



# **CORD Seminar Series**

**Wednesday October 4, 2023**

**12-1pm**

**UCENT 480a**

## **Perverse policy? A case of financial incentives for knowledge production**

**Dr François van Schalkwyk**

Centre for Research on Evaluation, Science and Technology (CREST)

Stellenbosch University, South Africa



It is a truism to state that the interaction of the reputation economy in science, the imperatives of commercial publishers “in the service of” science and the interests of university leadership in competing for ever-higher positions in global rankings have had perverse effects on one of the foundational systems in science: its formal system of communication. This presentation will examine the case of South Africa, a country where an incentive scheme was introduced in the mid-2000s to bolster the production of knowledge – notably in the form of publications and doctoral graduates. It will present how universities responded, the resultant changes in the performance of the system, and the unintended consequences of the policy.