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A double international win for UCT archaeology professor

Professor Shadreck Chirikure, who heads the University of Cape Town's (UCT) Department of Archaeology, has become the first African to win the *Antiquity* journal of archaeology's [Antiquity Prize](#) twice. Professor Chirikure won the award for best paper of 2018.

Professor Chirikure's winning paper is titled "Elites and commoners at Great Zimbabwe: Archaeological and ethnographic insights on social power," and appeared in the August 2018 issue of the journal.

"The important thing is for us in the global south to demonstrate that we have what it takes to compete at the highest level possible," he said. Writing a winning paper takes a great deal of preparation, thought, data collection and analysis, he added. The various elements must be integrated in a creative manner that is insightful, innovative and leaves readers with 'But why didn't we think about this?'.

The prize funds will be invested back into the research, to advance the frontiers of knowledge.

In 2008 Professor Chirikure's first submission, with co-author, Innocent Pikirayi, "Inside and outside the dry stone walls: Revisiting the material culture of Great Zimbabwe", was awarded the same honour.

Last month Professor Chirikure won a [Global Professorship from the British Academy](#) for his work dating historical artefacts and the study of pre-colonial urban societies in Africa.



Professor Shadreck Chirikure
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Photo: Michael Hammond/UCT

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