



# **Evaluating the Performance of South African Economics Departments**

John Luiz<sup>1</sup>

**Working Paper Number 150**

---

<sup>1</sup> University of Witwatersrand, Wits Business School

# Evaluating the Performance of South African Economics Departments

John Luiz\*

October 30, 2009

## Abstract

Over the past decade economics departments in South Africa have seen major changes and a certain level of disruption. Much of this can be attributed to the integration of our discipline into the global arena after a period of academic isolation. This paper presents a survey of economics departments and covers everything from staff profiles and qualifications, to curricula, and research output. This paper indicates that there has been some improvement in the state of economics at South African universities since 2003 when the previous survey was conducted. Research output is largely up as is the proportion in international journals and more researchers are producing in leading international economics publications. However, the gap between South African economics departments and their international counterparts remains large.

JEL codes: A11, A20

Keywords: Economics Departments, South Africa, rankings

## 1 Introduction

Over the past decade economics departments in South Africa have seen major changes and a certain level of disruption. Much of this can be attributed to the integration of our discipline into the global arena. The academic boycott of the 1980s partly explains the then growing gap between economics in South Africa and the changes that were occurring worldwide at the time. Relatively few South Africans studied abroad and as economics became more and more technical and relied on specialised quantitative techniques so increasingly we became redundant in an international space. Econometrics and Mathematical Economics were mostly electives and it was possible to major in economics and move into post graduate study without these courses. But the discipline had changed and the result was that we were increasingly unable to participate meaningfully in these international developments. With the collapse of apartheid and the reintegration of academic institutions, we were suddenly faced with the prospect of catch up with the changes that had occurred in economics.

There were several schools of thought at the time in terms of what should be done. Some argued that South African economics should stay the course and keep the traditions of political economy and that this would be more helpful to dealing with the actual developmental challenges facing the economy. Others maintained that the best way to address these challenges was to rapidly integrate into the international domain through a very rapid assimilation of quantitative techniques which would open up access to new theoretical developments. Some departments chose one route whilst others followed the alternative, but most tried to do both with varying degrees of success. This tension has played out in departments and even within the South African Journal of Economics. This was further aggravated by the forced merger of several universities many of which had different traditions.

---

\*University of the Witwatersrand

The last major survey of economics departments in South Africa took place during 2003 (Luiz, 2004) and it is therefore opportune to investigate developments there since as this has been a time of major change. The survey covers everything from staff profiles and qualifications, to curricula, and research output. The heads of departments at all South African universities were asked to complete the questionnaires as it would have appeared at the end of 2008.<sup>1</sup> All information presented here has been provided by the heads of the respective departments except where indicated otherwise. Universities not represented in the survey did not respond.

## 2 Staff at Economics Departments

The academic labour market in South Africa has become increasingly tight and this is often exacerbated in the commercial sciences where lucrative private sector salaries lure potential candidates away from the academy. A number of economics posts (especially at the professorial level) have been repeatedly advertised to no avail and many have been vacant for years. In addition we have to address issues around transformation and employment equity.

Table 1 presents a breakdown of the highest qualifications of full-time academics at the various economics departments. There is significant variation in the sizes of these departments, ranging from a staff complement of 32 at the University of Kwa-Zulu Natal to 4 at Walter Sisulu University. In terms of staff qualifications the University of Cape Town leads with 79% having a doctorate, followed by North West University with 62% and the University of Pretoria with 60%. At universities which do not make use of junior lecturers almost all staff have at least a masters degree. Encouragingly the proportion of doctorates amongst full time staff members has risen from 2003 at almost all the departments sampled and the average number of doctorates now lies at 47% - still well below the minimum international accreditation norms of 75%.

On a related matter, Table 2 presents the employment rank of full-time members of the academic staff. At least half the staff at two universities are employed at the rank of either full or associate professor, namely the University of Cape Town and Pretoria - the average for our sample being 28%. Walter Sisulu on the other hand has no staff employed above the lecturer level. If we examine the number of Full Professors relative to the number of PhDs in each department, some interesting developments appear. The range is from 20% at Wits and UKZN to 60% at UFS. Most are in the 40% area and the average proportion is 36% much the same as 2003. What is particularly noticeable is the sharp decline in this proportion at several leading institutions with Stellenbosch and UCT falling from 80% and 73% respectively to 46% and 35%. One interpretation is that a PhD is increasingly becoming an entry level requirement into these departments with the result that more PhDs are sitting at the Senior Lecturer or Associate Professor level and promotion criteria are becoming more stringent.

