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Update on senior appointments at UCT

The University of Cape Town confirms that the recruitment process for a new Vice-Chancellor (VC) is underway.

The current VC's term of office ends in June 2018 after he would have concluded two five-year terms since being appointed on 1 July 2008. UCT is seeking to appoint a new VC to take over from 1 July 2018.

UCT also confirms that there has been discussions over the possibility of creating a chief operations officer (COO) post. These discussions are yet to be concluded and nothing is finalised. The debate is over whether one of the existing deputy vice-chancellor (DVC) posts should be changed to a COO. This will therefore not be a new post, nor will it require any additional funding.

The purpose behind the creation of the COO role is to deal with important operational issues in departments such as Information and Communication Technology Services, Libraries, Properties and Services, which require a dedicated focus. The objective is to improve and manage services for the students and staff.

The senior executive structure at UCT currently comprises a VC and four DVCs as agreed to by the UCT Council, who are responsible for overseeing operations at a huge and complex institution with approximately 7 500 permanent and fixed-term contract staff members and 29 000 students. The DVCs share the executive load with the VC and take full responsibility for their portfolios of Institutional Innovation, Research and Internationalisation, Teaching and Learning, and Transformation.

ENDS

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