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Family of gold winners sponsors new trophy for UCT Mathematics Competition

**Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor Danie Visser to speak at prize giving
at 19h00 on Thursday, 7 June 2012, in Baxter Concert Hall**

The University of Cape Town Mathematics Competition this year will inaugurate a new trophy category, thanks to the generosity of the Moolla family, whose three sons were consistent Gold Award winners when they were in high school.

Sadiq, Haroon and Ashraf Moolla all represented Rondebosch Boys' High School in the UCT Mathematics Competition. Ashraf, the youngest son, is now a first-year student at UCT, studying actuarial science.

Professor John Webb, the organiser of the competition, said: "It's an honour to have a trophy sponsored by a family that has distinguished itself so highly in the UCT Mathematics Competition. From 2003 to 2011 there wasn't a year without a Moolla boy on the stage getting a Gold Award. They each went on to represent South Africa in the International Mathematics Olympiad. We are very proud that they now want to inspire others to excel in mathematics."

At the request of the Moollas, the new trophy will be awarded to a school from a disadvantaged community that has made a notable performance in the competition.

This year's competition took place in April, with a record entry of 7251 participants from a record number of 150 Western Cape schools. More than 200 maths teachers from local schools assisted in the running of the competition.

Capitec Bank has just become the main sponsor of the competition for the next three years, with an annual donation of R100,000. Professor Webb said: "Their support enables us to offer participation in the UCT Mathematics Competition to all schools free of charge." Capitec will also give every prize winner a R100 Capitec voucher.

Engineering group Aurecon donated R20,000 this year towards the cost of transport for 295 participants from 13 schools in Khayelitsha. Aurecon has been a sponsor since 2006.

Casio and Oxford University Press have also donated prizes. This is their 20th year of supporting the UCT Mathematics Competition.

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