There is significant pressure being exerted at most universities to realise a more representative student and staff body to overcome the legacies of apartheid. Table 3 illustrates the degree of transformation on the faculty front and shows substantial variation. In terms of gender the departments are still by and large overwhelmingly male with the Universities of Cape Town, Stellenbosch, Free State, Fort Hare, Rhodes, Kwa-Zulu Natal, and Pretoria all being 70% or above. In terms of race the picture has shown some improvement relative to 2003 at almost all departments. Of the historically white universities the best performers in terms of staff diversity are Rhodes, followed by Wits and Johannesburg, and UCT. Another noticeable trend has been the rising proportion of full time academics from the rest of Africa with five universities having a proportion of 20% or higher. This is a function of both pull and push factors as a result of shortages of qualified South African applicants and often dire academic conditions in other African countries.

Luiz (2004) indicated the rising demand for economics education between 1989 and 2002. This

---

<sup>1</sup>Some of the previous technikons – now universities of technology – which do not have fully fledged economics departments but may offer a course or two in economics were excluded.

trend has continued in the past five years as is reflected in Table 4. For example at UCT student enrolment in economics rose from 1880 in 1989 to 3338 in 2002 and this has continued to 4385 in 2007. In fact four residential universities now have an economic student body in excess of 4000 students, namely UCT, UKZN, UJ, and UP. Post graduate numbers have also been on the rise with the same four universities having the largest numbers in absolute terms. However, as a proportion of total economics registrations the largest postgraduate percentages are at Rhodes (5.1%), UJ (4.9%), UCT (4%), and Wits (3.9%). Disappointingly the number of students registered for masters or doctoral work has actually declined at most of these departments relative to 2002 which does not bode well for our ability to replace the ageing academic population or to alleviate the current shortage of academic staff. The student registrations also reveals a dramatic decline between economics at the first year level where numbers are huge reflecting our position as a service subject and subsequent registrations at second and third year. For example only 10% of first year students at the University of Pretoria go on to register for second year. This places a significant burden on economics departments to service large student numbers but with low returns to the overall profession.

Table 4 also presents student lecturer ratios for various economics departments in South Africa and it shows significant variation with the best ratio of 83 existing at Wits and the worst of 214 at the University of Pretoria. Most of the departments have ratios between 120 and 170 and this is true irrespective of whether the universities were historically white or black. This reaffirms the results of work done by Fedderke, de Kadt and Luiz (2003) on the tertiary education system as a whole which finds that in terms of inputs, as measured by student-lecturer ratios or by expenditure per student, that there is no real differentiation between historically white and black universities. We do find that student-lecturer ratios for all universities started to rise from the 1970s onwards and escalated rapidly in the 1980s. This unfortunately has also gone hand in hand with a deteriorating schooling system which exacerbates the burden at universities which are then expected to do remedial academic development (see Fedderke, de Kadt and Luiz, 2000).

### 3 Courses and Curriculum

Table 5 indicates all the departments in the sample offer honours degrees as the entry point into graduate studies. There is greater variation as regards masters degrees with North West University, University of Fort Hare, and Walter Sisulu University not offering these by course work and the former two offering by dissertation only. The trend for PhDs at most departments is still a PhD by thesis with only Pretoria and UCT offering course work doctorates although Wits is also a participating institution in the AERC PhD programme. It appears unlikely that any further PhDs by coursework are going to emerge soon as the economies of scale simply do not warrant it but the result is that we are likely to see the better students go abroad to complete their PhDs. An alternative would be to see departments cooperate and offer joint PhDs but South Africa does not have a real tradition in this regard.

