



Communication and Marketing Department
Isebe loThungelwano neNtengiso
Kommunikasie en Bemerkingsdepartement

Private Bag X3, Rondebosch 7701, South Africa
Welgelegen House, Chapel Road Extension, Rosebank, Cape Town
Tel: +27 (0) 21 650 5427/5428/5674 Fax: +27 (0) 21 650 5628

www.uct.ac.za

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UCT public lecture to focus on ‘Children on the front page’

Emeritus Professor Marian Jacobs to deliver VC Open Lecture on Monday, 16 May 2016, 18h00 in the New Learning Centre Lecture Theatre, Anatomy Building, Faculty of Health Sciences, Anzio Road, Observatory

Emeritus Professor Marian Jacobs will speak on “Children on the front page” at the University of Cape Town on Monday, 16 May 2016, at 18h00 in the New Learning Centre Lecture Theatre, Anatomy Building, Faculty of Health Sciences, Anzio Road, Observatory.

Professor Jacobs’ talk will help mark 10 years of the publication of the South African Child Gauge, the flagship publication of the Children’s Institute. The Child Gauge draws on the latest research evidence to provide an annual snapshot of the status of children in South Africa.

This will be the first Vice-Chancellor’s Open Lecture of 2016 at UCT. The Vice-Chancellor’s Open Lecture is an important feature of the academic year, as it provides an opportunity for anyone in the Cape Town community, whether they are connected to the university or not, to have the benefit of hearing first-hand from academics, researchers and innovators who have distinguished themselves in their areas of expertise. Attendance to the lectures is free of charge, as the series is one of the ways that UCT seeks to give back to the Cape Town community.

Background

Professor Jacobs is a former dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences at UCT. She developed a distinguished career as a public health paediatrician: focusing on service delivery, teaching, research and policy development for children’s health and well-being. She championed child rights and engaged with children’s organisations and the broad children’s movements – always guided by her love for children. After leading the development of the framework for the first national programme of action for children in South Africa, she founded the [Children’s Institute](#) at UCT and its predecessor, the Child Health Policy Institute. It was during this time that the South African [Child Gauge](#) was first published.

Professor Jacobs lives in Cape Town and has continued, even in her retirement, to contribute to health and development through the knowledge and experience gained in the course of a rich career. She holds positions in several national and global health bodies, including as advisor to ChildSafe; membership of the World Health Organisation's technical steering committee for Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health; and chair of a working group of the Commission on Ending Childhood Obesity.

ENDS

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Thami Nkwanyane

Media Liaison and Monitoring Officer
Communication and Marketing Department
University of Cape Town
Rondebosch
Tel: (021) 650 5672 Fax: (021) 650 3780
Cell: (072) 563 9500
Email: thami.nkwanyane@uct.ac.za
Website: www.uct.ac.za