



Communication and Marketing Department
Isebe loThungelwano neNtengiso
Kommunikasie en Bemarkingsdepartement

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

21 October 2024

Unlocking sustainability: UCT professor to explore how mineralogy is shaping the future of mining

22 October 2024 | 17:15 SAST | Snape Teaching Studio 3B, Snape Building, Upper Campus

The University of Cape Town's (UCT) Professor Megan Becker will deliver her inaugural lecture titled "Why minerals matter – The role of mineralogy in the pursuit of sustainability." The lecture will take place on Tuesday, 22 October 2024 at 17:15 SAST at Snape Teaching Studio 3B, Snape Building on upper campus.

In a world grappling with climate change and a finite supply of natural resources, the connection between mining and sustainability raises important questions. How can the extraction of minerals from Earth's limited resources contribute to sustainable practices, particularly within the context of South Africa's complex mining legacy? The answers lie in the understanding of mineralogy – the study of minerals that has far-reaching implications for sustainability, especially in renewable energy production.

Professor Becker will delve into her extensive research, demonstrating how a deep understanding of the mineralogical properties of materials influences not only the recovery of valuable metals but also sparks innovation and provides insight into the risks and opportunities associated with mine waste. Through case studies from platinum, gold and base metals mining, she will illustrate how mineralogy plays a crucial role in shaping a more sustainable future.

With nearly 20 years of expertise in process mineralogy, Professor Becker has made significant contributions to the field, working on projects ranging from the geology of ore deposits to their environmental impacts and valorisation of mine waste. Her distinguished career was recognised in 2018 when she was named one of the Top 100 Global Inspirational Women in Mining.

This lecture will provide the audience with an opportunity to explore the intersection of science, innovation and sustainability in one of South Africa's most important industries.

Date: Tuesday, 22 October 2024

Time: 17:15 SAST

Venue: Snape Teaching Studio 3B, Snape Building, Upper Campus

Members of the media wishing to attend in person or virtually are requested to [RSVP](#).

ENDS

Issued by: UCT Communication and Marketing Department

Velisile Bukula

Head: Media Liaison
Communication and Marketing Department
University of Cape Town
Rondebosch
Tel: 021 650 2149
Cell: 071 642 3495
Email: velisile.bukula@uct.ac.za
Website: www.uct.ac.za