

## NEWS FROM:

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**12 September 2011**

### **UCT Constitutional law expert to speak on race, redress and remembrance**

**Professor Pierre de Vos to deliver inaugural lecture:  
14 September 2011, 17h30, LT1, Kramer Law Building, Middle Campus**

Professor Pierre de Vos of the University of Cape Town's Department of Public Law will speak on "The past is unpredictable: Race, redress and remembrance in the South African Constitution," in his inaugural lecture on 14 September 2011, 17h30, in Lecture Theatre 1, Kramer Law Building, Middle Campus.

In 2008 Professor de Vos became the first legal academic in South Africa to write a regular Blog, *Constitutionally Speaking*. Today the Blog is widely read and quoted, as is his commentary provided to electronic and print media in South Africa and abroad.

Professor de Vos was appointed as the Claude Leon Foundation Chair in Constitutional Governance in the Public Law Department at the Law Faculty of UCT in July 2009. His tasks include the teaching of undergraduate and postgraduate courses in Constitutional Law, and engagement in public activities to promote respect for the Constitution of South Africa. He has obtained a BComm (Law), LLB and LLM (cum laude), all from the University of Stellenbosch; a LLM from the University of Columbia, New York; and an LLD from the University of the Western Cape.

Professor de Vos has published widely on an array of topics dealing, broadly, with the use of law in promoting social justice. His research focuses specifically on the realisation of social and economic rights - including the right to housing and health care - and the prohibition on unfair discrimination - especially as it relates to discrimination against gay men, lesbians and people living with HIV/AIDS.

For the past five years, Professor de Vos has chaired the Board of the Aids Legal Network, an NGO promoting a human rights approach to HIV/AIDS prevention, combating discrimination against people living with HIV/AIDS, and government policies regarding HIV/AIDS treatment. He is also a board member of the Triangle Project and the Ubuntu Development Forum.

In 1994 he published a novel - in Afrikaans - entitled *Slegs Blankes/Whites Only*. The novel told the story of a young Afrikaans man coming to terms with the fact that his father was a member of an apartheid hit squad, and with the fact of his own sexuality.

***ENDS***

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

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