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Harvard professor to talk at UCT about Caregiving and Goodness: Their Broader Role in Society

Vice-Chancellor's Open Lecture to feature Professor Arthur Kleinman on Thursday, 7 February 2013, 18h00, Lecture Theatre 1, Kramer Law Building

There is a need for serious discussion about caregiving and its place in health care and beyond, says leading Harvard Professor Arthur Kleinman. Professor Kleinman will be speaking at the University of Cape Town on Caregiving and Goodness: Their Broader Role in Society at the first Vice-Chancellor's Open Lecture of the year on Thursday, 7 February 2013, at 18h00 in Lecture Theatre 1, Kramer Law Building.

Professor Kleinman is a leading figure in several fields: from medical anthropology, cultural psychiatry and global health to social medicine and medical humanities.

His talk will explore the role and importance of caregiving in everyday life.

He is a professor of medical anthropology and professor of psychiatry in the Department of Global Health and Social Medicine at Harvard Medical School.

As much an anthropologist as a psychiatrist, Professor Kleinman is a former Chair of Harvard's Department of Global Health and Social Medicine and the Department of Anthropology. He is currently the Director of the Harvard Asia Centre. He holds the Sidney Rabb Professor of Anthropology Chair in the Department of Anthropology.

A graduate of Stanford University and Stanford Medical School, with an MA in social anthropology from Harvard and training in psychiatry at the Massachusetts General Hospital, he has conducted research in China from 1978 to the present and in Taiwan from 1969 until 1978.

In 1973 he taught Harvard's first course in medical anthropology, and in 1982 he inaugurated Harvard's PhD programme in medical anthropology.

Professor Kleinman is the author of six books, co-author of two others, co-editor of nearly 30 volumes and eight special issues of journals, and author of over 300 articles, book chapters, reviews and introductions.

Professor Kleinman is a member of the Institute of Medicine of the National Academies and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

The 2001 winner of the Franz Boas Award of the American Anthropological Association (its highest award), Professor Kleinman is also a Distinguished Lifetime Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association.

He has twice presented the Distinguished Lecture at the National Institutes of Health, and until 2011 was a member of its Council of Councils (the advisory board to the Director).

Professor Kleinman will be available for interviews after his lecture. ***ENDS***

Issued by: UCT Communication and Marketing Department

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