

NEWS FROM:



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Soudien appointed Deputy Vice-Chancellor at UCT

Professor Crain Soudien, who chaired the Ministerial Review Committee into Transformation in Higher Education last year, has been appointed to the post of Deputy Vice-Chancellor at the University of Cape Town, with responsibility for the cluster of activities related to supporting UCT's transformation strategy.

"Professor Soudien has been acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor since April 2009, and during this time he has contributed a fresh perspective to how transformation can go forward in a university environment," said Vice-Chancellor Dr Max Price. "This applies not only to equality between people of different races, but also those of different genders, languages and cultures, and sexual orientation. I am personally delighted with this appointment. Professor Soudien's academic expertise, wide experience and knowledge of UCT will be great advantages as we face the challenges of transformation together."

Professor Soudien's appointment took effect from 1 April 2010 for five years. As one of four Deputy Vice-Chancellors at UCT, he will support Dr Price in the leadership and management of the university. He will be accountable for the social justice portfolios (such as HIV/AIDS, discrimination and harassment issues, and disability services); the Institutional Forum; employment equity; student demographic change; student financial aid policy; transformation as it affects both the student and staff experience at UCT; and stimulating research and debate around the meaning of transformation for teaching and research at UCT.

As a sociologist of youth, Professor Soudien has followed the process of development of young people in the institutions of the family, the school and the university; and how young people learn about their own identities and their relationships to major social structures in society. He has been deeply involved in issues of transformation in the education arena over the last ten years. He is a recognised authority on these matters, with more than 60 articles in refereed journals and 60 book chapters. He speaks and consults widely and serves in numerous positions on national and international bodies.

Professor Soudien has been associated with UCT in a number of capacities since registering as a student for the first time in 1973. At UCT he earned his Bachelor of Arts degree and Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in Comparative African Government and Law; Master of Arts degree in Comparative African Government and Law; and his Higher Diploma of Education (Post Graduate) Secondary. He also holds a Bachelor of Education degree from the University of South Africa, and a Master's in Education and PhD from the State University of New York at Buffalo in the USA. He has received numerous awards during his career, including a Fulbright Scholarship; Visiting Scholarship to the University of Washington in the USA; Visiting Fellowship to the Institute of Development Studies in Sussex, UK; a British Council Exchange Scholarship to the University of Sussex; and a Visiting Scholarship to York University in Canada.

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