 2020, <https://www.news24.com/citypress/Voices/youth-precarious-work-and-the-gig-economy-rethinking-social-policy-responses-20200708>

2020 Why South Africa needs to ensure income security beyond the pandemic, *The Conversation*, 30 April 2020. [https://theconversation.com/why-south-africa-needs-to-ensure-income-security-beyond-the-pandemic-137551?fbclid=IwAR2VQ5qwKv0ZvVJWt2qBfB17xLpfRs9p\\_TMS0xDJPxnDk0q0mOrpi9Rhni4](https://theconversation.com/why-south-africa-needs-to-ensure-income-security-beyond-the-pandemic-137551?fbclid=IwAR2VQ5qwKv0ZvVJWt2qBfB17xLpfRs9p_TMS0xDJPxnDk0q0mOrpi9Rhni4)

2019 The danger of techno-optimism: What the hype around the Forth Industrial Revolution gets wrong about jobs and prosperity, *South African Labour Bulletin*. [https://rubigm.ruhr-uni-bochum.de/SALB%20Dec\\_%20Janfinal.pdf](https://rubigm.ruhr-uni-bochum.de/SALB%20Dec_%20Janfinal.pdf)

- 2015 Protests, Party Politics, and Patronage: A View from Local Government in South Africa, Newsletter of the Africa Research Initiative (ARI), National Intelligence University.
- 2015 New Year: New Questions, Democracy in Africa, 14 February 2015. <http://democracyin africa.org/new-questions-hannah-dawson/>
- 2014 Youth and political protest in South Africa, Democracy in Africa, 13 October 2014. <http://democracyin africa.org/youth-political-protest-south-africa/>
- 2014 How to dismantle a (ticking) time bomb? Policy solutions for a volatile South Africa, Opinion Piece for the Second OECD/Ford Foundation workshop 'Changing the Conversation on Growth: Going Inclusive', New York, 27 February 2014.
- 2014 A Framework for Monitoring and Evaluating the Progressive Realisation of Socio-Economic Rights in South Africa, Studies in Poverty and Inequality Institute (SPII) Working Paper.
- 2014 with D. McLaren, Monitoring the right of access to adequate housing in South Africa. An analysis of the policy effort, resource allocation, and expenditure and enjoyment of the right to housing. Studies in Poverty and Inequality Institute (SPII) Working Paper 8.

### Recent Conference Papers (selection)

- 2020 'Be your own boss': entrepreneurial dreams on the urban margins of South Africa Anthropology of Economy/Inclusive Economies seminar, London School of Economics, 2 December 2020 **(Invited talk)**
- 2020 Is any job better than no job? A view from 'unemployed' youth in urban South Africa. Sociology, Anthropology & Development Studies Seminar, University of Johannesburg, 19 February 2020 **(Invited talk)**
- 2020 Post-apartheid informal settlements: labour reserve *for* capital or bulwark *against* capital? Faces of the City Seminar, Wits University, 11 February 2020 **(Invited talk)**
- 2019 'Do young people want jobs?', Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) seminar, HSRC, Pretoria, 14 November 2019 **(Invited talk)**
- 2019 'Labour, laziness and distribution: Work imaginaries among the South African unemployed', WISER seminar, Wits University, 21 October 2019.
- 2019 Making it or Faking it: the politics of aspiration in post-apartheid South Africa, Anthropology seminar, Wits University, 3 October 2019.

2019 ‘The politics of refusing work in urban South Africa’, Panel: Disrupting the wage: post-work futures within and beyond Africa, European Conference on African Studies (ECAS), Edinburgh, Scotland, 11-14 June 2019.

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

2017 – present Anthropology Southern Africa (ASnA)  
2013 – present The South African Sociological Association (SASA)  
2018 – present The UK African Studies Association (ASAUK)  
2015 – present Associate Fellow of the UK Higher Education Academy (AFHEA)  
2016 – present The UK Development Studies Association (DSA)

## **SERVICE TO PROFESSION**

I have peer-reviewed articles for the following journals: *African Affairs*, *Social Dynamics*, *Africa*, *Globalizations*, *The South African Journal of Social Work and Social Development* and *The Journal of Southern African Studies*.

## **SELECT FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS**

2021-2022 DSI-NRF Centre of Excellence in Human Development Accelerator Grant (2-years) for project entitled ‘Thinking Beyond the Fourth Industrial Revolution’  
2020-23 Fellowship at the Summer Program in Social Science, Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, New Jersey, USA (2020-2023)  
2019 Edinburgh Catalyst Fellowship: to cover the costs of participating at the 2019 European Conference on African Studies in Edinburgh and enable further collaboration with scholars at the University of Edinburgh.  
2019 National Research Foundation post-doctoral fellowship at the University of the Witwatersrand (April 2019-March 2021)  
2018 School of Anthropology and Museum Ethnography (University of Oxford) writing up bursary

- 2016 AEGIS Travel Award to attend 'Urban Africa' summer school, Cagliari, Sardinia.
- 2015 Peter Lienhardt Memorial Fund and Philip Bagby Fund Travel Grant
- 2015 Commonwealth Scholarship Commission Research Travel Grant
- 2014-18 Commonwealth Doctoral Scholarship: to cover five years of graduate level study at the University of Oxford.
- 2010-12 University of Oxford Queen Elizabeth House Scholarship: to cover 2-years of graduate study at the Department of International Development.
- 2009 Post Graduate Merit Award for excellence in academic performance: to cover 1-year of graduate tuition at the University of the Witwatersrand.

### **CONFERENCE ORGANISATION AND DISCUSSION**

- 2021 International workshop organiser: 'Re-imagining social protection systems for the future of work', Johannesburg, 13-16 July 2021.
- 2018 Conference administrator: 'Reassessing Mandela', African Studies Centre, University of Oxford, 18-21 July 2018.
- 2017 Workshop co-organiser: 'The Making of Informal Settlements in Post-Apartheid South Africa', University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, 7 December 2017.
- 2017 Organiser of graduate workshop with Prof. James Ferguson, Oxford Department of International Development, 8 June 2017.
- 2016 Coordinator of graduate Anthropology of Ethics reading group, University of Oxford.
- 2014 Colloquium co-organiser: 'The shifting spaces and modalities of youth politics in Africa', University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, 8-10 April 2014.

### **RESEARCH EXPERIENCES**

- 2019 Led fieldwork team in Zandspruit for the Chair in Social Change (University of Johannesburg) national election research project [May 2019]; Participatory photo research [November 2019].
- 2015-16 10 months of fieldwork for my doctoral research in Zandspruit, Johannesburg.

- 2014 Preliminary field research in Zandspruit, Johannesburg (September) and coordinator for the Chair in Social Change (University of Johannesburg) national election research project in Zandspruit.
- 2011 12 weeks fieldwork for MPhil thesis in Zandspruit, Johannesburg.
- 2009 4 weeks fieldwork for honours thesis in the rural district of Nkomazi, Mpumalanga, South Africa.
- 2008 6 weeks field research for third year geography research project on urban agriculture in Johannesburg