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UCT to host wide-ranging colloquium on disability and social justice

UN's Manjoo to address delegates at 25-27 March 2013 event

The University of Cape Town's Disability Service, together with the university's Transformation Services Office, is to hold a colloquium called "At the Intersection" which will focus on issues that link disability with other social justice disciplines.

The event, to be held at UCT during the afternoon of Monday March 25, and a full day on Tuesday March 26, will be followed by a day-long workshop on learning disabilities on Wednesday March 27.

The UN Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women, Professor Rashida Manjoo, as well as other speakers, will address delegates on the opening day of the colloquium.

Experts from various disciplines will speak on a wide range of issues at the colloquium, including HIV and infertility, disability and sexual identities, HIV/AIDS and hearing impairment, and the ethics of care.

"Intersectionality is a key tool devised originally by Feminist theorists to interrogate multiple forms of oppression impacting negatively on the lives of women. It has become a powerful framework within which to interrogate social justice issues more generally, showing that the whole proves to be greater than the sum of its parts," said Head of Disability Services, Reinette Popplestone.

Wednesday, 27 March, has been set aside for a special focus on specific learning disabilities. Renowned specialists will speak on learning disabilities ranging from dyslexia to handwriting difficulties and their impact on learning and achievement. Other issues to be explored include Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder, visually related learning difficulties and Asperger's Syndrome.

Registration fees for the Colloquium will cost R250 for the half day on 25 March and R500 for the full day of events on 26 March. The learning disabilities workshop on 27 March will cost R500. There will be no charge for students.

For further information, please contact Nafisa Mayat on 021 650-5088 or e-mail:
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ENDS

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