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UCT Vice-Chancellor unreservedly apologises to the LGBTQIA+ community

The University of Cape Town (UCT) Vice-Chancellor Professor Mamokgethi Phakeng on Friday released an unreserved, unqualified apology to the LGBTQIA+ community after a session she hosted on Sunday.

- [Read the apology by Professor Phakeng.](#)

The apology comes after some deep reflection on her part since the session. She is deeply saddened by the pain this has caused.

She will meet with the LGBTQIA+ community in sessions over the next few weeks in an effort to learn, understand, grow and try to heal some of the hurt caused.

Professor Phakeng has as a Vice-Chancellor been most committed to transformation, inclusivity and diversity and we have no doubt she will remain absolutely committed to drive these forward.

Her intention with the session was to bring a spotlight to matters that marginalise and deeply hurt the LGBTQIA+ community and this was done in an effort to bring change.

Unfortunately, even though the intention was good, she got it wrong in this one instance, and she has now offered an authentic, heartfelt apology.

We have no doubt that the VC will continue to advance LGBTQIA+ issues and other issues of inclusivity, and that UCT will continue to be at the forefront of the fight for dignity and equal human rights for all.

ENDS

Issued by: UCT Communication and Marketing Department

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