

## Book Launch

### UWC publishes home-grown poetry

24 August 2016



*Figure 14: Wendy Woodward opens the book launch*

The University of the Western Cape's writing programme has been so successful in its first three years that it has yielded a fully-fledged poetry anthology, heading straight to the Mc Gregor poetry festival a mere month after its launch. The anthology launched on the tenth of August to a packed room at the Hive in the Old Arts Building at UWC. The audience was treated to a reading by the poets themselves and to a viewing of the evocative cover artwork in real life.

The painting by UWC's very own Zulfa Abrahams, entitled "Harvest" inspired the title of the anthology. In August, the anthology travelled to McGregor's annual poetry festival where one of the festival's prime slots on the Saturday evening, was allocated to the poets and their publication.

The anthology is the product of renowned poet and Emeritus Prof



*Figure 12: Authors preparing to read their poetry*

Wendy Woodward's nurturing of her crop of aspiring creatives in the poetry module that she taught for the last three years as part of UWC's Masters in Creative Writing. The MACW programme is co-ordinated by published author, Dr Meg Vandermerwe, who teaches prose, with the poetry being taught, as of this year, by

prize-winning poet, Dr Kobus Moolman. Poets in the anthology include Jolyn Phillips who has been published to critical acclaim, as well as other published writers among whom Gahlia Phillips, Christopher Kudyahakudadirwe and Sandra Hill who completed their MACW Cum Laude; Hilda Wilson, Delia Meyer and Jana Ferreira who have all completed their MACW; and Phyllis Orner and Ethne Mudge whose MACW is in process. Ethne is also credited with publishing and editing the anthology on behalf of the English Department while Eben Grobler is responsible for the beautiful layout design with such attention to detail as illustrations of each poet.

At a retail price of fifty rand, the anthology is available at the Arts



*Figure 13: Poets pose for a group photo*

through the poetry of our home.

bookshop on UWC's campus as well as at select bookstores across Cape Town and is a must-read for anyone who knows that all too often we can only understand our world

**Author:** Ethne Mudge

**Photographer:** Nehna Singh