

NEWS FROM:

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## UCT expert to discuss pragmatic psychology and perils of eyewitness identification

**Professor Colin Tredoux to deliver inaugural lecture on Wednesday, 28  
September 2011, 17h30,  
LT 2D, Leslie Social Sciences Building, Upper Campus**

Colin Tredoux is Professor of Psychology at the University of Cape Town, and was Head of Department from 2007 to 2010. He has appeared as an expert witness in South African courts, advising on the limitations of polygraph testing. He has also published methods for assessing the fairness of police identification parades, and has led a multi-year project to develop software for the synthesis of artificial faces. The software has multiple uses, ranging from development of stimuli in research laboratories, to construction of faces from memory. It is presently used by a number of research groups around the world.

A key focus in Professor Tredoux's research has been on practical interventions derived from psychological research. His approach is both to assess existing interventions, and to research new ones. He works in two main research areas, namely Psychology and the Law, and the Social Psychology of Intergroup Relations.

He collaborates extensively with researchers from other universities, both within South Africa, and from abroad, and is involved in ongoing research in Indonesia, Germany and the United States. The National Research Foundation has recognised the international impact of Professor Tredoux's research, awarding him a B2 rating.

Professor Tredoux has co-authored three books, including *Psychology and Law* (2005) and *Improving Intergroup Relations* (2008), and has published original

research in a number of national and international periodicals, including *American Psychologist*, *Memory and Cognition*, *Psychological Science*, *Law and Human Behavior*, *Applied Cognitive Psychology*, *Urban Studies*, *Industrial Law Journal*, *South African Journal of Psychology*, and the *South African Law Journal*.

Inaugural lectures commemorate the inaugural lecturer's appointment to full professorship. They provide a platform for the academic to present the body of research that they have been focusing on during their career. The lecture also provides UCT with the opportunity to showcase its academics and share its research with members of the wider university community and the general public in an accessible way.

***ENDS***

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