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UCT condemns statement by student

The University of Cape Town Vice-Chancellor, Professor Mamokgethi Phakeng, as she often does, congratulated a student for completing his honours degree and for applying to do his Master of Arts degree.

She has specifically distanced herself from threats of violence as contained in the acknowledgements section of the student's dissertation shared on social media, stating that she could never be proud of promises of violence.

Like the VC, UCT distances itself and we do not condone such language. Language such as this does not advance our vision of an institution that is inclusive and committed to social justice issues. It is divisive and in our view not constructive.

We live in a constitutional democracy, where freedom of speech is enshrined in our constitution. Individuals must take personal responsibility for exercising that right.

ENDS

Issued by: UCT Communication and Marketing Department

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