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After the water crisis: How to turn Cape Town into a water-sensitive city

Earlier this year, the announcement of Day Zero by the City of Cape Town led to many questions. Was Cape Town going to be the first major city to run out of water? It certainly made Capetonians aware of the need to get serious about saving water.

The issue of water, which has been a very critical and topical matter in the Western Cape in the recent past, will once again be a focal matter when the University of Cape Town (UCT) hosts the Vice-Chancellor's Inaugural Lecture on Wednesday, 17 October 2018 at Lecture Theatre 2, Kramer Law Building, Middle Campus, UCT at 17:30.

The lecture, titled: "After the water crisis: How to turn Cape Town into a water-sensitive city" will be addressed by Professor Neil Armitage, Professor of Civil Engineering and deputy director of the Future Water research institute at UCT.

Professor Armitage teaches water engineering in the Department of Civil Engineering. He played a leading role in introducing the concepts of sustainable drainage systems and water sensitive design to South Africa.

Now that we have had a more normal rainy season, the 'big six' dams have recovered to an extent, and the water crisis seems to be improving. What should Cape Town – and Capetonians – be doing to avoid a Day Zero in the future? This, and other matters, will be discussed during the lecture.

Professor Armitage co-founded the Future Water research institute in 2015. He has authored or co-authored some 100 publications and has supervised 19 master's students and three PhD students. In 2013 he received the South African Water Research Commission's award for human capital development in the water and science sectors.

The Future Water research institute – through the Urban Water Management research unit – has been working with the South African Water Research Commission for more than 10 years in a bid to guide South African towns and cities towards greater water sensitivity.

Media RSVP

Please confirm your attendance to thami.nkwanyane@uct.ac.za by the end of the day on Tuesday, 16 October 2018.

Ends

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