



SOL PLAATJE
UNIVERSITY

Programme

— THE INSTALLATION OF —
PROFESSOR ANDREW M CROUCH
AS VICE-CHANCELLOR & PRINCIPAL
of Sol Plaatje University

FRI, 26 NOV 2021







**SOL PLAATJE
UNIVERSITY**

MISSION

To become an institution of higher learning uniquely positioned to:

- graduate citizens competent and capable of realising the aspirations of society;
- produce new knowledge impacting on key challenges of the region;
- engage critically with communities of discourse and communities of people in order to search out pathways to equitable development.

VISION

A University critically engaged in learning, research and development
– and enhancing democratic practice and social justice in society.

VALUES

Academic freedom

Independent intellectual endeavour

Depth and breadth of knowledge and critical thinking

Academic citizenship

National and international comparability of academic quality

Community engagement and social responsiveness

Intellectual integrity



FOREWORD

WHEN I WAS INSTALLED AS THE FIRST CHANCELLOR OF THE SOL PLAATJE UNIVERSITY IN 2015, I QUOTED THAT REVERED GIANT OF AFRICAN LITERATURE, CHINUA ACHEBE, WHO SAID: "UNTIL THE LIONS HAVE THEIR OWN HISTORIANS, THE HISTORY OF THE HUNT WILL ALWAYS GLORIFY THE HUNTER".



I used this quote to make the point that, as a completely new institution of higher learning, SPU is in the enviable position of being able to write its own history, in the absence of colonialist and apartheid baggage. And here we are, writing a further wonderful chapter in this unique history of our beloved institution.

Today we joyously install a son of the Northern Cape soil as the second Vice-Chancellor in SPU's brief but already impressive lifespan, Professor Andrew Martin Crouch. It is with immense pride and unwavering certitude of success that we entrust the ultimate management of our SPU to this Ronaldsvlei-born, Homestead-reared chemistry specialist and renowned tertiary educationalist.

Reading Professor Crouch's awe-inspiring curriculum vitae evokes in one not only the utmost respect for his terrific achievements, but also engenders sincerest gratitude that this superb academic leader understood and honoured the duty on all of us to return to our roots to plough back.

SPU strives to strengthen the light of knowledge from Africa to humanity in its own quintessential Northern Cape way. The installation of Professor Crouch will further enhance our efforts in this



momentous journey. A former Vice-Principal, Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Academic, and earlier Executive Dean of the Faculty of Science at Wits University, Professor Crouch brings a wealth of experience in university management to SPU. We had been blessed with the outstanding leadership provided by our inaugural Vice-Chancellor, Professor Yunus Ballim, who pioneered the way and laid the rock solid foundation for the indubitable success of this venerable institution. Those blessings continue unabated now with the installation of Professor Crouch as his successor.

Op 'n persoonlike noot is dit vir my 'n besonder aangename voorreg om hierdie heuglike, geskiedkundige dag te beleef. Ons twee as vriende het nou die volle sirkel voltooi – eers mede-skoliere by die formidabele William Pescod Sekonder hier in die stad en toe saam studente by die Universiteit van Wes-Kaapland in Bellville. En nou dien ons saam hierdie merkwaardige instelling, Professor Crouch in die ontsaglik meer verantwoordelike hoedanigheid as Hoof Uitvoerende Beampste en ek as seremonieele Nie-Uitvoerende Voorsitter, in die taal van die korporatiewe wereld.

LONG MAY SPU CONTINUE
TO PROSPER, LONG MAY
SHE BE THE BEACON OF
HOPE FOR OUR PEOPLE IN
THIS BEAUTIFUL PART OF
OUR COUNTRY AND LONG
MAY SHE CONTINUE TO
ATTRACT LEADERS OF THE
CALIBRE OF PROFESSOR
ANDREW MARTIN CROUCH!

