

NEWS FROM:



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UCT to graduate 63 doctoral candidates this week

Total 1336 graduates to be hooded on 9 & 10 June 2011

The University of Cape Town will graduate a total of 63 Doctors of Philosophy at three ceremonies on 9 and 10 June 2011. The total number of graduates for June 2011 is 1336. This is the first of two graduation sessions each year at UCT.

There are 24 822 students registered at UCT this year. In 2010, the university graduated a total of 6355 students, including 167 doctoral candidates. In June 2010, 83 graduates earned doctoral degrees out of a total of 1293 graduates.

UCT Vice-Chancellor Dr Max Price said: "Anyone who has undertaken the rigorous research and achieved the depth of specialised expertise required to earn the degree of Doctor of Philosophy has not only achieved a remarkable personal accomplishment, but has also increased the global body of knowledge in their field of study. This month's doctoral candidates have increased our understanding about climate change, biodiversity, aquaculture, governance, finance, information systems and communications technology, land access and management, marriage patterns, rape victims, youth and education, as well as critical health issues such as tuberculosis, HIV/Aids, malaria and substance addiction. In this way, top African research is speaking to issues of international importance."

To earn the degree of Doctor of Philosophy, a candidate must conduct independent research on his or her own initiative, and then demonstrate, through the writing of a thesis, that he or she is at the academic forefront in the topic selected, and that the work is original and advances knowledge.

The faculty breakdown for June 2011 PhD graduates is: nine for Commerce; five for Engineering & Built Environment; 21 for Health Sciences; seven for Humanities; one for Law; and 20 for Science.

Special awards and honorary degrees

At the ceremony on Thursday, 9 June, Emeritus Professor JC "Kay" de Villiers will receive the UCT Book Award in honour of *Healers, Helpers and Hospitals: A History of Military Medicine in the Anglo-Boer War*.

At the ceremony at 10h00 on Friday, 10 June, Professor Joe Noero of the School of Architecture in the Faculty of Engineering & the Built Environment will receive the UCT Creative Works Award in honour of his design of the Red Location Museum in New Brighton township, Port Elizabeth.

Honorary degrees will be conferred on Mrs Stella Petersen and UCT Emeritus Professor Martin West on Friday, 10 June at the 10h00 ceremony.

A deeply revered and respected community figure, Mrs Petersen set high standards with her extraordinary dedication and commitment to her teaching. She holds a BSc in Botany and Zoology, an MSc in Science, a senior teaching diploma and a BEd degree, all from UCT. She secured a prestigious International Educational Fellowship in the USA and became the first South African to study at Syracuse University in New York, where she earned an MSc in Education in 1949. After her return to South Africa she was refused a position in her chosen profession as a researcher because of her race, so she became a high school teacher. In 1970 Mrs Petersen retired from her last teaching position, as a biology teacher, held for many years at Livingstone High School in the Southern Suburbs of Cape Town. By that time she had become one of that school's legendary educationists, embodying its disciplined approach to learning as well as its distinctively principled anti-apartheid ethos. Even in retirement, she remains a great propagator of knowledge to students. Until 2005 she served as an educational officer in the environmental centre of Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens, where she achieved public recognition for her outstanding efforts in transmitting awareness of conservation. At every turn, she has championed principled beliefs in a future society of genuine non-racialism: a democratic and equal world. Petersen will receive her Honorary Doctorate in Education.

Professor West has made many contributions to UCT as an academic leader who embodied the values of scholarship, integrity and academic freedom. The honorary degree recognises in particular his role in governance and transformation of UCT in a time of transition. Professor West retired from UCT in 2008 after serving with distinction for 17 years as a Deputy Vice-Chancellor and later as Vice-Principal. Serving under four vice-chancellors, he made a vital contribution to changing governance at UCT during the first decade of the new democratic South Africa. Professor West also held the student affairs portfolio for over a decade, successfully managing a time of great change as the student body became much more representative. He played a major role in the transition in the residences, the unification and development of sport on the campus, and in leading the lengthy processes that resulted in the shift in student politics from mainly protest to a system of co-operative

governance. In achieving this, he handled student protests and lengthy negotiations with skill and patience. He also set up an International Office, which significantly developed the international component of the student body. He played the key role in creating a unique staff development partnership that links six universities in Botswana, Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe and UCT. Known as USHEPiA (Science, Humanities and Engineering Partnerships in Africa), this has become a model of a "south-south" co-operatively governed partnership that has strengthened the partner universities by training academic staff and developing research on the continent. Professor West's career started at UCT as a student in 1964. He joined the staff in 1971 as a lecturer, and became Professor of Social Anthropology in 1978. He is a former Director of the Centre for African Studies, and President of the UCT Staff Association. He is a recipient of the Vice-Chancellor's Medal for outstanding service. Professor West will receive his Honorary Doctorate in Literature.

June 2011 graduation timetable

Date & Time	Faculty	Guests, awards, honorary degrees, etc.
Thursday, 9 June, 15h00	Commerce Health Sciences Law	The UCT Book Award: Emeritus Professor JC "Kay" de Villiers. In honour of <i>Healers, Helpers and Hospitals: A History of Military Medicine in the Anglo-Boer War</i>
Friday, 10 June, 10h00	Engineering & the Built Environment Humanities Science	Mrs Stella Petersen: Honorary Doctorate in Education Emeritus Professor Martin West: Honorary Doctorate in Literature The UCT Creative Works Award: Professor Joe Noero, School of Architecture, EBE. In honour of his design of the Red Location Museum in New Brighton township, Port Elizabeth.
Friday, 10 June, 15h00	Graduate School of Business	

Graduation statistics

FACULTY/QUALIFICATION TYPE

COMMERCE	June 2011	June 2010	Dec 2010
Diplomas & certificates	230	302	458
Bachelors	144	138	741

Honours	49	27	142
Masters	71	48	40
MBA	167	165	9
Doctoral	9	6	9
Total	670	686	1399

ENGINEERING & BUILT ENVIRONMENT	June 2011	June 2010	Dec 2010
Diplomas	1	3	9
Bachelors	20	30	456
Honours	2	7	94
Masters	60	57	112
Doctoral	5	9	12
Total	88	106	683

HEALTH SCIENCES	June 2011	June 2010	Dec 2010
Diplomas	48	24	96
Bachelors	6	9	300
Honours	0	0	62
Masters	69	45	62
Doctoral	21	17	13
Total	144	95	533

HUMANITIES	June 2011	June 2010	Dec 2010
Diplomas & certificates	13	6	432
Bachelors	48	40	873
Honours	38	42	322
Masters	111	115	98
Doctoral	7	21	14
Total	217	224	1739

LAW	June 2011	June 2010	Dec 2010
Diplomas	21	12	10
Bachelors	17	10	78
Masters	63	54	57
Doctoral	1	1	3
Total	102	77	148

SCIENCE	June 2011	June 2010	Dec 2010
Diplomas	0	0	17
Bachelors	29	22	284
Honours	3	1	164
Masters	63	53	62
Doctoral	20	29	33
Total	115	105	560

GRAND TOTAL	1336	1293	5062
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Total number of students enrolled at UCT in 2011: 24 822

Issued by: UCT Communication and Marketing Department

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