

NEWS FROM:



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UCT Deputy Vice-Chancellor Beall steps down

Professor Jo Beall, a deputy vice-chancellor at the University of Cape Town, has tendered her resignation to take up the position of Director of Education and Society at the British Council in London. Her resignation will take effect at the end of April.

"Professor Beall has been an active and involved member of the executive. I am personally grateful to her for her support and the work that has been done. I have no doubt she will make a significant success of the new position and I trust that her relationship with UCT will continue," said Vice-Chancellor Dr Max Price in his announcement of the resignation to UCT staff and students.

Professor Beall has responsibility for the strategic goals related to improving the quality of teaching and learning (including the idea of "graduateness"), internationalisation and UCT Plan 2020: Size and Shape. She holds the executive oversight for quality assurance, institutional planning, academic staff development, libraries and ICT initiatives. She also serves on various high-level committees internal and external to UCT.

"I am looking forward to the challenges that will be presented by this new opportunity," said Professor Beall. "I feel that the various positions I have held over the years have afforded me the range of insights and experience that will stand me in good stead and will help me take forward the vision and work of the British Council. I am sad to be leaving the University of Cape Town and will play my part to ensure a smooth transition. I had anticipated a longer stay, but I believe my joining the British Council is the right decision and presents an opportunity to use my range of expertise on an international platform and in the broader service of education and development."

Dr Price has appointed Professor Daya Reddy, who holds the South African Research Chair for computational mechanics, to work alongside Professor Beall with regards to leading the work on the strategic goal related to the size and shape of UCT. Professor Reddy will take over as project leader once she has left.

The university executive is in discussions around the appointment of an acting deputy vice-chancellor. "We expect the selection process to take some time," said Dr Price. "I will make a further announcement on the various other aspects of Professor Beall's portfolio and related responsibilities, and how they might be shared between the acting deputy vice-chancellor and the other three deputy vice-chancellors. We will also make arrangements in terms of those who report to Professor Beall and to replace her on the committees she serves on."

The formal selection process to fill the post will begin shortly.

ENDS

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