

THE UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN

OUR STORY



UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN
IYUNIVESITHI YASEKAPA • UNIVERSITEIT VAN KAAPSTAD

OUR PLACE IN THE WORLD

106 years old

1st
IN AFRICA

Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2023
QS World University Rankings 2024
United States News & World Report Best Global Universities
Rankings 2022-2023
Center for World University Rankings 2023
Shanghai Ranking's Academic Ranking of World Universities 2023



6 academic faculties:

Science | Law | Health Sciences | Commerce | Humanities
Engineering and the Built Environment

1 cross-cutting faculty focusing on student success:

Centre for Higher Education Development (CHED)

29 948 STUDENTS:

17 862 UNDERGRADUATES

11 638 POSTGRADUATES

465 OCCASIONAL STUDENTS



Among the **top 200** universities for impact

and in the **top 90** for 4 SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals)
Gender Equality, Clean Water and Sanitation, Decent Work and
Economic Growth, and Partnerships for SDG Goals

2023 Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Rankings

1st in Africa

for our Graduate School of Business MBA programme
Financial Times rankings, 2022

12% of South Africa's NRF-rated scholars

The National Research Foundation (NRF) allocates ratings based on a researcher's recent research outputs and impact, as perceived by international peer reviewers. UCT maintains a very high participation rate in the rating system with 500 of UCT's academic staff rated by the NRF.



30% of South Africa's A-rated scholars

35 of the country's NRF A-rated researchers, who are international leaders in their fields of research, are at or affiliated to UCT.



18% of South Africa's SARCHI chairs

38 of the country's SARCHI chairs (South African Research Chairs Initiative) have been or are currently held by researchers at UCT.



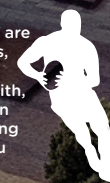
Massive open online courses (MOOCs)

23 MOOCs are currently running at UCT and have, since 2015, attracted more than **700 000** participants from over **180** different countries across the globe.

164 active inventions, with 40 patent applications filed and 23 patents granted in 2021



100+ student societies are active on campus, divided into five categories: academic, national/cultural, faith, special interest and political. Students can choose to participate in almost 40 sporting codes, including such diverse sports as jiu jitsu, fencing, rowing and rugby.



7 954 students

lived in UCT's 39 student residences in 2022. The university's Avenue Road Residence in Mowbray has provided 500 additional student beds since it opened in 2021.





OUR LEADERS AND VISION

UCT's Vision 2030 gives expression to our institutional purpose – to unleash human potential to create a fair and just society – at all levels of the university's work. It is founded on the pillars of excellence, transformation and sustainability.

Our leaders are an explicit manifestation of our inclusive vision, with each member bringing high levels of expertise, passion and a shared sense of purpose. Women are strongly represented across our top-tier leadership, demonstrating our deep commitment to transformation in action.



Prof Mosa Moshabela commenced his tenure as Vice-Chancellor of UCT on 1 August 2024. Prior to joining UCT, Prof Moshabela, who is a professor of public health, was deputy vice-chancellor for research and innovation at the University of KwaZulu-Natal.



In 2020, businesswoman and philanthropist Dr Precious Moloi-Motsepe took up office as UCT Chancellor. Together with her husband, Patrice Motsepe, in 2013 they became the first couple in Africa to join The Giving Pledge. Both bring incredible business acumen and strong networks in support of the university. In June 2023, Norman Arendse - senior practising advocate and member of the Cape and Johannesburg Bars - took up the role of Chair of UCT's Council.



A strong leadership team: UCT's three Deputy Vice-Chancellors: Prof Elelwani Ramugondo, and acting DVC's Prof Jeff Murugan and Emeritus Prof Linda Ronnie, work together with Mr Mughtar Parker, our acting Chief Operating Officer.



Naadiya Moosajee, is UCT President of Convocation. The president of our Legacy Society, Hugh Amooore, previously served as Registrar of UCT.



OUR ALUMNI

UCT is in contact with over **195 000** alumni in **164** countries.

Our university is alma mater to five Nobel laureates:

Max Theiler (Medicine), Ralph Bunche (Peace), Sir Aaron Klug (Chemistry), Allan McLeod Cormack (Medicine) and JM Coetzee (Literature).

We have a large network of alumni ambassadors and chapters, with increasing numbers in Africa.

Our international UCT offices are focal points for leveraging institutional and research relationships and donor opportunities.

