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**Media Release**

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### **UCT Vice-Chancellor to be awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws degree by the University of Michigan**

The University of Michigan in the United States of America earlier this month announced that they will award an honorary Doctor of Laws degree to Prof Njabulo S. Ndebele, Vice-Chancellor and Principal of the University of Cape Town. Professor Ndebele will receive the award at a graduation ceremony at the University in April 2008.

The institution stated that the award is acknowledging Professor Ndebele's achievements as a writer, his contributions as a leader in higher education in South Africa and Africa as well as his role as Vice-Chancellor of the University of Cape Town.

The institution stated that the award also recognised Prof Ndebele's particular contribution to creating a diverse, multiracial institution; for expanding the institution's research mission by encouraging new partnerships within the country and internationally; for increasing the number of research doctoral students at UCT; and for positioning the challenge of HIV/Aids centrally at UCT - both in terms of services to affected students and efforts to address the growing pandemic.

Professor Ndebele said he was humbled by the award. "I feel honoured. The University of Michigan has a rich history of academic excellence and leadership in tertiary education. It will be a privilege to join their list of honorary graduates," Prof Ndebele said.

Professor Ndebele is also the recipient of honorary doctorates from the University of Denver (USA), Wesleyan University (USA), Soka University (Japan), Vrije Universiteit (Amsterdam), Chicago State University (USA), University of Natal (now the University of Kwazulu-Natal), University College London (UK) and Cambridge University (UK).

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Issued by:

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