



Communication and Marketing Department
Isebe loThungelwano neNtengiso
Kommunikasie en Bemerkingsdepartement

Private Bag X3, Rondebosch 7701, South Africa
Welgelegen House, Chapel Road Extension, Rosebank, Cape Town
Tel: +27 (0) 21 650 5427/5428/5674 Fax: +27 (0) 21 650 5628

www.uct.ac.za

24 July 2019

UCT and Bristol launch collaborative PhD programme

Joint degree to produce richly supported and globally agile researchers

The University of Cape Town (UCT) has joined forces with the University of Bristol to launch a new and exciting 'Researchers without Borders' PhD programme.

UCT Vice-Chancellor, [Professor Mamokgethi Phakeng](#), was welcomed by Vice-Chancellor and President of the University of Bristol, [Professor Hugh Brady](#) to Bristol, where the signing took place on 23 July.

The Researchers without Borders PhD Programme is a framework that will build research capacity within and across the two universities, providing new opportunities for students to work on exciting research projects that exploit the strengths and capabilities of both partners. The participating PhD students will be registered at and have supervisors and co-supervisors at both universities and will spend approximately equal amounts of time at each location.

The environment and supervision provided by both universities will underpin the development of a cohort of richly supported, globally agile researchers who will go on to make a leading impact in their future roles.

Professor Phakeng said: "This novel programme, with its focus on early career researchers, has great potential to support future leaders and shapers in research and society, whilst bringing two great universities together in a profound collaboration."

Welcoming the start of this programme, Professor Brady said: "I am delighted to mark the signing of this agreement with our colleagues at the University of Cape Town. It is a watershed moment in our relationship and partnership work in Africa and will support world-class research in new exciting co-evolved projects."

The Director of the [Bristol Doctoral College](#), [Associate Professor Terry McMaster](#), who initiated and led the development of the programme, said: "Researchers without Borders signifies our two graduate student communities working in harmony, to support, train and develop the next generation of researchers – they will be uniquely equipped to be globally

mobile and will be enabled to make significant contributions in their research and personal leadership.”

The initial support for this programme has come from the two universities, the Global Challenge Research Fund and the alumni community of the University of Bristol. The first cohort of seven students will start projects in 2019 across the diverse research areas of Migration and Mobility, Public Health, Exercise, and Epidemiology.

- [Read more on the programme.](#)
- [Download photographs.](#)

ENDS

Issued by: UCT Communication and Marketing Department

Elijah Moholola

Senior Manager: Media Liaison and Social Media
Communication and Marketing Department
University of Cape Town
Rondebosch
Tel: (021) 650 5674
Cell: (083) 981 7770
Email: elijah.moholola@uct.ac.za
Website: www.uct.ac.za