OUR DISTINGUISHED UCT PEOPLE

We are enormously proud to profile some of our distinguished UCT alumni. They are thought leaders, visionaries, captains of industry; and individuals who, through their work, are advancing knowledge horizons and contributing to the betterment of society.

- **Raymond Ackerman**, businessman spearheading Pick 'n Pay supermarket chain
- **Mark Shuttleworth**, billionaire entrepreneur; second space tourist
- **Lauren Beukes**, best-selling author of The Shining Girls
- **Harold Cressy**, first coloured person to gain a degree in South Africa
- **Gail Kelly**, CEO of Westpac; Eighth most influential woman globally (Forbes)
- **Mamphela Ramphele**, former Managing Director of World Bank; former Vice-Chancellor of UCT
- **Pretty Yende**, operatic soprano
- **Breyten Breytenbach**, author
- **Simphiwe Ndzube**, visual artist
- **Jonathan Shapiro**, South African political cartoonist known as 'Zapiro'
- **Richard E. Grant**, actor
- **Zolani Mahola**, lead singer of the South African band Freshlyground
- **Stuart Saunders**, former Vice-Chancellor of UCT and previously Professor of Medicine at UCT
- **Mulalo Doyoyo**, South African engineer known for inventing cementless concrete
- **George Ellis**, cosmologist and collaborator with Stephen Hawking
- **Stanley Skewes**, number theorist
- **Richard van der Riet Woolley**, British astronomer who became Astronomer Royal
- **Neil Aggett**, South African trade union leader and labour activist who died in detention
- **Christiaan Barnard**, who performed the world's first heart transplant
- **Riaad Moosa**, comedian, actor and doctor
- **Debora Patta**, broadcast journalist and television producer
- **Dullah Omar**, South African anti-apartheid activist; former minister in the South African cabinet
- **Albie Sachs**, Justice of the Constitutional Court of South Africa.

These are just some of the phenomenal UCT people who have made a difference in the world. **There are many, many more.** You can help us update our list of distinguished UCT alumni, staff and students. Email your list of extraordinary UCT individuals who you think should be profiled to: nomcebo.msweli@uct.ac.za

TEACHING AND LEARNING

Close to 100 of UCT's teaching venues are state-of-the-art classrooms that include document cameras, data projectors, customised lecterns, and built-in PCs – enabling flexible delivery of course content. Lecture recording and a comprehensive learning management system provide further tools to optimise teaching and learning at UCT.

We are committed to deep curriculum change.

This will:

- Recognise and incorporate knowledge and fields of study that expand on students', academics' and society's understanding of Africa's historical and current contribution to knowledge creation
- Shift the focus to what is critical and relevant to 21st century society rather than what has traditionally been valued as important
- Embed graduate attributes that contribute to skilling a workforce of change leaders, equipped to serve different communities of practice
- Intentionally foster student wellbeing by streamlining curricula so they are less overloaded.



STUDENT SUPPORT

Providing layered support to our students

Our **Student Financial Aid and Postgraduate Funding Offices** assist students with applications for funding and manage incoming funds in line with donor stipulations.

Academic support programmes in all the faculties, UCT's **libraries**, our **Writing Centre** and **computer labs** provide students with tutoring and core learning and information technology skills.

The **Department of Student Affairs** provides a comprehensive wellness programme addressing students' health and psychosocial needs.

The **Office of Inclusivity and Change** provides institutional responses to transformation, sexual and gender-based violence, disability and cultural change.

In 2021:

- 88% of our 30 392 students came from South Africa
- 11% came from other African countries.

Almost 50% of our undergraduates and 35% of our postgraduate students received financial support.

External funding (excluding Ministry of Education bursaries) supported 2 801 undergrads and 1 030 postgrads.

Undergraduate external funding from individuals, corporates, trusts and foundations was valued at ZAR 268.6 million.

A POSITIVE IMPACT ON SOCIETY



100UP programme alumnus and final-year Bachelor of Commerce student specialising in economics and finance, **Ludwe Makhabeni (24)**. Ludwe plans on becoming a financial analyst or chartered accountant. He is passionate about paying it forward and is already tutoring and mentoring peers in his community.



Our **Student Entrepreneurship Programme** coaches innovative young entrepreneurs to enter regional and national competitions in which they regularly achieve top places.

‘You need to be able to ask for help throughout the journey. If you are a first-time founder, or you’re running a business and it’s going well, you still need to find a mentor or a coach. Draw from these resources; create a community around you that you can depend on.’

