



HAROLD WOLPE MEMORIAL TRUST

Annual Report

2004/2005

For further information
on the Trust,
reports and papers
related to its activities,
and on the life and work
of Harold Wolpe,
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HAROLD WOLPE
MEMORIAL TRUST

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The photograph of Harold Wolpe
on the inside cover of this report
was taken by Sue Kramer.
This photograph has been used in
all of the Trust's publicity material
over the past few years.

FOREWORD

by the Chairperson of the Board of Trustees, Prof Kader Asmal

The Trust has been operating since 1997. It was heralded in by a highly successful international conference on "The political economy of social change in South Africa." After this, and operating from Cape Town on a very small budget, the Trust initiated regular meetings to discuss issues arising from the inaugural conference. It became clear that this initiative could be developed and this was made possible through the generous financial support from Atlantic Philanthropies.

The change over to democracy robbed South Africa of some of its leading intellectuals, some of whom have gone into government, while others have moved into the corporate world. This, together with the legacy of the struggle, has witnessed a dearth of serious, informed and open public debate. Such debates are a necessary component of a healthy democratic society. The activities of the Trust bear witness to meeting this need, and it would seem that we are succeeding. With three centres now hosting regular talks and the annual memorial lecture, the publication of papers on our web site, and the television series, we are expanding our activities and reaching a broader public audience. This has been made possible by additional funding from the Ford Foundation.

I welcome the publication of this Annual Report, which covers the period April 2004 to March 2005. Previous reports have been submitted to the annual meeting of the Board of Trustees. This report is breaking new ground by sharing the Trust's activities with a wider public, and reflects the maturing of the organisation and its growing capacity.

My thanks to all those involved in meeting the goals of this Trust, and to members of the public who participate in our open dialogue events.



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VISION AND MISSION STATEMENT

The Harold Wolpe Memorial Trust is committed to the creation of an equitable, humane and democratic society based on the principles and values of non-racism, non-sexism, freedom of expression, open and honest intellectual engagement and other basic human and social values and rights.

The Trust takes cognisance that it operates within the context of social transition in South Africa, where a social reconstruction and development, and nation-building project is underway, under the pressures of political and economic globalisation.

To this end the Trust is committed to:

- Fostering critical engagement between government, civil society and intellectuals and scholars, including debate and research on the nature of critical intellectual engagement within the context of the transition in South Africa, and the relationship between rigorous progressive scholarship and a transformative political engagement.
- Promoting research on issues of social structure and race, class and gender, of the state, government and politics, of social justice, of social stability and cohesion, of the relationship between the local, the regional and the global, of the new identities and social relations emerging within a changing society and polity and the theoretical frameworks and methodologies appropriate to socially engaged scholarship.
- Stimulating publication of the research identified above, on progressive scholarship and the products of the critical, philosophical and intellectual engagement sponsored by the Trust.

The Trust believes that such initiatives would be congruent with Harold Wolpe's lifelong passion for and commitment to a radical politics based on critical scholarship that is as rigorous as it is engaged. It commits itself to the public and private pursuit of these initiatives on its own and in partnership with other bodies that share its commitments and in so far as its resources permit.

ACTIVITIES / OPEN DIALOGUE

Regular open dialogue events were first held in Cape Town in 1998, initially attracting small audiences of scholars, politicians and activists to a venue at the Institute for Democracy in South Africa. Following the first Harold Wolpe Memorial Lecture in 2002, the Cape Town meetings were opened to the public.

In order to extend its programme for critical engagement to other parts of the country, the Trust has entered into partnerships with other centres and organisations, who share the Trust's commitment to creating opportunities for critical engagement, and disseminating these ideas to a broader audience.

The Centre for Civil Society (CCS), based at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, became the Trust's first partner in 2002. The CCS runs what they call the Harold Wolpe Memorial Lecture Series – approximately ten lectures per year that are held at the University's Howard College.

In 2005, the Trust entered into a second partnership in the Johannesburg area with the Sociology of Work Unit (SWOP) at the Witwatersrand University, and The Edge Institute based in Braamfontein.

The new partners launched their seminar series in February 2005, which has as its broad focus "defining the public interest" in contemporary South African society. The seminars are held at Constitution Hill.

All three centres use a range of mechanisms to publicise the events as broadly as possible, including email databases of individuals and organisations from government, academia, civil society and business, as well as web sites, posters and the media.

Audiences range in number from between a hundred to two hundred and fifty individuals.

The year under review saw a diverse range of local and international scholars, business people and public figures presenting papers on topics ranging from poverty and inequality, and the state of the media, to gender-based violence, and reviews of the first ten years of our democracy.

