

Communication and Marketing Department Isebe IoThungelwano neNtengiso Kommunikasie en Bemarkingsdepartement

Private Bag X3, Rondebosch 7701, South Africa Welgelegen House, Chapel Road Extension, Rosebank, Cape Town Tel: +27 (0) 21 650 5427/5428/5674 Fax: +27 (0) 21 650 5628

www.uct.ac.za

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UCT exceptional researchers shine on NRF ratings list

In recognition of their outstanding contribution to national and international research across a range of disciplines, five University of Cape Town (UCT) researchers have been added to the National Research Foundation's (NRF) list of A-rated scholars.

Noteworthy achievements

This year Professor Linda-Gail Bekker from the Faculty of Health Sciences and Professors Tommie Meyer and Timothy Egan from the Faculty of Science improved their ratings to an A. Emeritus Professor Dirk van Zyl Smit from the Faculty of Law also achieved a new A rating.

This brings the total number of A-rated researchers at UCT to 31, the highest of any university in South Africa.

Several researchers retained their A ratings: Professor Valerie Mizrahi from the Faculty of Health Sciences, Emeritus Professor Gerald Nurick from the Faculty of Engineering & the Built Environment, Professor Anusuya Chinsamy-Turan from the Faculty of Science and Emeritus Professor David Chidester's from the Faculty of Humanities.

The NRF rating system is a key driver in the foundation's aim to build a globally competitive science system in South Africa. It is used as a tool for benchmarking the quality of researchers in the country against the best in the world. NRF ratings are allocated based on a scholar's recent research outputs and its impact as perceived by both national and international peer reviewers.

The following categories make up the NRF's rating system.

- A leading international researchers
- B internationally acclaimed researchers
- C established researchers
- P prestigious awards
- Y promising young researchers

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Thami Nkwanyane Media Liaison and Monitoring Officer Communication and Marketing Department University of Cape Town Rondebosch Tel: (021) 650 5672 Cell: (072) 563 9500 Email: <u>thami.nkwanyane@uct.ac.za</u> Website: <u>www.uct.ac.za</u>