Tshegofatso Masenya
Studentpreneur of the Year
Winner of Existing Business: Social Impact Category; 2021 Entrepreneurship Intervarsity



Centre for
Extra-Mural Studies

Open Learning for all

Our annual **Summer School** provides alumni with the perfect opportunity for lifelong learning and broadcasts to outlying communities in the greater Cape Town area to enable wider community access to our quality short courses and lectures.



The Schools Improvement Initiative (SII) provides an innovative and targeted approach to improve the quality of teaching and learning in schools in the greater Cape Town area by building the capacity of school leaders; training teachers in reading-for-meaning, mathematics and sciences education; and providing learner wellness services.

RESEARCH EXCELLENCE



1

Building a healthy Afrika

Infectious diseases
Health equity
Drug discovery
Brain health
Child & adolescent health
Biotechnology
Vaccine discovery & efficacy
Non-communicable diseases

2

Resource efficiency and nature-based solutions for sustainable development

The biosphere & biodiversity
Minerals & soils
Atmosphere
Energy
Water quality, quantity & equity
Food security



3

Advancing Afrika

Climate mitigation & adaptation
Poverty & inequality
Crime and violence
Southern urbanism / cities in Afrika
Building economic complexity
Health infrastructure
Youth empowerment
Infrastructure for development

4

Our southern location

Southern skies
Southern oceans
Biodiversity, microbiomes & viromes
Afrika's adolescence & youth

5

On being human

Citizenship & democracy
Heritage & identity
Gender & sexuality studies
Governance

FLAGSHIP PROJECTS

BUILDING AFRICA'S PAEDIATRIC HEALTH CARE CAPACITY

The African Paediatric Fellowship Programme (APFP) aims to transform Africa's capacity for child health care by reducing its gap in human resources for paediatric health.

We do so by providing one- to four-year specialist and sub-specialist training programmes and ongoing support to a growing continent-wide network of highly skilled, strategically selected paediatric clinician-leaders who are able to optimise paediatric health systems, shape policy and build an evidence base for paediatric care in low-resource settings.

Long-term partnerships with tertiary teaching hospitals and universities across Africa ensure that we do not just boost individuals, but rather build paediatric departments and professional associations.



WHY IT MATTERS

- In the US, there are 99 paediatricians per 100 000 children.
- In Africa, there is less than 1 paediatrician per 100 000 children.

OUR IMPACT

Since 2007, APFP has trained 169 specialist and sub-specialist paediatricians and allied health workers from Africa, with a further 31 mid-training at the end of 2022.

Of APFP's 169 alumni:

- 90% are working in Africa.
- 87% are working in their home country.
- 75% are working with their referring employer.

Image: Karin Schernbrucker

DEVELOPING AFRICA'S POLAR AND OCEANS RESEARCH BASE

MARiS (Marine and Antarctic Research Centre for Innovation and Sustainability) is UCT's interdisciplinary centre for marine and Antarctic scientific research.

Africa has long been marginalised in Antarctic research, even though the southern Africa climate is affected by the Southern Ocean. South Africa is the only African nation among the 29 consultative parties of the Antarctic Treaty, but it needs the carrying capacity of experts to maintain a leading role in international research and debate.

Enabling agency and building a pipeline of home-grown African scientists is crucial in ensuring the continent has a stronger voice at the table on climate change, global warming, and conservation of marine resources.



Image: Marcello Vichi

WHY IT MATTERS

Only 4% of climate-related research funding ever reaches Africa, the continent most affected by climate change.

OUR IMPACT

- First and only centre for Antarctic ocean research and engineering in Africa
- Global leader in marine research on systems approach to managing human interactions with the ocean
- Top centre for sustainability and modelling studies in South African marine ecosystems.



ADVANCING DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE IN AFRICA

While African governments accepted multiparty democracy and began to make advances in constitutionalism in the first decade of the 21st century, these gains have seen significant setbacks in the past few years with a return to coups, civil wars based on tribal and ethnic divisions and endemic corruption and state capture.

This is linked to a deepening social crisis caused by a range of factors, including mass unemployment, pandemics such as HIV and Covid-19, and widening inequality.

The Nelson Mandela School of Public Governance has set out to build a programme for emerging leaders in public service invested in addressing the complex social and economic policy challenges facing their countries and the African continent.

WHY IT MATTERS

“Improvements in human development and economic foundations are undermined by an increasingly perilous security situation and widespread democratic backsliding.”

