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UCT to host Health Deputy Minister for Nelson Mandela/Fidel Castro medical students graduation

The University of Cape Town (UCT) will host a two-day Joint Academic Meeting (JAM) of Deans from South African and Cuban Medical Schools, led by Deputy Minister of Health Dr Sibongiseni Dhlomo, on Wednesday, 5 July and Thursday, 6 July 2023.

The meeting is part of activities ahead of the graduation ceremony for medical students who completed their studies through the Nelson Mandela/Fidel Castro Medical Collaboration Programme, followed by 18-months integration programme into local universities.

These academic meetings are held annually to prepare for the graduation ceremony, exchange scientific knowledge, discuss issues affecting the programme and ensure smooth integration of Cuban trained students into local medical schools.

This year about 450 medical students are expected to graduate before being placed in various public health facilities across the country, primarily in historically disadvantaged communities and underserved areas.

Deputy Minister Dhlomo will be joined by representatives from the Cuban Ministry Public of Health, representatives from South Africa and Cuba Medical Schools, as well as provincial Health MECs.

The graduation ceremony will also be hosted on the UCT campus.

Members of the media are invited to attend the ceremony scheduled as follows:

Date: Friday, 7 July 2023

Time: 09:00

Venue: Sarah Baartman Hall, Upper Campus

For RSVP, please contact Howard Kgoa via 079 876 9247; or howard.kgoa@health.gov.za.

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