

## NEWS FROM:

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## **UCT teaching material receives award for OpenCourseWare Excellence**

A resource shared on the University of Cape Town's OpenContent directory has earned a 2011 Award for OpenCourseWare Excellence recognised by the international OpenCourseWare community. Ms Matumo Ramafikeng received an ACE Award from the OpenCourseWare Consortium in the "texts and illustrations" category for her course titled *Occupation Focused Conceptual Frameworks*, focusing on the core concepts of occupational therapy thinking used in practice by occupational therapy students, therapists and scientists.

The OpenCourseWare Consortium is a worldwide community of more than 250 universities and associated organisations committed to advancing opencourseware sharing and its impact on global educational opportunity. Opencourseware is accessible online to anyone at no cost, and is not limited by copyright.

More than 18 000 open education resources were nominated from around the world; Ramafikeng's work was among the 10 to be awarded, and the only submission from Africa to receive an award.

Ramafikeng's material was selected for publication late in 2010. The *Journal of Occupational Therapy of Galicia* translated her lecture notes on the Model of Creative Ability, made available online through UCT's OpenContent directory, into Spanish. Those notes later appeared as an introduction to the journal's September edition on the occupational therapy practice model that originated in South Africa in the 1960s and 1970s.

Ramafikeng developed her material beginning in 2009, when she was working on her Masters degree at UCT. "We wanted to see how we could use technology to enhance student learning and interaction, and particularly their understanding of conceptual frameworks," she said. She enhanced case studies with videos, newspaper clips and updated literature, and simplified the textbook material into simpler English. "The students found it more appealing, and the use of video made it easier for them to connect to the case studies," Ramafikeng said.

Ramafikeng completed her Masters in Occupational Therapy in 2010. She is currently a PhD candidate in occupational therapy.

***ENDS***

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