

SIMON SIZWE MAYSON

As an aspiring changemaker, I work at maximising potential in my professional life, volunteer work and in my living environment. I wish to broaden and deepen my practice-oriented learning, as well as my track record of efficient, sustainable leadership, particularly organisations with a local governance focus.

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Languages:	English (native), Afrikaans (basic), isiZulu (very basic)	Website:	www.mayson.co.za

ACADEMIC EDUCATION AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- 2011-12, 2014** **Master of Science in Development Planning (With Distinction)**
University of the Witwatersrand (School of Architecture & Planning)
Awarded distinction in 10 of 11 courses and in research report. Overall average: 80%.
South African Planning Institute Prize for Best Student in Town and Regional Planning at Wits University. John Muller Prize for Best Research Report (thesis)(2014). Postgraduate Merit Award Scholarship; Oppenheimer Memorial Trust Merit Scholarship; National Research Foundation South African Research Chairs Initiative Planning Bursary (2012). DF Corlett Merit Award; Local Postgraduate Merit Award; John Muller Memorial Prize for highest mark in the theory course; three international travel/ conference scholarships - see 'Publications...' below (2011).
- 2008-2010** **BSocSci with Distinction in Social Anthropology and Environmental and Geographical Science, with Economics focus area (Stream Distinction - Social Anthropology)**
University of Cape Town
Dean's Merit List (2008 & 10); Faculty Scholarship for Overall Academic Achievement (2009). Golden Key International 2008-2014 (membership offered to top 15% students per field of study).
- 2005-2007** **International Baccalaureate Diploma**
United World College Red Cross Nordic, Norway (UWCRCN)
Total Score: 39 (Equivalent of 5 As for UK A-Levels according to UCAS system)
Full Scholarship | 'No awards' policy while at UWCRCN.

WORK EXPERIENCE

- Assistant Director: Johannesburg Social Housing Company, Housing Department, City of Johannesburg.**
Project support. Coordinated Inner City Housing Strategy and Implementation; Municipal Human Settlements Development Plan; Transitional Housing projects (Johannesburg Inner City); monitoring and evaluation of Johannesburg SH Company. (2014-2016). Attained, managed various budgets.
- Chair of United World College Scholarship Trust and South African National Committee.** UWC is a global movement comprising 15 colleges and over 150 nationalities. Strengthening and formalising national structures, international partnerships (Spanish National Committee) and student selections procedures. Representative on Committee of National Committees. (2015-2016).
- Assistant Director: Inner City Transformation Roadmap, Office of the City Manager, City of Johannesburg.**
Temporary secondment: kick-starting implementation of Inner City Transformation Roadmap with all City departments/ entities and external stakeholders. High priority projects including Bad Buildings, Urban Management Hotspots, Special Process for the Relocation of Evictees. (2015-2016).
- Independent Consultant: National Association of Social Housing.** Project Manager of Two Research Projects: Design in Social Housing, and Special Needs in Social Housing (includes implementation component). Terms of reference, budgeting, general coordination. Johannesburg (2014-2015).
- Coordinator of Online InfoSystem: National Association of Social Housing Organisations.** Georeferenced database. Development, maintenance, marketing and training. Johannesburg (2013-2015).
- Intern at United Nations, Habitat Agency Headquarters, Housing and Slum Upgrading Branch.** Project manager for Community Centre, including status quo report, turnaround and sustainability strategy, and operational support. Presentations including at conference of African states. Office support: focus on pre- and post-workshop evaluations and strategies. Kenya (2013). 0742 7684932
- Independent Consultant: Centre for Municipal Research and Advice:** Independent learning from practice project, team project, chaired group breakaways at municipal councillor conferences. Johannesburg (2012).

Project Officer at Planact: Participatory governance, integrated development planning and upgrading, alternative management strategies. Built partnerships with civil society organisations, government, private sector, residents committee network. Part-time. Johannesburg (2012).

Administrator at Yeoville Studio, School of Architecture and Planning, Wits: Organised high-level housing seminar series, exhibitions. Newsletter, website. Stakeholder liaison. Part-/ full-time. (2011-12).

Researcher for District Six Spatial Development Framework at Nisa Mammon & Associates. Cape Town (2010).

Additional work experience including conference rapporteur (2012), Researcher for Affordable Land & Housing Data Centre (2011); interviewer and presenter for UCT's EduLab, and for Legal Resources Centre (Cape Town, 2010); Intern at Joy FM News (Ghana, 2009), Intern at Environmental Management Group (2008), Catering Assistant at O'Brien's, Henderson's & other, meaning 17h/ day work. (UK, 2007). Oil spill assistant at World Wildlife Fund (Norway, 2007) and others.

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE AND OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS

Mail and Guardian 200 Young South Africans. Politics and Government. Awarded for work at City of Joburg. (2016).

One of SouthAfrica.info's '40 South Africans Under 40'. Recognised for work in affordable housing, in commemoration of 40th anniversary of 16 June 1976 anti-Apartheid protests. (2016).

