



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 5427/5428/5674/4846 Fax: +27 (0) 21 650 3780

www.uct.ac.za

20 August 2013

Cape teacher with heart for learners wins UCT excellence award

Edgemean High School Deputy Principal Noel Solomons arrives at school at 6:30 in the morning to give extra science lessons to learners, and during his vacation he travels to rural areas to tutor struggling teachers and learners. In his off-time, he mentors less privileged learners in his community. These are the qualities that have earned Mr Solomons the University of Cape Town's Stella Clark Teachers' Award, acknowledging talented teachers who go the extra mile for financially disadvantaged learners.

Speaking at the award ceremony on Monday, 19 August 2013, at UCT's Centre for Higher Education Development (CHED), Edgemean High School Principal Redvers Lawrence said: "Mr Solomons has the ability to instill a passion for science that has resulted in increasing numbers of our pupils entering tertiary education in this discipline and succeeding. He is a man who understands the needs of children, who has risen above his trials and tribulations, and has chosen to remain in the trenches in order for our children to forge a better future for themselves and our country."

The Stella Clark Teachers' Award pays tribute to the work of exceptionally talented teachers who go beyond the call of duty to motivate and inspire their learners to perform well and rise above their poverty-stricken circumstances. It was established in 2005 in honour of Stella Clark, an extraordinary lecturer at CHED, recognising her many years of dedicated service to teaching and mentoring students from educationally disadvantaged backgrounds.

The Deputy Principal was nominated by former Edgemean High learners Tarryn Lewis and David Kuter - both currently postgraduate chemistry students at UCT. They described Mr Solomons as a role model illustrating a unique commitment to teaching and to his students, an in-depth knowledge of his subject area, and an ability to provide accessible explanations for complex concepts and stimulate critical thinking. Tarryn said: "Mr Solomons exceeds the requirements of a typical high school teacher by relaying his passion for his field in a way that makes students want to learn."

ENDS

Issued by: UCT Communication and Marketing Department

Nasiphi Fazi
Media Liaison Intern
Communication and Marketing Department

University of Cape Town
Welgelegen, Upper Chapel Road Extension, Rosebank
Tel: (021) 650 4976 Fax: (021) 650 5628
Cell: (079) 380 4816
E-mail: nasiphi.fazi@uct.ac.za
Website: www.uct.ac.za