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**11 December 2013**

## **5,560\* graduates to be capped at UCT this month**

**Thirteen graduation ceremonies taking place from 11 to 17 December 2013 at Jameson Hall, Upper Campus, UCT**

The University of Cape Town will award approximately 5,560 degrees to students across its six faculties at the university's end-of-year graduation ceremonies, taking place from 11 to 17 December 2013 in the Jameson Hall, Upper Campus. This brings UCT's total number of graduates for 2013 to 6,934 - a slight increase on last year's total of 6,871.

For 2013, UCT will have graduated approximately 170 doctoral candidates; 1,262 recipients of diplomas and certificates; 3,362 bachelors; 1,028 honours; 956 master's; and 154 MBA degree holders. Says Gerda Kruger, Executive Director: Communication and Marketing Department, UCT: "The excellence and diversity of our graduates is a visible example of what Madiba stood for. He valued education as a means to change one's future and your society for the better. He applauded perseverance and discipline. He honoured those who took on challenges and worked hard to achieve success. Our students who are graduating this month are each in their own way giving effect to Madiba's dreams and principles. They will go on to change their different communities and the world for the better."

For December, the faculty breakdown of the PhD graduates is: eight for Commerce; nine for Engineering & the Built Environment; 28 for Health Sciences; 15 for Humanities; four for Law; and 31 for Science. Research on energy and mineral sources; economic crises in Africa; the representation of postcolonial Africa in fiction writing; potential anti-cancer treatment; and the effectiveness of antiretroviral treatment in patients co-infected with HIV and tuberculosis – these are all types of research undertaken by UCT students with the hope of solving some of the problems faced by South Africa and the African continent.

The graduation figures for December (2011 to 2013)\* are:

<b>COMMERCE</b>	<b>Dec 2011</b>	<b>Dec 2012</b>	<b>Dec 2013</b>
Diplomas & certificates	523	528	465
Bachelors	705	778	828
Honours	101	107	160
Master's	38	29	28
MBA	3	3	3

Doctoral	7	20	8
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1377</b>	<b>1465</b>	<b>1492</b>

<b>ENGINEERING &amp; THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT</b>	<b>Dec 2011</b>	<b>Dec 2012</b>	<b>Dec 2013</b>
Diplomas	7	8	6
Bachelors	502	551	595
Honours	121	104	120
Master's	134	122	121
Doctoral	10	11	9
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>774</b>	<b>796</b>	<b>851</b>

<b>HEALTH SCIENCES</b>	<b>Dec 2011</b>	<b>Dec 2012</b>	<b>Dec 2013</b>
Diplomas	82	158	129
Bachelors	288	295	309
Honours	69	76	70
Master's	70	75	96
Doctoral	26	27	28
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>535</b>	<b>631</b>	<b>632</b>

<b>HUMANITIES</b>	<b>Dec 2011</b>	<b>Dec 2012</b>	<b>Dec 2013</b>
Diplomas & certificates	469	369	354
Bachelors	918	980	952
Honours	368	350	393
Master's	94	99	91
Doctoral	15	16	15
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1864</b>	<b>1814</b>	<b>1805</b>

<b>LAW</b>	<b>Dec 2011</b>	<b>Dec 2012</b>	<b>Dec 2013</b>
Diplomas	3	5	11
Bachelors	104	108	126
Master's	54	38	47
Doctoral	5	5	4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>188</b>

<b>SCIENCE</b>	<b>Dec 2011</b>	<b>Dec 2012</b>	<b>Dec 2013</b>
Diplomas	0	3	1
Bachelors	313	387	308
Honours	162	170	189
Master's	59	69	63
Doctoral	23	40	31
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>557</b>	<b>669</b>	<b>592</b>

<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>5273</b>	<b>5531</b>	<b>5560</b>
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**\*Please note that the graduation figures mentioned in this press release reflect figures available at the time of going to print, and are not necessarily the final figures.**

As part of the 2013 December graduation programme, UCT will confer four Distinguished

Teachers Awards and a Social Responsiveness Award on excelling academics, as well as allow two new Fellows to the university.

### **Distinguished Teachers and Social Responsiveness Awards**

The Distinguished Teachers Award (DTA) is the highest accolade given to teaching staff at all levels within UCT and a respected recognition of excellent teaching. Mr Paul Maughan will receive his award at the 10h00 graduation ceremony on Saturday, 14 December 2013, while Doctors Hedley Twidle and Ian Rijdsdijk will accept theirs at 15h00 on the same day. Dr Helen Macdonald will be awarded her DTA on Tuesday, 17 December 2013, at 10h00.

**Mr Paul Maughan – “An excellent teacher, able to influence students beyond the classroom”:** Mr Maughan, a senior lecturer at UCT’s College of Accounting, was one of the main drivers behind the introduction of a capstone course, Business Analysis and Governance, for undergraduate students in chartered accounting (capstone refers to a final-year undergraduate course that brings together what was learnt by students in courses across various academic disciplines). This course was developed in response to the South African Institute of Chartered Accountants’ introduction of a new competency framework and was designed specifically to enhance graduates’ attributes.

**Dr Hedley Twidle - “Inspiring intellectual adventure”:** Dr Twidle, a lecturer at UCT’s Department of English Language and Literature, believes English literature is “a fluid and evolving thing - a practice that weaves continually between practical and theoretical, critical and creative, seriousness and lightness, private and public, work and play”. Dr Twidle was instrumental in re-imagining the first-year curriculum and enhancing the graduate tutors’ training programme. His energy and commitment as a teacher, and his ability to take an intellectual lead and inspire confidence in students, make him a worthy DTA recipient.

**Dr Ian Rijdsdijk - “Infectious enthusiasm, deep generosity and encyclopaedic knowledge of cinema”:** A senior lecturer at UCT’s Centre for Film and Media Studies, Dr Rijdsdijk has captivated a generation of students whom he successfully equipped with tools to engage critically with film.

**Dr Helen Macdonald – “A demanding teacher who inculcates a love of learning”:** Based at UCT’s Department of Social Anthropology, Dr Macdonald’s dedication to education is evident in the way she – through her teaching – strives to ensure that the next generation of anthropologists combine their ideas and theory with research practices. She believes this will enable them to compete internationally.

**Professor Pierre de Vos,** UCT constitutional law expert, is the recipient of this year’s Social Responsiveness Award for his contribution towards enhancing the public’s practical understanding of constitutional matters in relation to broader social issues. Professor De Vos has also consistently received excellent teaching evaluations by students. He will be awarded at the 18h00 graduation ceremony on Monday, 16 December 2013.

### **UCT allows two new Fellows**

At the same ceremony on Monday, 16 December 2013, UCT will welcome two new Fellows to its fold: **Professors Caroline Williamson and Edward Sturrock**. Professor Williamson is at the forefront of HIV research in South Africa and world-renowned in the field of HIV diversity, pathogenesis and vaccine development. She heads up the Division of Medical Virology in the Department of Clinical Laboratory Sciences at UCT's Medical School. Professor Edward Sturrock from the Division of Medical Biochemistry in UCT's Faculty of Health Sciences is known internationally for paving the way for the solution of the world's first crystal structure of ACE (novel angiotensin-converting enzyme), which plays a pivotal role in human blood pressure regulation.

***ENDS***

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

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