Judge S A Majiedt (Chancellor)

MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

Judge M V Phatshoane (Chairperson)

Ms J A Glennie (Deputy-Chairperson)

Mr G H Akharwaray

Mr T M Bloom

Ms G Botha

Mr R H Clarkson

Mr S A H Kajee

Mr A N Madonsela

Mr J J Mutyorauta

Ms M A Marais-Martin

Mr A C G Molusi

Mrs S B Mosimege

Mr H M Ndzilili

Professor A M Crouch (Vice-Chancellor and Principal)

Professor M J Baxen (Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Academic)

Professor A C Gelebe (Senate Representative on Council)

Professor J Mataga (Senate Representative on Council)

Mr T T Moshe (President: Convocation)

Mr R S Mosiane (President: SRC)

Mr K B Ndebele (Deputy President: SRC)

CAMPUSES

NORTH CAMPUS

Jan Smuts Boulevard

CENTRAL CAMPUS

Scanlan Street

SOUTH CAMPUS

Reservoir Road

SENIOR MANAGEMENT

VICE-CHANCELLOR AND PRINCIPAL

Professor AM Crouch

DEPUTY VICE – CHANCELLOR

Professor MJ Baxen

UNIVERSITY REGISTRAR

Mr R Naidoo

CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

Mr D Kanguwe

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

Ms A Marais

DEAN OF STUDENTS

Ms N Morris

ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP



SCHOOL OF ECONOMIC AND MANAGEMENT SCIENCES

Professor P Joubert



SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Professor A Ndofirepi (Acting)



SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES

Professor K Haire (Acting)



SCHOOL OF NATURAL AND APPLIED SCIENCES

Professor A Gelebe



GENERAL INFORMATION

The congregation is requested to **stand when the procession enters and when it leaves the hall** at the end of the proceedings.

You are kindly requested to **remain in the hall during the ceremony.**

No smoking is allowed in the hall.

Please switch off all cellular phones.

Only the **official photographer may take photographs** during the ceremony.

Please adhere to COVID-19 health and safety protocols by sanitising, wearing your mask and practicing social distancing.

Order of Proceedings

FRI, 26 NOV 2021 • 10:00

Programme Director: Mr R Naidoo (University Registrar)

ENTRY OF PROCESSION

Constituting of the Congregation

Judge S A Majiedt (Chancellor)

Welcome address

Judge S A Majiedt (Chancellor)

INSTALLATION OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR AND PRINCIPAL

Judge S A Majiedt (Chancellor)

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

CONGRATULATORY MESSAGES

Dr B Nzimande (Minister of Higher Education, Science and Innovation)

Mr R S Mosiane (SRC President)

Ms L Crouch

Professor P Baker

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

ADDRESS BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR AND PRINCIPAL

Professor A M Crouch

Dissolution of the Congregation

Judge S A Majiedt (Chancellor)

DEPARTURE OF PROCESSION

PROFESSOR ANDREW MARTIN CROUCH

Vice-Chancellor and Principal

PROFESSOR ANDREW CROUCH JOINED SOL PLAATJE UNIVERSITY, IN APRIL 2020, AS ITS SECOND VICE-CHANCELLOR AND PRINCIPAL, AND HAS LAUNCHED SEVERAL INAUGURAL INITIATIVES RELATED TO HIS FIVE-POINT FOCUS PLAN ON TAKING SOL PLAATJE UNIVERSITY FORWARD INTO THE NEXT PHASE OF ITS DEVELOPMENT.



His first days as Vice-Chancellor and Principal were dominated by forging a successful response to the COVID-19 pandemic and the effect of the national lockdown on the academic project. He drew on his extensive experience in introducing applications of new pedagogies in the digital sphere, championing the use of innovative educational technologies and integrating technology into existing teaching and learning programmes across multiple platforms; to steer Sol Plaatje University as it successfully moved to online learning.

His vast administrative leadership expertise meant that he could ensure that Sol Plaatje University was one of a handful of universities in South Africa that completed the 2020 academic year on time, while keeping the University fully operational.

PROFESSOR CROUCH HAS PLACED GREAT EMPHASIS ON THE IMPORTANCE OF ENGAGEMENT, PARTNERSHIPS AND IN FOSTERING SOUND RELATIONSHIPS WITH ALL UNIVERSITY STAKEHOLDERS AND SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES.

To this end he spearheaded the signing of a Town and Gown Agreement between the University and the Sol Plaatje Local Municipality for the future collaboration and engagement between the city and the University.

Since April 2020, the University has also increased its landholding through the purchase of the Tafel Lager Stadium in Kimberley.

Under the management of Professor Crouch the University launched its first research entity, the DSI and NRF funded Risk and Vulnerability Science Centre. This will set Sol Plaatje University on a path to becoming a research leader in the study of arid environments and Desert Studies.

