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## UCT Maths Competition draws 8000+ learners from across W Cape

The 40<sup>th</sup> University of Cape Town Mathematics Competition will take place on Upper Campus tonight (Thursday, 7 April 2016). The annual event will draw more than 8000 participants representing 170 high schools in the Western Cape, including schools from as far afield as Atlantis, Ceres, Hopefield, Vredendal, Stellenbosch, Paarl, Worcester, Bredasdorp, Laingsburg and George.

"The Maths Competition has strong appeal for learners from many different communities," said Professor John Webb, the director of the UCT Mathematics Competition. "It is one of the ways UCT seeks to serve the country, by encouraging and nurturing a love of mathematics, which can be shared by all kinds of people."

Schools may enter five individuals and five pairs in each of the high school grades (8-12). Pairs and individuals write the same paper, but their results are graded separately. The papers have been set by a committee of mathematics teachers and UCT Maths staff. They will be written in 80 venues on the UCT campus, supervised by more than 300 local mathematics teachers and UCT student volunteers.

The top 200 students will be invited to take part in a follow-up event, the UCT Mathematics Challenge, on Saturday 7 May 2016, and the top students in the Challenge will be invited to take part in the UCT Mathematics Olympiad on Saturday 14 May 2016.

Results will be announced at the prize giving ceremony to be held on Thursday 19 May 2016 at Baxter Concert Hall, UCT.

Full details, including past papers and results, can be found on the UCT Mathematics Competition <u>website</u>.

The UCT Mathematics Competition is sponsored by Capitec Bank, Aurecon and the South African Agency for Science and Technology Advancement, with prizes donated by Casio and Oxford University Press. Computer support is provided by J5 International.

Professor John H Webb (available for interviews) Director, UCT Mathematics Competition Department of Mathematics and Applied Mathematics University of Cape Town

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**ENDS** 

## **Issued by: UCT Communication and Marketing Department**

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