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1,389 UCT students to graduate this week

81 doctoral degrees to be awarded in recognition of research on leading health, economic, political and cultural issues, among others

Altogether 1,389 students, including 81 PhD students, will graduate this week from the University of Cape Town, reflecting a healthy increase in the university's graduation numbers over the last two years.

The June harvest of postgraduates concentrated on hard-pressing issues such as HIV/Aids and tuberculosis, which continue to affect millions of South Africans. Others delivered innovative work in areas such as land reform; disability in the workplace; improving water and sanitation in informal settlements; reducing power stations' downtimes; the role of mobile technology in the social economic development of semi-literate users; interactive mobile lecturing; and digital storytelling and the preservation of South African narratives.

Gerda Kruger, Executive Director: Communication and Marketing at UCT, says: "The steady increase in our graduate output is a testament to UCT's commitment to train a competent, informed workforce, which we believe is critical in dealing with South Africa's skills shortage. At UCT we strive to deliver both workers and research that can assist our country and continent in tackling complex health, social, energy, economy and engineering challenges. Once again, I am impressed by the cutting-edge research conducted by our postgraduate students, as they focused on various subjects in these particular spheres that can help serve the needs of our people."

The graduation ceremonies for UCT's six faculties will be spread out over two days, 6 and 7 June 2013, and will take place at Jameson Hall on Upper Campus. The faculties are Commerce; Engineering and the Built Environment; Law; Health Sciences; Humanities; and Science.

Date	Event	Highlights/Speakers
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6 June 2013	Address by Auditor-General Terence Nombembe 10h00	Terence Nombembe , Auditor-General of South Africa, will speak at the Commerce faculty graduation ceremony.
6 June 2013	Address by Minister Derek Hanekom 15h00	Derek Hanekom , Minister of Science and Technology, will address the Health Sciences, Science and Engineering faculties graduation ceremony.
7 June 2013	Honorary doctorates to be conferred 10h00	Honorary doctorates will be conferred to Caiphus Semenya and Letta Mbulu , a South African singing couple who enjoys international recognition for their musical talents. The couple will perform at the graduation ceremony.
7 June 2013	Book awards and Creative Works Award 15h00	Author Sonja Loots will receive the UCT 2013 Book Award for her book, <i>Sirkusboere</i> . The day's programme will also feature the 2013 Meritorious Book Award for <i>J.M. Coetzee: Countervoices</i> by Carrol Clarkson and <i>Raw Life, New Hope</i> , by Fiona C Ross . The Creative Works Award will be presented to Associate Professor Johann van der Schijff from UCT's Michaelis School of Fine Art for his catalogue, <i>Community Punching Bag</i> .

Below follows comparative statistics for UCT's graduations from 2011 to 2013:

FACULTY/QUALIFICATION TYPE

COMMERCE	June 2011	Dec 2011	June 2012	Dec 2012	June 2013
Diplomas & Certificates	230	523	237	528	225
Bachelors	144	705	131	778	109
Honours	49	101	49	107	53
Master's	71	38	57	29	68
MBA	167	3	182	3	151
Doctoral	9	7	5	20	6
TOTAL	670	1377	661	1465	612

ENGINEERING & BUILT ENVIRONMENT	Jun 2011	Dec 2011	June 2012	Dec 2012	June 2013
Diplomas	1	7	3	8	2
Bachelors	20	502	25	551	28
Honours	2	121	4	104	3
Master's	60	134	77	122	92
Doctoral	5	10	3	11	7
TOTAL	88	774	112	796	132

HEALTH SCIENCES	Jun 2011	Dec 2011	June 2012	Dec 2012	June 2013
Diplomas	48	82	34	158	33
Bachelors	6	288	6	295	3
Honours	0	69	0	76	0
Master's	69	70	56	75	81
Doctoral	21	26	10	27	23

TOTAL	144	535	106	631	140
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HUMANITIES	Jun 2011	Dec 2011	June 2012	Dec 2012	June 2013
Diplomas & Certificates	13	469	20	369	16
Bachelors	48	918	53	980	47
Honours	38	368	40	350	35
Master's	111	94	116	99	124
Doctoral	7	15	12	16	17
TOTAL	217	1864	241	1814	239

LAW	Jun 2011	Dec 2011	June 2012	Dec 2012	June 2013
Diplomas	21	3	10	5	22
Bachelors	17	104	22	108	5
Master's	63	54	73	38	70
Doctoral	1	5	2	5	3
TOTAL	102	166	107	156	100

SCIENCE	Jun 2011	Dec 2011	June 2012	Dec 2012	June 2013
Diplomas	0	0	0	3	0
Bachelors	29	313	39	387	52
Honours	3	162	3	170	5
Master's	63	59	59	69	84
Doctoral	20	23	12	40	25
TOTAL	115	557	113	669	166

GRAND TOTAL	Jun 2011	Dec 2011	June 2012	Dec 2012	June 2013
Diplomas & Certificates	313	1084	304	1071	298
Bachelors	264	2830	276	3099	244
Honours	92	821	96	807	96
MBA	167	3	182	3	151
Master's	437	449	438	432	519
Doctoral	63	86	44	119	81
TOTAL	1336	5273	1340	5531	1389

Please note:

1. Numbers in the "Diplomas & Certificates" category include both undergraduate and postgraduate qualifications of this type.
2. **All figures for June 2013 reflect those available as of 4 June 2013, and may be subject to change.**

EDITOR'S NOTE: Key events at the graduation ceremonies

- UCT will confer honorary doctorates on two of South Africa's musical icons, **Caiphus Semenya and Letta Mbulu**. The couple, who will perform at the award ceremony at 10h00 on Friday, 7 June 2013, will be recognised for their musical achievements and the role they played in the fight for democracy in South Africa.

- **Auditor-General Terence Nombembe** will address the Commerce faculty graduation ceremony at 10h00 on Thursday, 6 June 2013; while **Science and Technology Minister Derek Hanekom** will be the speaker at the Health Sciences, Science and Engineering graduation ceremony at 15h00 on the same day.

ENDS

Media Alert: For accreditation please contact Kemantha Govender at tel: 021 650 5672, 084 737 6522 or kemantha.govender@uct.ac.za. All ceremonies will be streamed live on www.uct.ac.za.

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