From a two-speed economy to one for all South Africans

Apartheid's legacy two-speed economy, and the fault lines exposed by COVID-19, has shone a light on South Africa's food security, inequality and unemployment challenges.

The University of Cape Town will host former head of investment banking for sub-Saharan Africa at Goldman Sachs and senior fellow and lecturer at Yale University’s Jackson Institute for Global Affairs, Colin Coleman, who will present a lecture titled “From a two-speed economy to one for all South Africans”.

The virtual lecture, the first UCT Vice-Chancellor’s Open Lecture for 2020, will offer insights into how to restructure the economy into one working for all.

UCT Vice-Chancellor, Professor Mamokgethi Phakeng, said: “With a rich history of deal-making in Africa, Coleman is regarded as an expert on the economic development challenges and opportunities across the continent.”

In his position at Yale University, he launched a course on “Africa: doing business in the last frontier of global growth”.

Coleman was born in South Africa. In the 1980s, he was involved in the anti-apartheid movement and later its constitutional transition. From 1989 to 1994, he was an executive director for the Consultative Business Movement (CBM) where he served in working groups of the multi-party talks, facilitated the International Mediation Forum and helped to negotiate the agreement to facilitate all parties’ participation in South Africa's 1994 elections.

In 1994, on behalf of the CBM, Coleman was a recipient of the Harvard Business School’s “Business Statesman Award” and was named one of Euromoney's World Top Ten “Financing Leaders for the 21st Century.” In 1996, he was nominated as one of the World Economic Forum’s Global Leaders for Tomorrow.
Coleman continues to co-chair the Youth Employment Service and is a member of the Steering Committee of the CEO Initiative in South Africa. He is also senior advisor to the Eurasia Group, and a non-executive member of the Board of The Foschini Group.

The Vice-Chancellor’s Open Lecture series was established to enable anyone in the community, whether they are connected to the university or not, to have the benefit of hearing first-hand from academics, researchers and innovators, particularly from those around the world, who have distinguished themselves in their areas of expertise.

Please register online to attend the lecture.

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