April 2004

"Ten years of democracy: A review"
presented by Prof Patrick Bond
of the University of the Witwatersrand
held at the University of KwaZulu-Natal

May 2004

"Inequality in South Africa: Nature, causes and responses"
presented by Prof Stephen Gelb,
Executive Director of The Edge Institute
held at the Centre for the Book in Cape Town

"The state of the media ten years into democracy"
presented by Ferial Haffeejee,
Editor of the Mail & Guardian
held at the University of KwaZulu-Natal

June 2004

"Are we living the dream deferred?"
presented by Mark Gevisser,
independent scholar
held at the University of KwaZulu-Natal

"Who is an African?"
presented by Dr Wallace Mgoqi,
City Manager of the City of Cape Town
held at the Centre for the Book in Cape Town

August 2004

"The politicisation of sexuality in post-apartheid South Africa"
presented by Prof Deborah Posel,
Director of the Wits Institute for Social and Economic Research
held at the University of KwaZulu-Natal

"Building and sustaining a women's movement in the Zimbabwean crisis"
presented by Everjoice Win,
Zimbabwean feminist activist
held at the University of KwaZulu-Natal

September 2004

"The South African Bill of Rights and African Renaissance: Incompatible values?"
presented by Judge Dennis Davis,
Cape High Court Judge
held at the Centre for the Book in Cape Town

October 2004

"Public interest media: Nostalgic dream or forlorn hope?"
presented by Prof Anton Harber,
Director of the Media and Journalism Programme at the
University of the Witwatersrand
held at the Centre for the Book in Cape Town

November 2004

"Imperialism and resistance"
presented by Tariq Ali, Editor of the New Left Review and Verso
held at the Iziko Museum in Cape Town,
and the University of KwaZulu-Natal in Durban

"The global justice movement five years after Seattle"
presented by Prof Dennis Brutus, Dept of Africana Studies
at the University of Pittsburgh
held at the University of KwaZulu-Natal

January 2005

"Witch hunts and war scares: Political repression in America, from puritans to the Patriot Act"
presented by Prof Ellen Schrecker,
Dept of History at the Yeshiva University in New York
held at the Iziko Museum in Cape Town

February 2005

"Research funding and consequences for university research"

presented by Dr David Woods,
Vice-Chancellor of Rhodes University
held at the Iziko Museum in Cape Town

"The role of intellectuals"

presented by Blade Nzimande
of the South African Communist Party,
and Dr Xolela Mangcu
of the Human Sciences Research Council
held at Constitution Hill in Johannesburg

March 2005

"Gender-based violence in South Africa"

presented by Dr Elaine Salo
of the African Gender Institute,
and Zackie Achmat,
Chairperson of the Treatment Action Campaign
held at the Iziko Museum in Cape Town

"Keeping it in their pants: Politicians, men and sexual assault in South Africa"

presented by Charlene Smith
held at the University of KwaZulu-Natal

"South Africa in Africa: In whose interest?"

presented by Kuseni Dlamini
of AngloGold Ashanti,
and Trevor Ncube,
Chief Executive of The Zimbabwe Independent
held at Constitution Hill in Johannesburg

**Between liberation and reconstruction:
Theory and practice in the life of Harold Wolpe**

presented by Prof Michael Burawoy

The annual Memorial Lecture is one of the key events on the Trust's calendar. The purpose of the Lecture is to celebrate and advance Harold Wolpe's intellectual and political legacy.

The 2004 Memorial Lecture was presented by Michael Burawoy, Professor of Sociology at the University of California, Berkeley, and the then President of the American Sociological Association.

Burawoy critically reviewed the history of Harold Wolpe's work and concluded his exciting lecture by suggesting that an 'Institute of Social Theory' be established.

Burawoy presented his lecture to large and appreciative audiences in Johannesburg, Durban and Cape Town.

His lecture is available on the Trust's web site, and a video of the Cape Town event was taken.



Prof Michael Burawoy

Guests attending the 2004 Memorial Lecture held in Cape Town

ACTIVITIES / TELEVISION SERIES

National television provides a platform to reach a much wider public audience, and the Trust took the opportunity to put in a proposal for an in-depth debating programme that would tackle some of the pressing and controversial issues facing South Africa today.

The result was The Roundtable – an innovative and ground-breaking thirteen-part series which aired on SABC 3 between January and April 2005.

The Wolpe Trust played a key role in conceptualising the topics and commissioning the background research. The Roundtable was hosted by John Perlman and each debate took place between four panellists, who were drawn from different sectors and who expressed wide-ranging views.

The response to the series has been extremely encouraging and the Trust is considering submitting a proposal to the SABC for a second series.

Below is a brief overview of each episode and the key focus of the debates. A common theme running through most of the topics was the challenge of reducing poverty and inequality in South Africa.

Episode 1: Closing the gap

Can a free market economy reduce poverty and inequality, and what are the alternatives?

Episode 2: Land reform

Is land reform an effective strategy for reducing poverty and inequality?

Episode 3: South Africa in Africa

Is South Africa's economic and political role in Africa good for the continent, and in our best interests?

Episode 4: Equity versus excellence

Is it possible to level the playing fields in South African sport and still achieve excellence in the global arena?

Episode 5: Black economic empowerment

Is black economic empowerment enriching only a few, and what does broad-based BEE actually entail?

ACTIVITIES / TELEVISION SERIES

Episode 6: Environment vs development

How do we balance the need for conserving our natural environment with the needs of those living in poverty?

Episode 7: Social security

Would a more comprehensive social wage make a sustainable impact on poverty, or will it undermine economic growth?