There is a fair level of heterogeneity as regards core course curricula at these departments, (see Table 6). Whilst macro and micro economics is compulsory for all second year students this is only true at third year level at UCT, Fort Hare, Stellenbosch, Wits, and WSU. At honours level it is once again compulsory at all departments. Economics has also become increasingly quantitative requiring strong statistical skills. Most departments require their students to do a quantitative techniques course of a generic nature at first year level but only introduce students to full on econometrics at the third year level where it is compulsory at NWU, UCT, UKZN, UP, Wits, and WSU. All students are registered for econometrics at the honours level and almost all at the masters level. The paper is unable to comment on the detailed curricula of these courses as it lies outside the remit of this research but anecdotal evidence indicates that there is wide variation in terms of the quality and depth of material being offered and this is confirmed through the disparate textbooks being used for core courses.

## 4 Research

Research is fundamental to the academic endeavour. Our function is both to engage with new knowledge with our students but also to develop this new knowledge through the publication of original research. Various rankings of economics departments internationally are almost exclusively based on their research output which reinforces the importance of this component. These studies have become increasingly sophisticated with a variety of methods and statistical techniques employed (see Lubrano et al., 2003) but the basis remains the same namely the quantity and impact of journal publications.

Table 7 presents the research results for economics departments in South Africa over a four year period 2004-2007. Only articles published in journals listed on ISI, IBSS or a list of South African publications accredited by the Department of Education are captured. The international convention is to focus only on articles published in the top journals as rated by their impact factors. Dusansky and Vernon (1998) use eight blue ribbon journals: *American Economic Review*, *Econometrica*, *International Economic Review*, *Journal of Economic Theory*, *Journal of Political Economy*, *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, *Review of Economic Studies*, and *Review of Economics and Statistics*. Only one economist in South Africa published in any of these journals over this time period and that was Wittenberg in the *Review of Economics and Statistics*. Scott and Mitias (1996) use thirty-six top economics journals and once again, we are largely negligible although better than in the 2004 survey. In fact, very few South African economists are publishing in mainstream international economics journals. Thus in this survey I have resorted to using the top 150 ISI economics journals for a particular category. The paper reports total research output in all categories as discussed above, then all international journals – both ISI and IBSS, and then only the top 150 ISI economics journals.

In absolute terms UCT published the most articles over this period - an average of 29.5 per annum and this is significantly up on their previous average of 15 in the last survey which indicates substantial improvement since 2002. They are followed by the University of Pretoria with 21.75 also up from 14, and the University of Stellenbosch with 15.5 up from 4.67. All three of these departments have seen impressive rises in their research output. Wits and the University of the Free State finish off the top five. On a per lecturer basis, the University of Pretoria comes out ahead at 1.09, followed by UCT at 1.02, Stellenbosch at 0.65, Rhodes 0.56 and the Free State at 0.53. Again the top five have shown substantial improvement on the prior survey which covered the time period 2000-2002.

The picture changes in some respects if one looks at the absolute number of publications in international journals alone. By international we refer to all non South African journals which appear on the ISI and IBSS lists irrespective of their field and this would therefore include journals in African Studies and the other Social and Natural Sciences. UCT again leads and is followed by University of Pretoria but the order thereafter changes to include Wits at number three and then UKZN and NWU. I then adjust the total number of journal publications, both local and international, but with a 3:1 weighting in favour of international publications. The top five on the basis of this adjustment per lecturer are UCT, Pretoria, North West, Stellenbosch and Rhodes.

Lastly I focus only on articles in the leading 150 ISI economics journals by total citations and it becomes clear that very few South African economists are publishing in this list. Thus one sees the leading department producing three publications per annum in this list out of their total annual number of 29.5. It also indicates that when South African economists do publish abroad it is mostly in non mainstream economics journals. UCT is followed by Stellenbosch at 1.5 and then Wits and Pretoria both at 1.25 and UJ at 0.75 per annum. The final adjustment produces an overall ranking based upon a 6:1 advantage to the top 150 ISI economics journals by total cites and this ranking produces the following result:

1. University of Cape Town
2. University of Pretoria
3. University of Stellenbosch

4. University of Free State
5. University of the Witwatersrand

## 5 Ranking of Economics Departments

Heads of departments were asked to rate and rank departments on various criteria. It is important to remember that these measures reflect perceptions only and should not necessarily be taken as an indicator of absolute quality. They were first asked to rank the top economics departments in South Africa as they perceived them at the end of 2008. They were instructed not to rate their own department. This question yielded the following ranking:

1. Cape Town
2. Pretoria
3. Stellenbosch
4. Witwatersrand
5. UKZN
6. University of Johannesburg
7. UFS
8. Rhodes

Compared to the results of 2004 the top 5 remained the same although the order changed. Cape Town retains the leading position although this has been solidified and the perceived gap has widened, whilst Pretoria jumps from the 4<sup>th</sup> place to the 2<sup>nd</sup> and Wits drops from the 2<sup>nd</sup> to the 4<sup>th</sup>.

