



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 professor to discuss how computational revolution has reshaped the scientific method

Professor Kevin Naidoo to deliver inaugural lecture on Wednesday, 3 October, 17:30, LT 1, Kramer Law Building, Middle Campus

Professor Kevin Naidoo at the University of Cape Town develops novel computational methods to resolve chemical and chemical biological problems that are intractable to scientists using only the traditional tools of experiment and theory.

During his inaugural lecture, Professor Naidoo will deliver a talk entitled: "The Computational Revolution and how it is reshaping the Scientific Method in Chemistry and Chemical Biology".

Over the last few years Professor Naidoo and his team have made major technical advances in biophysical computational modelling with the development of a generalised Free Energy method called FEARCF (also referred to as the "Fierce Force" method).

His multidimensional free energy methods allow members of the Scientific Computing Research Unit to perform computer simulations on complex biological and chemical problems. In so doing, they discover molecular mechanisms of action that are invisible to experimentalists.

In 1994 Professor Naidoo was awarded a PhD in physical chemistry from the University of Michigan for his work on the physics of two-dimensional melting. He spent the following two years as a Postdoctoral Fellow at Cornell University, performing computer simulations on problems in chemical glycobiology.

Professor Naidoo was awarded one of the first 21 South African Research Chairs (SARChI), in the field of Scientific Computing. He also played a pivotal role in the establishment of South Africa's only High Performance Computing national facility - the Centre for High Performance Computing.

Date: Wednesday, 03 October 2012
Time: 17:30 (guests to be seated at 17:15)
Venue: Lecture Theatre 1, Kramer Law Building, Middle Campus

ENDS

Issued by: UCT Communication and Marketing Department

Kemantha Govender

Tel: (021) 650 5672

Fax (021) 650 5628

Cell: 084 737 6522

E-mail: kemantha.govender@uct.ac.za

University of Cape Town

Rondebosch

Website: www.uct.ac.za