Episode 8: Women in the economy

Is the global free market creating economic opportunities for women, or making them more vulnerable?

Episode 9: Job creation

Do government's economic policies help or hinder the creation of jobs?

Episode 10: The relevance of higher education

Is what our universities are teaching relevant to South Africa now, and should we concentrate mainly on skills that the labour market needs?

Episode 11: The culture of violence against women

What role do traditional and religious values, the quest for gender equality, and socio-economic factors play in gender-based violence?

Episode 12: Morality and HIV/AIDS

If condoms can save lives, should morality come into it, and should people have to disclose their HIV status in the face of prejudice?

Episode 13: Critique and debate for growing our democracy

Which serves our democracy better: consensus or debate, and do we have too many sacred cows in our society?

During the period under review, work continued on three publications in collaboration with both local and international editors and writers, focusing on works that capture the spirit of the Trust.

“The land question in South Africa” (provisional title), edited by Ruth Hall (Programme for Land and Agrarian Studies, University of the Western Cape) and Lungisile Ntsebeza (Department of Sociology, University of Cape Town), emerged from a conference hosted by the Trust in March 2004, entitled: “Transforming rural South Africa through the large-scale redistribution of land and the restructuring of production relations”. The book is scheduled to be published by the HSRC Press in 2005.

A volume of essays on the work of Harold Wolpe, based on responses to the Memorial Lecture given by Prof Michael Burawoy in 2004, is in progress with contributions from both local and international scholars. Under the editorship of Prof Henry Bernstein (University of London), the book is scheduled to be published in 2006.

A book on the work of Harold Wolpe, provisionally entitled: “Social structure, state and national liberation: The intellectual legacy of Harold Wolpe”, will be edited by Prof Saleem Badat (Council for Higher Education). Intended for academic purposes, this book is scheduled for publication in 2005.

As at 31 March 2005

Patron

Nelson Mandela

Board of Trustees

We are grateful to the Board of Trustees for their commitment and contribution to the work of the Trust. The Board Members included:

Prof Kader Asmal (Chairperson)
 Prof Saleem Badat
 Dr Marcus Balintulo
 Rozenda Hendrickse
 Prof Brian O'Connell
 Minister Naledi Pandor
 Dr AnnMarie Wolpe
 Mr Nicholas Wolpe
 Ms Peta Wolpe
 Ms Tessa Wolpe

Executive Committee

We would like to express our thanks to the Executive Committee, which meets four times a year, and which engages regularly with the staff of the Trust, providing guidance, support and ideas, as well as access to networks and resources.

During the period under review, Dr Rob Turrell left the Executive Committee and we would like to thank Rob for his contribution to the Trust. In 2005, Dr Eddy Maloka joined as an Executive Committee member.

Peta Wolpe (Chairperson)
 Prof Saleem Badat
 Dr AnnMarie Wolpe
 Ms Rozenda Hendrickse
 Dr Rob Turrell
 Dr Eddy Maloka

PEOPLE

Staff

Our thanks to former National Co-ordinator Leslie Liddell, who left the organisation in February 2005, and to Mathy Joffe who volunteered her services for the month of March. In April 2005, we welcomed Tracy Bailey as the new National Co-ordinator, and Stuart Rothgiesser as the part-time Administrator on a short-term contract.

Donors

We are very grateful to our donors for their financial support and partnership. The grant from Atlantic Philanthropies helped to establish the Trust over the past few years. A generous grant from the Ford Foundation will assist us to continue to expand our activities.

Partners

Finally, we would like to thank our partners for advancing the work of the Trust, through the hosting of open dialogue events in Durban and Johannesburg.

Centre for Civil Society
University of KwaZulu-Natal

Sociology of Work Unit
University of Witwatersrand

The Edge Institute



www.ukzn.ac.za/ccs

www.wits.ac.za/fac/arts/swop/home.htm

www.the-edge.org.za

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

Detailed income and expenditure statement for the period April 2004 – March 2005

	2005 R	2004 R
Income	582,051	1,668,259
Grants and donations	434,714	1,535,390
Interest received	147,337	132,869
Expenditure	681,181	560,511
Personnel costs		
Salaries and contributions	223,223	143,177
Staff welfare	2,645	0
Recruitment	13,308	3,420
Operating costs		
Legal fees	8,550	10,260
Accounting and audit	21,656	17,579
Premises costs	5,330	7,566
IT support	3,353	5,921
Stationery and printing	16,834	2,632
Telecommunications	19,692	14,591
Bank charges	7,205	6,771
Repairs and maintenance	2,514	4,364
Travel	8,095	12,378
Subscriptions	790	0
Governance costs	16,505	3,675
Supplies	1,615	0
Depreciation	8,225	8,974
Programme costs		
Forum meetings	41,283	30,091
Website	14,356	0
Conferences	4,508	138,678
Memorial lecture	58,913	0
Partnerships	109,000	136,000
Television series	93,581	14,434
Operating surplus/(deficit) for the year	(99,130)	1,107,748
Surplus at beginning of year	2,354,127	1,246,379
Net surplus at end of year	<u>2,254,997</u>	<u>2,354,12</u>