The heads of departments were then asked to rate their perceptions of economics departments as at the end of 2008 on a scale of 1-10 (1 being of the highest quality in SA, 10 being of the worst quality) according to the following criteria (once again they were not permitted to rate their own departments):

- Research – the quality of the Department’s faculty on the research front
- Teaching/Curriculum – the quality of the teaching curriculum of the Department

Table 8 indicates that whilst there are some minor differences with the results above in terms of order, they are overall remarkably consistent with the top 8 featuring without fail. It is also clear from comments made by heads that whilst they felt they could distinguish the top 10 reasonably well they felt less qualified to do so with the rest.

The correlation coefficient between this research rating (perception based) and the objective total research output of the various departments presented above is -0.91,<sup>2</sup> and with the weighted adjusted per lecturer output<sup>3</sup> it is -0.87.<sup>4</sup> Whilst the correlation coefficient between the subjective research ratings for economics departments presented here and the total university research output is -0.84. In Luiz (2004) there was a stronger correlation between the perceptions and the total

<sup>2</sup>It is negative because the perception based rating scores lower numbers as meaning higher quality.

<sup>3</sup>Where the top 150 ISI Economics journals are given a 6:1 advantage over local journals.

<sup>4</sup>Both of these coefficients are up on the 2004 survey which can be assumed to indicate increased ‘perception efficiency’ i.e. the perceptions and the reality and growing closer perhaps as a result of better information flows within our community.

research by each university than with the actual research by each department which indicated some contamination taking place through the institutional university effect. In this survey this is not the case which again indicates that the knowledge of the actual performance of departments concerned is improving.<sup>5</sup> There is also a very strong relationship between the total research produced by each university and the total research produced by its economics departments – a correlation coefficient of 0.79 i.e. more research active universities have more research active economics departments.

The correlation coefficient between the total research produced in each department and the number of PhDs in that department is 0.82. This again supports the argument that there are economies of scale at work – more PhDs translate into more research. Interestingly, the correlation coefficient between total research in each department and their student-lecturer ratios is 0.26 which is up on 2004 but still does not support the hypothesis that departments producing less research have higher student-lecturer ratios.

Lastly, heads were asked to list the top three departments in the areas of microeconomics, macroeconomics, econometrics and mathematical economics, and development economics, (see Table 9). Interestingly, for this question we start seeing a fair amount of diversity appearing. Whilst UCT remains at the top in every category and the University of Pretoria 2<sup>nd</sup> for Macro and Quantitative, beyond that there is variety. For example, the University of Johannesburg appears in the 2<sup>nd</sup> position for microeconomics presumably as a result of the recent appointment of Zimper. Stellenbosch rates highly in mathematical economics and econometrics and also in Development (in the latter it is joint 2<sup>nd</sup> with UKZN).

## 6 Conclusion

This paper indicates that there has been some improvement in the state of economics at South African universities since 2003 when the previous survey was conducted. Research output is largely up as is the proportion in international journals and more researchers are producing in leading international economics publications. However, the gap between South African economics departments and their international counterparts remains large. As a middle income country, we of course, face different challenges and the discipline should reflect this diversity. The question may well be whether we can be excellent and yet not homogenous – homogenous neither with each other in South Africa nor globally - in other words, is there scope for diversity to serve different parts of economics without isolating ourselves from international developments?

The survey indicates that a growing number of our post graduate students are going abroad to complete their PhDs. This is going to have a twofold effect. First, they are going to demand that they are well trained to ensure that they can compete in PhD programmes abroad. The good news is that a number of South Africans have gone to leading schools in the USA and Europe where they have actually been top of their class which indicates that the pinnacle of our distribution is excellent and that they have received a good undergraduate foundation in South Africa. Second, many will return to South Africa to take up academic posts and this will result in change as these ‘young turks’ transform departments from within. Indeed this has already happened since the end of the academic boycott and it has arguably had the single largest influence on our profession in the past decade – this will accelerate in the future.

