



Communication and Marketing Department  
Isebe loThungelwano neNtengiso  
Kommunikasie en Bemerkingsdepartement

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](http://www.uct.ac.za)

**23 October 2025**

## **UCT lecture to explore the journey into anatomical pathology**

Professor Komala Pillay, head of the [Division of Anatomical Pathology](#) at the University of Cape Town (UCT), will present her lecture, "Give the PATH less travelled a chance, it may turn out to be magical", on Thursday, 30 October 2025 at 18:00 SAST at the New Learning Centre Lecture Theatre, Anatomy Building on the health sciences campus.

The lecture will explore the journey into anatomical pathology, a discipline often overlooked but essential to medicine. Professor Pillay will reflect on her early experiences as a medical student and the research opportunities that shaped her career path. Her lecture will pay tribute to mentors, colleagues, students and collaborators while highlighting how service delivery has contributed to advances in research and teaching.

Her academic career has integrated clinical service, research, teaching and leadership. She has authored over 100 peer-reviewed publications, with research spanning oncology, neuropathology, placental pathology, lymphoma and infectious diseases. She has supervised numerous postgraduate students and played a leading role in adapting pathology teaching during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Pillay is the Wernher and Beit Chair and head of the Division of Anatomical Pathology at UCT and the National Health Laboratory Services (NHLS), based at Groote Schuur and Red Cross War Memorial Children's hospitals. She is also the honorary professor of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology at Walter Sisulu University. She holds medical and specialist qualifications from the University of KwaZulu Natal, UCT, the Colleges of Medicine of South Africa and the Royal College of Pathologists in the UK.

She is also president of the College of Pathologists of South Africa, chair of the NHLS Anatomical Pathology Expert Committee, advisor to the UK Royal College of Pathologists, and a member of the Ministerial Advisory Committee for the Prevention and Control of Cancer.

- Members of the media wishing to attend are requested to [RSVP](#) via email.

**ENDS**

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

**Ridovhona Mbulaheni**  
Media Liaison and Monitoring Officer

Communication and Marketing Department  
University of Cape Town  
Rondebosch  
Tel: (021) 650 2333  
Cell: (064) 905 3807  
Email: [ridovhona.mbulaheni@uct.ac.za](mailto:ridovhona.mbulaheni@uct.ac.za)  
Website: [www.uct.ac.za](http://www.uct.ac.za)