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Campaign for Safe Communities to be launched at UCT **Wednesday, 27 March 2013, at 18h00 at Jameson Hall**

The Campaign for Safe Communities, a coalition seeking to address the high levels of violence and crime in South Africa, will be launched on Wednesday, 27 March 2013, at 18h00 at Jameson Hall at the University of Cape Town.

Community-based organisations, the business sector, universities, research institutions and concerned individuals have joined forces in a bid to create safe communities and access to justice for everyone.

Guy Lamb, Director of UCT's Safety and Violence Initiative (SaVI), said: "The objectives of the campaign speak directly to our vision of working towards a safe South Africa, where freedom and security are the norm, rather than the exception."

Lamb added that a number of academics associated with SaVI have been working closely with the organisations that are part of this campaign.

"SaVI's social responsiveness prerogative is closely aligned to the objectives of this civil society undertaking," said Lamb.

Campaign for Safe Communities coordinator Daniel Hofmeyr said the organisation is aware that the police and criminal justice system alone cannot create safe communities.

"It requires a coordinated response from all government departments and agencies responsible for the provision of safety and justice," said Hofmeyr.

"As a nation we continue to express outrage when the media reports another horrific incident, but without contributing to plans, without advocating for what needs to be done, without putting pressure on government, we will not succeed in creating safe communities and a safe South Africa," said Hofmeyr.

For general enquiries, please contact Hofmeyr on 079 699 4588 or dan@nu.org.za or visit www.safecommunities.sjc.org.za

ENDS

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