A further challenge to economists in South Africa is to extend our contribution within the African continent. The lack of convergence in economic development as it relates to many developing regions, but especially Africa, over the past few decades may well be the single most important conundrum facing economists worldwide. South African economists should be at the forefront of this contribution and this requires that we move outside our traditional parochialism. This survey shows that we have only taken the first steps in this regard.

---

<sup>5</sup>This improved information flow could be as a result of the information provided in Luiz (2004) or as a result of efforts by the Economic Society of South Africa to develop stronger ties between Heads of Department in recent years.

## References

- [1] Dusansky,R and Vernon,C. (1998) ‘Rankings of US Economics Departments.’ *Journal of Economic Perspectives*. 12(1): 157-170.
- [2] Fedderke, J.W., De Kadt, R.H.J., and Luiz, J. (2000) ‘Uneducating South Africa: Government Policy and the failure to address human capital a 1910-1993 legacy.’ *International Review of Education*. 46(3/4): 257-281.
- [3] Fedderke, J.W., De Kadt, R.H.J., and Luiz, J. (2003) ‘A Capstone Tertiary Educational system: Inefficiency, Duplication and Inequity in South Africa’s Tertiary Education System, 1910-93.’ *Cambridge Journal of Economics*. 27(3): 377-400.
- [4] Lubrano,M. Kirman,A. Bauwens,L. and Protopopescu,C. (2003) Ranking Economics Departments in Europe: A Statistical Approach. *Journal of the European Economic Association*. 1(6): 1367-1401.
- [5] Luiz,J.M. (2004) The State of Economics at South African Universities. *South African Journal of Economics*. 72(1): 187-206.
- [6] Meho, L.I.; Yang, K. (2007) A New Era in Citation and Bibliometric Analyses: Web of Science, Scopus, and Google Scholar. *Journal of the American Society for Information Science and Technology*. 58(13): 2105–2125.
- [7] Pauly, D.; Stergiou, K.I. (2005) Equivalence of results from two citation analyses: Thomson ISI’s Citation Index and Google Scholar’s service. *Ethics in Science and Environmental Politics*. December: 33-35.
- [8] Saad, G. (2006) Exploring the h-index at the author and journal levels using bibliometric data of productive consumer scholars and business-related journals respectively, *Scientometrics*. 69(1): 117-120.
- [9] Scott,L. and Mitias,P. (1996) ‘Trends in Ranking of Economics Departments in the US: An Update.’ *Economic Inquiry*. 34(April): 378-400.
- [10] Vaughan, L.; Shaw, D. (2008) A new look at evidence of scholarly citations in citation indexes and from web sources. *Scientometrics*. 74(2): 317-330.



**Table 1: The highest qualification of full time academics**

University	Doctorate		Masters		Honours		Bachelors		Total
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
North-West University <sup>1</sup>	8	62	3	23	2	15	0	0	13
Rhodes University	7	54	6	46	0	0	0	0	13
University of Cape Town	23	79	6	21	0	0	0	0	29
University of Fort Hare	4	33	5	42	3	25	0	0	12
University of the Free State	5	31	11	69	0	0	0	0	16
University of Kwa-Zulu Natal	10	31	19	59	3	9	0	0	32
University of Johannesburg	14	45	16	52	1	3	0	0	31
University of Pretoria	12	60	7	35	1	5	0	0	20
University of Stellenbosch	11	46	11	46	2	8	0	0	24
University of the Witwatersrand	10	36	15	54	3	11	0	0	28
Walter Sisulu University	0	0	3	75	1	25	0	0	4

<sup>1</sup> Note that the North West University in this paper refers to the information of the Potchefstroom campus only.

