

Call for expressions of interest

UCT Engaged Scholarship Programme 2017

Are you interested in enhancing the quality and societal impact of your research, teaching or innovation through community or public engagement? Would you like to work with others, across faculties, to develop your capacity for research, teaching and innovation that involves groups external to the university? Would you like to be part of a group that helps to shape an institutional culture which supports, recognises and rewards engaged scholarship?

If so, you might like to participate in the 2017 Engaged Scholarship Programme. Offered under the auspices of the Research Office and the University Social Responsiveness Committee, the Engaged Scholarship Programme provides a space for professional development for UCT staff who wish to embed high quality engagement in their research and/or teaching, and are interested in the transformative possibilities of engaged scholarship.

What is engaged scholarship? In UCT policy, engaged scholarship “refers to the utilisation of an academic’s scholarly and/or professional expertise, with an *intentional public purpose or benefit* (which) demonstrates engagement with *external (non-academic) constituencies*. It can help to generate new knowledge, promote knowledge integration, the application of knowledge, or the dissemination of knowledge.” (UCT, Social Responsiveness Policy Framework, Senate 14 September 2012, p.2).

Who can participate in the Engaged Scholarship Programme? The programme is designed for staff who are already active in engaged scholarship and would like to deepen and/or theorise their practice; OR staff and postdoctoral fellows who are not yet engaged scholars but would like to enhance their current research and/or teaching through engagement with external groups.

What is involved in the programme? The programme consists of four workshop-seminars interspersed with preparatory reading, reflection and practical applications. **Seminars will run from 12:00-15:00 on Wednesday 24 May; Thursday 29 June; Thursday 24 August; Thursday 21 September.** Experienced engaged scholars from UCT will lead the seminars or present aspects of their work, occasionally together with their external partners. Seminars will also provide opportunities for participants to discuss their own projects and ideas. Seminar topics include: case studies of engaged scholarship in action; institutional policies on engaged scholarship; documenting engaged scholarship for publication and/or promotion; and current debates on engaged scholarship.

Programme Planning Team: Sonwabo Ngcelwane (Programme Convenor, Research Office); Janice McMillan (CILT); Tinashe Mutsvangwa (Biomedical Engineering); Sophie Oldfield (African Centre for Cities); Shirley Pendlebury (Education/Research Office).

Procedure and deadline for expressions of interest: If you would like to participate in the 2017 Engaged Scholarship Programme, please send an expression of interest to Sonwabo Ngcelwane (sonwabo.ngcelwane@uct.ac.za) by **Friday 28 April 2017**. Please include:

- a) your name and contact details (email address, phone number, department);
- b) a brief statement (100-250 words) about why you are interested in this programme;
- c) a brief concept note (150-300 words) describing a project, grant proposal or other initiative in engaged scholarship that you would like to develop further; and
- d) a summary CV (no more than a page).

There is place for 20 participants. If more than 20 people apply, the Planning Team will follow a selection procedure. *Successful applicants will be asked to sign a commitment form, approved by their head of department.* For a list of selection criteria, a copy of the commitment form and further information, please contact Sonwabo Ngcelwane (sonwabo.ngcelwane@uct.ac.za; ext 2103)