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Over 7000 learners to converge on UCT for its popular annual mathematics competition

Western Cape's maths boffins gear up for the competition at UCT on 17 April

A record number of learners from 164 schools will gather at the University of Cape Town for UCT's annual Mathematics competition on the evening of 17 April 2013 at 17h00.

Over 7000 participants will take part in writing the test in 70 venues across the campus. Over 200 teachers will help run the event. They will be assisted by about 30 UCT students, many of whom participated in the competition during their schooldays.

The UCT Mathematics Competition began in 1977 as a school-based event, and moved to the UCT campus in 1980. UCT has been proudly hosting the event since then.

Each school can enter five individuals and five pairs per grade. The contest papers are set by a team of teachers and moderated by members of the UCT Mathematics department. Separate question papers are set for each grade, from 8 to 12. Each paper consists of 30 questions: ten rather easy ones to start with, followed by ten that may require some head-scratching, and ending with ten really challenging brain-strainers. Pupils write as individuals or as pairs. Pairs and individuals write the same paper, but are graded separately.

The event is sponsored by Capitec Bank and Aurecon, with prizes donated by Casio and Oxford University Press.

"Full marks in the UCT Mathematics Competition is a rare event," says competition director, John Webb.

The top ten individuals and the top three pairs in each grade will win gold awards and prizes. Trophies will be presented to schools that excel in the competition. The prize giving will take place at 19h00 on Wednesday 5 June in the Baxter Concert

Hall.

ENDS

Issued by: UCT Communication and Marketing Department

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