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MEDIA RELEASE

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Exiled UCT alumnus dies

On behalf of the University of Cape Town, the Vice-Chancellor and Principal, Professor Njabulo S. Ndebele expressed his sadness at the loss of UCT alumnus Sir Raymond Hoffenberg who died recently.

A renowned endocrinologist, medical scientist and political activist, banned by the apartheid South African Government in 1967, Sir Hoffenberg was conferred with an honorary degree of Science in Medicine in 1993 by UCT.

In the UK, he was appointed William Withering Professor and head of the Department of Medicine at the University of Birmingham, one of the most prestigious chairs in England. From 1983 to 1989 he was president of the Royal College of Physicians. He was awarded a knighthood in 1984 for his contributions to medicine in the UK.

The banning order made it impossible for the UCT Fellow and alumnus to continue his duties at Groote Schuur Hospital or as a senior lecturer the medical school, positions he had held with distinction since 1959. Sir Hoffenberg served on the board of the UCT Trust in the UK, a registered charitable trust raising funds and support for UCT in the UK and Europe.

"It is with heavy hearts that we receive the news of Sir Raymond's passing. He was a distinguished alumnus of the University. His ban in our country was a tremendous loss, however, we are indebted to him for his continuous efforts as an activist for South Africa", Ndebele stated. Ndebele extended condolences and support to Hoffenberg's family on behalf of the entire UCT community.

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Issued by:

Gerda Kruger

Executive Director: Communications & Marketing

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