**Table 2: The rank of full time academics**

University	Full Professor		Associate Professor		Senior Lecturer		Lecturer		Junior Lecturer	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
North-West University	3	23	2	15	3	23	3	23	2	15
Rhodes University	3	23	2	15	3	23	5	38	0	0
University of Cape Town	8	28	7	24	6	21	8	28	0	0
University of Fort Hare	1	8	1	8	4	33	3	25	3	25
University of the Free State	3	19	0	0	2	13	11	69	0	0
University of Kwa-Zulu Natal	2	6	5	16	9	28	13	41	3	9
University of Johannesburg	4	13	2	6	10	32	15	48	0	0
University of Pretoria	5	25	5	25	3	15	7	35	0	0
University of Stellenbosch	5	21	3	13	5	21	9	38	2	8
University of the Witwatersrand	2	7	3	11	10	36	10	36	3	11
Walter Sisulu University	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	75	1	25

**Table 3: What proportion of your full time academics are...**

<b>University</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>White</b>	<b>South African</b>	<b>From the Rest of Africa</b>
North-West University	54%	92%	100%	0%
Rhodes University	77%	46%	69%	31%
University of Cape Town	79%	59%	61%	21%
University of Fort Hare	75%	25%	67%	32%
University of the Free State	75%	81%	94%	6%
University of Kwa-Zulu Natal	70%	65%	60%	22%
University of Johannesburg	71%	58%	84%	6%
University of Pretoria	70%	65%	60%	20%
University of Stellenbosch	79%	71%	96%	0%
University of the Witwatersrand	50%	58%	95%	4%
Walter Sisulu University	25%	0%	100%	0%

**Table 4: Registered student numbers for 2008**

<b>University</b>	<b>Econ 1</b>	<b>Econ 2</b>	<b>Econ 3</b>	<b>Honours</b>	<b>Masters Coursework</b>	<b>Masters Dissertation</b>	<b>Doctorate</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>E2/E1</b>	<b>E3/E2</b>	<b>Graduate/Total</b>	<b>Student-Lecturer Ratios</b>
North-West University	1100	600	200	30	NA	20	12	1962	54.5	33.3	3.2	151
Rhodes University	650	480	240	42	20	6	5	1443	73.8	50.0	5.1	111
University of Cape Town	2259	1300	650	125	25	2	24	4385	57.5	50.0	4.0	151
University of Fort Hare	812	391	202	40	NA	14	NA	1459	48.2	51.7	3.7	122
University of the Free State	1500	900	250	50	10	2	11	2723	60.0	27.8	2.7	170
University of Kwa-Zulu Natal	2200	1340	430	86	20	16	10	4102	60.9	32.1	3.2	128
University of Johannesburg	3033	1137	283	148	64	7	12	4684	37.5	24.9	4.9	151
University of Pretoria	3500	350	300	70	40	0	10	4270	10.0	85.7	2.8	214
University of Stellenbosch	2068	569	179	34	32	1	7	2890	27.5	31.5	2.6	120
University of the Witwatersrand	1648	349	231	47	23	2	19	2319	21.2	66.2	3.9	83
Walter Sisulu University	459	180	30	3	NA	NA	NA	672	39.2	16.7	0.4	168

**Table 5: Does the Department offer the following?**

<b>University</b>	<b>Honours</b>	<b>Masters by coursework</b>	<b>Masters by dissertation</b>	<b>Ph.D. by coursework</b>	<b>Ph.D. by thesis</b>
North-West University	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
Rhodes University	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
University of Cape Town	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
University of Fort Hare	Yes	No	Yes	No	No
University of the Free State	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
University of Kwa-Zulu Natal	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
University of Johannesburg	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
University of Pretoria	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No
University of Stellenbosch	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
University of the Witwatersrand	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Walter Sisulu University	Yes	No	No	No	No

**Table 6: What proportion of students at these levels do the following?**

<b>University</b>	<b>2nd year – Micro/Macro</b>	<b>3rd year – Micro/Macro</b>	<b>Honours – Micro/Macro</b>	<b>Masters coursework Micro/Macro</b>	<b>2nd year – Econometrics</b>	<b>3rd year – Econometrics</b>	<b>Honours – Econometrics</b>	<b>Masters coursework – Econometrics</b>
North-West	100%	0%	100%	NA	0%	100%	100%	NA
Rhodes	100%	0%	100%	0%	0%	80%	100%	100%
Cape Town	100%	100%	100%	75%	0%	100%	100%	85%
Fort Hare	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	70%	100%	0%
Free State	100%	0%	100%	100%	0%	20%	100%	100%
UKZN	100%	65%	100%	75%	0%	100%	100%	100%
Johannesburg	100%	0%	100%	100%	20%	56%	100%	100%
Pretoria	100%	0%	100%	100%	0%	100%	100%	100%
Stellenbosch	100%	100%	100%	100%	0%	25%	100%	100%
Witwatersrand	100%	100%	100%	100%	0%	100%	100%	100%
Walter Sisulu	100%	100%	100%	NA	NA	100%	100%	NA