Young African Leaders Initiative. A President Obama programme. Fully sponsored Public Management training. One month in residence – Southern Africa Regional Learning Centre. All-round achievement. (2016).

Deputy Chair: Hursthill Community Association. Residents assoc. – community, cleanliness, safety. (2016).

Co-Founder of Innovate Jozi, a chapter of G-Min International. A staged competition and mentoring programme that ignites and nurtures invention and entrepreneurship among youth. Johannesburg (2014-2015).

Initiator and leader of projects at Planact: Initiated and led Joburg Inner City Pilot Project. Co-led participatory governance programme in an informal settlement upgrading project. Recruited and led a team of interns delegated to my two projects. Johannesburg (2012).

Chair of the Student Council, School of Architecture and Planning. Reinvigorated the Council. Wits University (2011).

Director of Inkanyezi: Built from project of 2 active volunteers with R6,000 budget to 16 coordinators, 60 volunteers & 200 learners at 4 schools with annual budget over R140,000. Mentorship and the Mobile InfoCentre assists learners in realising post-school opportunities. Advisory role to present. UCT (2008-10).

Founder and Director of RideLink: Built and led a group focusing on advocacy through real tools and alternatives enabling a reduction of carbon emissions, including a safe web-based carpooling tool, preferential parking system and cycling infrastructure. Partnered with Green Campus Initiative. UCT (2008-9).

Director of Youth Against AIDS: Developed into an active, sustainable organisation. UWRCN, Norway (2006-7).

House Representative and Student Council Representative. UWRCN, Norway (2006-07).

One of four South Africans awarded United World College International Scholarship. UWC is a global network of 12 colleges with roughly 200 students at each. Represented South Africa in class of 85+ nationalities. Extraordinary two-year but lifelong learning experience. Norway (2005-07).

Additional leadership experience including Ubunye Board Member (Cape Town, 2008-10).

Additional achievements including work being featured in Fourthwall architecture publication (2016), on radio and in print (2009-15), in documentary 'Into the Shadows' on Johannesburg's inner city (2012), and being selected as a 'Brightest Young Mind' (2010).

PUBLICATIONS AND CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

'My Place in Yeoville'. Chapter in 'Yeoville Stories' book (forthcoming).

'Accommodation and Tenuous Livelihoods in Johannesburg's Inner City: the rooms and spaces typologies'. Co-author Dr Sarah Charlton. Urban Forum, a Springer journal. (2015).

'Good Practices in Rental Housing: The role of councillors in rental housing'. South African Local Government Association. (2013).

'The Underbelly Of Active Citizenship: An interpretative analysis of a project facilitating participation in informal settlement upgrading'. State of Local Governance publication. Isandla Institute. (2013).

'A Guide to Rental Housing Delivery Agents: Understanding the advantages and disadvantages of municipal entities'. Co-authors Dr Rubin and Gardner. South African Local Government Association. (2013).

'Real Sustainable Settlement Solutions: Accommodation along the formal-informal continuum in Johannesburg'. 11th Asian Urbanisation Conference. *Full scholarship*. (India, 2011).

'Accessing Johannesburg: Successful models for affordable rental in the non-government sector'. Royal Town Planning Institute. *Full scholarship*. (UK, 2011).

'Insights into the informal inner city rental housing market in Johannesburg'. Urban Housing Market Dynamics Workshop. *Full scholarship*. (Kenya, 2012).

'Ridelink – sustainable transport solution'. Bayer/ UN Environmental Program Young Environmental Envoy. Germany. *One of two South Africans to receive this award. Full scholarship*. (2008).

OTHER PASSIONS

Owner of 'changemakers hub' shared house, with six diverse occupants aspiring to positive change. (2015-2016).

Experiential learning: Living, working and/or travelling sustainably and on a shoestring budget. Engaging and understanding people around South Africa, from Morningside to Hillbrow (Johannesburg), Sea Point to Langa (Cape Town), and ~115 cities and towns globally, from Berlin to Boston to Bengaluru.

Music, with bassoon at Grade 8 Royal Schools (final grade before teacher's) and piano at Grade 6. Various awards in eistedfodds (2001-5). Played for five different ensembles simultaneously (2001-5). Norwegian/Malian choir collaboration (2006). UCT choir (2008). Worked at Roskilde festival (2007).

Cycling (daily cyclist commuter and advocate of same), **swimming** (Robben Island Freedom Swim, 7.5km from Robben Island to Big Bay), **running** (Western Sahara Half Marathon, Norway), **kayaking** (led youth kayaking group in Norway), **photography** (photographer for Ashesi University, Ghana).

REFERENCES

Mr Emanuel Sotomi. Director, Project Support. Housing Department, City of Johannesburg Metropolitan Municipality.
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Mr Malcolm McCarthy. General Manager, National Association of Social Housing Organisations, South Africa.
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