UCT launches the Nelson Mandela School of Public Governance

The Nelson Mandela School of Public Governance was launched at the University of Cape Town today, 5 July 2018. With the support of the Nelson Mandela Foundation, the Nelson Mandela School of Public Governance will function as a living memorial to Nelson Mandela: student cohorts will be an ongoing testament to his values of ethical, equitable and courageous African governance.



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“The Mandela School epitomises my vision of strengthening our excellence as a university, driving transformation and ensuring a sustainable future for UCT," said new UCT Vice-Chancellor, Professor Mamokgethi Phakeng. "Through it, UCT is becoming a more African University through its contribution to excellence in leadership and excellence in Africa.”

Founded originally as the Graduate School of Graduate Policy and Practice in 2011, the Nelson Mandela School of Public Governance combines academic insight with practice-based public service to promote strategic public leadership in Africa. As a multi-disciplinary centre, the School and its offerings are designed to make public service at the highest levels of leadership an aspiration for the most talented of the community’s rising generation.

“The Nelson Mandela School of Public Governance is committed to cultivating and supporting leadership in African governance. We have built a truly African centre at the University of Cape Town. We are proud and deeply honoured to be associated with Nelson Mandela’s name,” said Professor Alan Hirsch, Director of the School.

The work of The Mandela School is undertaken through our innovative part-time Masters programme for mid-career public servants, our high level dialogues with experts from across the continent, our executive education short courses for government officials and our pan-African youth leadership programmes.

The Mandela School's student demographics straddle the public and private sector, from civil society professionals to government officials and activists. The 1300 alumni of the School, so far, live in more than 30 African countries.

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