

NEWS FROM:

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**22 August 2011**

## **UCT academic to present musical lecture on primary health care**

**“The Music of Health for All”: inaugural lecture by Professor Steve Reid, Primary Health Care Directorate: Wednesday, 24 August 2011 at 17h30, Student Learning Centre Lecture Theatre, Anatomy Building, Faculty of Health Sciences, UCT**

Professor Steve Reid, the Glaxo-Wellcome Chair of Primary Health Care at the University of Cape Town, will perform live music in his presentation of his inaugural lecture, “The Music of Health for All”, on Wednesday, 24 August 2011, at 17h30, in the Student Learning Centre Lecture Theatre of the Anatomy Building in the Faculty of Health Sciences at UCT.

Professor Reid is a family physician with extensive experience in clinical practice, teaching and research, particularly in the area of rural health. He is also a classical musician who plays the violin and piano in a chamber group. He will use his inaugural lecture to explore the themes of primary health care using music as a medium. He said: “For some years I puzzled over how to integrate my rational, goal-oriented working life as a medical academic with my more creative life as a musician. I inhabited them both as two completely separate entities, and they seemed to be irreconcilable. However, over time I have come to make the connections more explicit, and to deliberately seek out or create the linkages between the creative arts and health care. The inaugural lecture is an opportunity to present primary health care in a fresh way, as the concept of health for all is as relevant for us now as it has ever been.”

Inaugural lectures are held to commemorate the inaugural lecturer’s appointment to full professorship. They provide a platform for academics to present the body of research that they have been focusing on during their careers.

**Passion for primary health care**

Professor Reid took up his new post as Glaxo-Wellcome Chair of Primary Health Care at the beginning of 2010. He is developing this role to support UCT medical and health science graduates to become more relevant and appropriately skilled in Africa, by extending the teaching platform and reforming curricula. He also acts as a consultant to the Western Cape Department of Health on primary health care, community-based services and human resources for health.

Professor Reid was the Director of the Centre for Rural Health at the University of KwaZulu-Natal for 10 years and has a deep understanding of the district health system and the related human resource challenges at a national level. Rural health, community-oriented primary care, population-based approaches to health, and a national collaboration for health equity through education and research are just some of his academic interests. He is a member of a World Health Organization expert group on human resources for health in rural and remote areas.

He received his doctorate in education from the University of KwaZulu-Natal. His thesis, "Education for rural medical practice", critically examines the educational determinants of medical practice in rural and underserved areas in South Africa.

### **The PHC Directorate at UCT**

Primary Health Care (PHC) is an approach to health care that promotes the attainment by all people of a level of health that will permit them to live socially and economically productive lives. PHC calls for the integration of health services with community development, a process that requires political commitment, intersectoral collaboration and multidisciplinary involvement for success.

The PHC Directorate is a cross-disciplinary unit in the Faculty of Health Sciences with a mission to equip UCT graduates to provide equitable and holistic care at all levels of the South African health care system.

***ENDS***

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

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