The Legacy

Professor I. N. “Solly” Marks, the founder of the UCT Gastrointestinal Clinic at Groote Schuur Hospital, and the South African Gastroenterology Society, died on 19 October 2012. His contribution to the development of gastroenterology both locally and internationally is profound in both academic and scientific terms, and is an accolade to his alma mater, UCT. The man and his achievements are summed up in the last line of his obituary in the South African Medical Journal, which reads “an oak has fallen but his legacy will endure”.

The clinic was the first of its kind in South Africa. Under his dynamic leadership, which nurtured physicians and surgeons in the field, he made seminal contributions in the treatment of Peptic Ulcer Disease and Chronic Pancreatitis. The art of endoscopy also flourished as he trained and encouraged many individuals to develop gastroenterology units at other Universities, at home and abroad.

The Solly Marks Visiting Professorship

Solly Marks’ immense contribution to the field, merits that his legacy should endure in perpetuity. In tribute to this legacy, we believe that a visiting Professorship should be created under the auspices of the Department of Medicine in the Faculty of Health Sciences at UCT. Our goal is to make possible an annual/biennial invited honour for a leading academic gastroenterologist.

During a week-long stay, the visiting Professor will interact with undergraduate and postgraduate students and members of the Faculty to provide an on-going stimulus to all aspects of academic gastroenterology. The visit will culminate with the delivery of the Solly Marks Memorial Lecture.

Please assist us in the creation of this prestigious visiting Professorship by making a financial contribution to the Solly Marks Visiting Professorship Fund. Your gift, no matter what its size, will help us to meet the need for advanced research and collaboration in the field of gastroenterology, and ensure that the great legacy left by Professor Marks lives on into perpetuity.

To make your gift, please download a printable pledge form specific to your country of residence: