



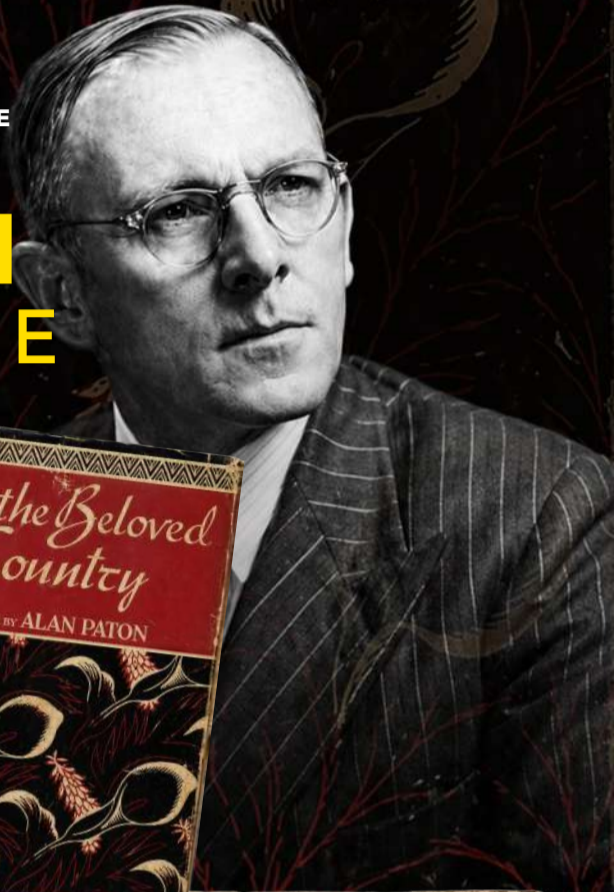
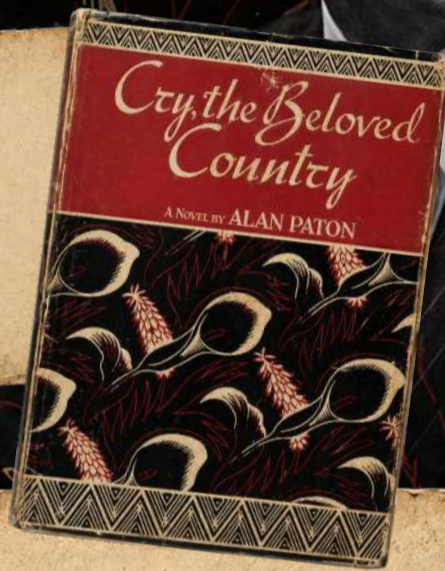
THE UNIVERSITY OF KWAZULU-NATAL
LIBRARY SERVICES AND THE SPECIAL COLLECTIONS - ALAN PATON CENTRE

CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO THE

2026 ALAN PATON ANNUAL LECTURE

THEME

THE TOPOS OF THE PRIEST IN
**CRY, THE BELOVED
COUNTRY** AND OTHER
SELECTED NOVELS.



FRIDAY,
05 JUNE 2026



11H00 - 12H00
(SAST)



PLATFORM:
TEAMS

RSVP HERE



KEYNOTE
SPEAKER

DARRYL EARL DAVID

Darryl Earl David is an alumnus of UKZN who went on to serve Head of Afrikaans and later Head of English, with a distinguished career spanning 25 years at the University. He is widely recognised for his pioneering contributions in the field of literary tourism in South Africa, and is regarded as one of the country's most experienced curators of literary festivals. Among these is the Alan Paton Literary Festival, hosted by the Alan Paton Centre on the Pietermaritzburg campus of UKZN.

He also played a leading role as Director of the successful bid for Durban to be designated a UNESCO City of Literature in 2017. In addition, he was instrumental in establishing the Karoo town of Richmond as the only Book Town on the African continent a decade earlier.

David has published nine books to date and is the recipient of several prestigious awards, including the English Academy of Southern Africa Gold Medal for his contribution to English Literature, as well as the Neville Alexander Prize for his lifelong contribution to Afrikaans.

He currently lectures in the Faculty of Education at the University of the Western Cape and is affiliated with Rhodes University as a Research Associate at the Institute for the Study of English in Africa.



KEYNOTE
RESPONDENT

DAVID ATTWELL

David Attwell is Professor Emeritus at the University of York, where he was Head of the Department of English and Related Literature. He is also Extraordinary Professor at the University of the Western Cape.

A teacher, literary critic, and historian of South African literature, his books include *J. M. Coetzee and the Life of Writing*, a finalist for the Alan Paton Prize; *The Cambridge History of South African Literature*, co-edited with Derek Attridge; *Rewriting Modernity: Studies in Black South African Literary History*; and *Bury Me at the Marketplace*, the collected letters of Es'kia Mphahlele, co-edited with Chabani Manganyi.



FOR FURTHER ENQUIRES CONTACT:

Pamela Adams: Adamsp@ukzn.ac.za or

Namisile Zuma: Zuman3@ukzn.ac.za/Specialcollections@ukzn.ac.za

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