



UCT to host World Conference on Research Integrity: Fostering research integrity in an unequal society

To optimally serve society, scientific research needs to be built on trust. The field of research integrity exists to ensure responsible research practices, so that society can trust the outcomes of research and researchers can trust each other to build upon existing research.

The World Conferences on Research Integrity are the most significant events on the international research integrity calendar and this year the University of Cape Town (UCT) is proud to be hosting the [7th World Conference on Research Integrity \(7th WCRI\)](#) at the [Cape Town International Convention Centre \(CTICC\)](#) from 29 May to 1 June 2022.

The conference will take place in hybrid form. This year's conference is themed "Fostering Research Integrity in an Unequal World".

It features several high-profile speakers, including UCT Chancellor Dr Precious Molo-Motsepe, who will be speaking at the opening plenary of the conference along with Dr Eugene Lottering, Deputy CEO of the National Research Foundation of South Africa.

Other speakers include:

- **Professor Thuli Madonsela**, former Public Protector of South Africa, Advocate of the High Court of South Africa and the Law Trust Chair in Social Justice at the University of Stellenbosch. Madonsela will deliver the Steneck-Mayer Lecture focusing on the important issues affecting researchers, research institutions and the research system at large.
- **Professor Salim Karim**, Director of Centre for the AIDS Programme of Research in South Africa (CAPRISA) and Professor of Global Health at Columbia University. He is one of the conference plenary speakers, speaking at the session: Data, research and integrity in the time of a global pandemic. Karim will speak on the topic: Integrity in science communication during a pandemic.
- **Professor Glenda Gray**, President and CEO of the South African Medical Research Council, Research Professor at the University of Witwatersrand and former Chair of the Research Committee on COVID-19.

The conference includes a number of important discussions tackling questions around the practice of research, including issues around data, research and integrity in the time of COVID-19 and the impact of research assessments and institutional rankings on research integrity, with a particular focus on this issue in Africa.

[Visit the programme section of the website to see more.](#)

The 7th WCRI will also include a focus track session dedicated to addressing issues of equity, diversity and fairness in research, particularly within the context of collaborations between the Global North and South. This in response to a growing movement, particularly from researchers in the Global South, of speaking out against the practice of so-called 'scientific colonialism' in which primary research and data gathering is done in Africa, on African communities by African researchers, but the career-advancing outputs such as publication is often done, sometimes exclusively, by researchers based in the Global North.

To tackle this the 7th WCRI intends to put out a Cape Town Statement on Diversity, Equity and Fairness in Research Contexts.

The 7th WCRI organisers would like to cordially invite members of the media to attend, either in-person or virtually.

To register [please fill out the form](#) on or before 25 May 2022 or [contact Natalie Simon](#) if you need more information.

Date: 29 May to 1 June

Format: virtual attendance or in-person at [the CTICC](#)

Website: [7th World Conference on Research Integrity](#)

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