**Table 7: Research - Average per annum over a four year period: 2004-2007**

<b>University</b>	<b>Absolute Number in all accredited Journals p.a.</b>	<b>Per Lecturer Number in accredited Journals</b>	<b>Absolute Number in International Journals p.a.</b>	<b>Per Lecturer Number in International Journals</b>	<b>Weighted Adjusted Per Lecturer Number in Accredited Journals<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>Absolute Number in Top 150 ISI Economics Journals by Total Cites p.a.</b>	<b>Per Lecturer Number in Top 150 ISI Economics Journals by Total Cites</b>	<b>Weighted Adjusted Per Lecturer Number in Accredited Journals<sup>b</sup></b>
North-West University	6.00	0.46	2.50	0.19	0.85	0.25	0.019	0.558
Rhodes University	7.25	0.56	1.25	0.10	0.75	0.00	0.000	0.558
University of Cape Town	29.50	1.02	14.25	0.49	2.00	3.00	0.103	1.534
University of Fort Hare	1.75	0.15	0.25	0.02	0.19	0.00	0.000	0.146
University of the Free State	8.50	0.53	1.00	0.06	0.66	0.25	0.016	0.609
University of Kwa-Zulu Natal	8.00	0.25	4.50	0.14	0.53	0.25	0.008	0.289
University of Johannesburg	4.50	0.15	0.75	0.02	0.19	0.75	0.024	0.266
University of Pretoria	21.75	1.09	6.00	0.30	1.69	1.25	0.063	1.400
University of Stellenbosch	15.50	0.65	2.25	0.09	0.83	1.50	0.063	0.958
University of the Witwatersrand	9.75	0.35	5.25	0.19	0.72	1.25	0.045	0.571
Walter Sisulu University	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.000	0.000

a: This adjustment gives a 3:1 advantage to international journals.

b: This adjustment gives a 6:1 advantage to Top 150 ISI Economics Journals by Total Cites.

**Table 8: Ratings of economics departments by Heads of Department**

University	Research		Teaching/Curriculum	
	Rating	Rank	Rating	Rank
Durban Institute of Technology	8.8	19	9.5	18
Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University	7.2	12	6.8	11
North-West University	5.7	9	6.0	9
Rhodes University	5.2	8	5.0	5
Tshwane University of Technology	7.6	13	8.0	14
University of Cape Town	1.0	1	1.7	1
University of Fort Hare	7.7	14	7.3	13
University of the Free State	5.0	7	5.6	8
University of Kwa-Zulu Natal	4.5	5	5.2	7
University of Johannesburg	4.7	6	5.0	5
University of Limpopo	8.0	15	8.6	15
University of Pretoria	3.1	3	3.1	2
University of South Africa	6.9	11	7.2	12
University of Stellenbosch	2.8	2	3.6	3
University of Venda	8.0	15	8.8	16
University of the Western Cape	6.5	10	6.2	10
University of the Witwatersrand	4.0	4	3.9	4
University of Zululand	8.2	17	8.8	16
Walter Sisulu University	8.5	18	9.7	19

**Table 9: List of top three departments in areas of Macro, Micro, Econometrics, Mathematical Economics and Development by Heads of Departments**

Macro	Micro	Mathematical/econometrics	Development
UCT	UCT	UCT	UCT
UP	Johannesburg	UP	UKZN/Stellenbosch
Various	UP	Stellenbosch	



## Appendix A: List of Abbreviations

North-West University	NWU
University of Cape Town	UCT
University of Fort Hare	UFH
University of the Free State	UFS
University of Kwa-Zulu Natal	UKZN
University of Johannesburg	UJ
University of Pretoria	UP
University of Stellenbosch	US
University of the Witwatersrand	Wits
Walter Sisulu University	WSU