*Ibrahim Index of African Governance 2022,
Mo Ibrahim Foundation*

OUR IMPACT

- Over 200 Masters graduates
- 62 Masters and 10 PhD students enrolled this year
- Graduates from more than 25 African countries
- 1 250 executive education course participants.

CHAMPIONING INDIGENOUS RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP

The UCT campus is situated on !Huri#oaxa (known globally as ‘Table Mountain’): land that was respectively settled on by the San and Khoi for thousands of years. These people, who spoke the now-erased language of Khoekhoegowab, suffered the first waves of colonial wars of dispossession and displacement, near-extirmination and cultural genocide.

The San and Khoi Centre is a leading public engagement institute at UCT and one of the first of its kind on the continent and in the global south. It addresses pertinent research questions around indigeneity, identity, gender, non-racialism, anti-racism, environmental protection, peace and knowledge justice within the framework of land reform and language restoration.

WHY IT MATTERS

“My heart is very broken. There is still not healing from all the damage done in the past. Things are still not as they should be.”

*Petrus Vaalbooi,
Traditional leader of the
San in South Africa*

OUR IMPACT

- First open-access digital library and archive of indigenous knowledge and scholarship in South Africa
- Digital application for learning endangered languages, starting with Khoekhoegowab and N!uu
- Global network of scholars, to dialogue and publish together on indigenous issues.





OUR GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS

UCT is a member of a number of global networks, including:

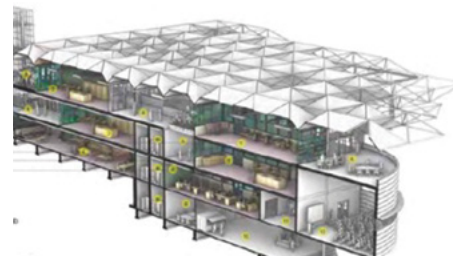
- the African Research Universities Alliance (ARUA)
- the International Alliance of Research Universities (IARU)
- the Worldwide Universities Network (WUN).

UCT plays a vital role in linking the global south and global north through its extensive networks. These include research collaborations with numerous universities, as well as a wide range of exchange opportunities for both UCT students and staff.

Some of our key research partnerships are highlighted above.

BUILDINGS THAT ARE FIT FOR PURPOSE

We are constructing 21st-century buildings that provide top-notch learning facilities and a home for innovative research.



UCT's Digital-Polar Laboratory, modelled on the shape of an iceberg and with capacity to recreate Antarctica conditions for sub-zero temperature experiments – a first for Africa



Our Hasso Plattner d-school, an African centre of excellence in design-led thinking that draws on collaboration in diversity to deepen understanding for impactful responses



The Courtyard Extension at the Institute for Infectious Diseases and Molecular Medicine: state-of-the-art laboratories and office space provide a springboard for our pipeline of leading researchers in these fields









New School of Education – a teacher education building on UCT's middle campus that has now reached practical completion and is operational

Coming soon! The Nelson Mandela School of Public Governance: building resilient democracies, active citizenship and the next generation of ethical leaders.



BE PART OF UCT'S NETWORKS AND COMMUNITY

We want to stay connected to our donors, alumni and friends. Engage with us through one of the channels described here:

Find and follow us on **social media**:      

Look out for other key events for alumni and friends taking place at UCT.

Join us on campus for UCT Day in 2024!

If you are a UCT alumnus, join our bespoke social networking platform, **UCT Alumni Connect**. It is free and enables connection to a global community of fellow UCT alumni: www.uctalumniconnect.com

Contact our **Development and Alumni Department**:

South Africa

Sarah Archer
Executive Director
sarah.archer@uct.ac.za

Libo Msengana-Bam
Deputy Director and Head of Alumni Relations
libo.msengana-bam@uct.ac.za

Stafford Bomester
Head of National Fundraising
stafford.bomester@uct.ac.za

Europe

Andrew Wigley
Development & Partnerships Director
andrew.wigley@uct.ac.za

USA

Porcha Dodson
UCT Fund Director
porcha.dodson@uct.ac.za

United Kingdom

Angela Edwards
Director: UCT UK office
uct-trust@tecres.net

Canada

Samantha Mandigora
Regional Director
sam.mandigora@uctcanada.ca

Australia

Ruth Thornton
UCT Alumni Coordinator
rjthornton1@bigpond.com