In October 2021, the University also launched the Talent Pipeline Programme, funded by the Anglo-American Foundation, which is an initiative aimed at producing more university ready learners from rural and peri-urban schools in the Northern Cape Province. This is the flagship programme of Professor's Crouch's tenure as Vice-Chancellor and Principal since it talks directly to his quest to make the dreams of young people become a reality.

Born in Kimberley to Jacob and Louisa Crouch and an alumnus of William Pescod High School, this son of the Northern Cape returned to his roots to take the helm at Sol Plaatje University.

Prior to joining Sol Plaatje University Professor Crouch served as the Vice-Principal and Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Academic at Wits University for eight years. He also served as Executive Dean of the Faculty of Science at Wits for four years before his promotion to Deputy Vice Chancellor Academic.

During his eleven years at Wits he spearheaded the digital and online initiatives at the University, including the establishment of innovative teaching and learning spaces, smart classrooms, virtual learning spaces, as well as a proposed novel centre for educational technologies.

Before his tenure at Wits University, he was at Stellenbosch University, where he had served

as a Professor of Chemistry and the Associate Dean of Natural Sciences.

A full Professor of chemistry for the past 29 years, Professor Crouch worked at the University of the Western Cape for seven years, three of which was as the Head of Department of Chemistry.

He holds a BSc (Chemistry and Biochemistry) and a BSc Honours in Chemistry from the University of the Western Cape and a PhD in Chemistry from Concordia University, Montreal, Canada.

An active member in the African higher education sector, Professor Crouch has wide-ranging experience in teaching, research and postgraduate training, having developed courses and taught at all tertiary levels. He is the recipient of numerous awards for teaching, research and administration. The most notable of these are the prestigious Ernest Oppenheimer Memorial Trust Fellowship and Gold Medal from the Anglo-American Chairman's Fund as well as the Excellence in Teaching and Research Award from the International Society of Electrochemistry for his contribution to the field of Electrochemistry in South Africa.

PROFESSOR CROUCH HAS
OVER 30-YEARS RESEARCH
EXPERIENCE IN ENVIRONMENTAL
ELECTROCHEMISTRY AND ITS
APPLICATIONS, BEING THE
AUTHOR/CO-AUTHOR OF MORE
THAN 140 RESEARCH PAPERS
AND CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS
AND ONE PATENT IN THE AREA OF
ELECTROCHEMISTRY.

LOUISE MARCEL CROUCH

MS LOUISE MARCEL CROUCH IS A PUBLIC RELATIONS AND COMMUNICATION ACCOUNT DIRECTOR WITH US-BASED, GLOBAL PUBLIC RELATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS AGENCY EDELMAN.

Based in Edelman's Middle East offices in Dubai, she joined in December 2019 as a Senior Account Manager, having worked in the industry for over 7 years. Bringing with her experience in corporate and consumer communications, Ms Crouch has worked with clients across multiple sectors including fast-moving consumer goods, food and beverage, healthcare, fashion, education, travel and tourism, technology, financial services, law and development.

In her current role as Account Director in Edelman's Brand division, she manages and oversees the strategic communication remits for brands such as KFC, LEGO, and LEGOLAND. She is responsible for the planning, strategic execution and delivery of clients' public relations strategies.

Prior to joining Edelman Middle East, Ms Crouch worked within the South African market at multinational PR agency MSLGROUP, where she was involved in leading, developing and managing strategically curated public relations initiatives, project management and content development for a wide portfolio of internationally and domestically renowned brands including Nando's South Africa, LG, Momentum, Old Mutual Insure, HMD Global (Nokia), amongst others.

BORN IN CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA TO PROFESSOR ANDREW CROUCH AND MRS LYNNETTE CROUCH, MS CROUCH IS AN ALUMNUS FROM BOTH THE UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN, WHERE SHE COMPLETED HER BACHELOR OF SOCIAL SCIENCES IN LAW AND GENDER STUDIES, AND THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WITWATERSRAND WHERE SHE WAS AWARDED AN HONOURS DEGREE IN MEDIA STUDIES.



PROFESSOR PRISCILLA BAKER

PROFESSOR PRISCILLA BAKER IS A PROFESSOR OF CHEMISTRY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WESTERN CAPE (UWC) AND HOLDS AN NRF C2-RATING AS A SCIENTIST.

She is the SARCHI chair in Analytical Systems and Processes for Priority and Emerging Contaminants. Her research into the use of electrochemical sensors as sensitive and selective analytical tools has a direct bearing on the monitoring and re-assessment of guidelines for safe water use.

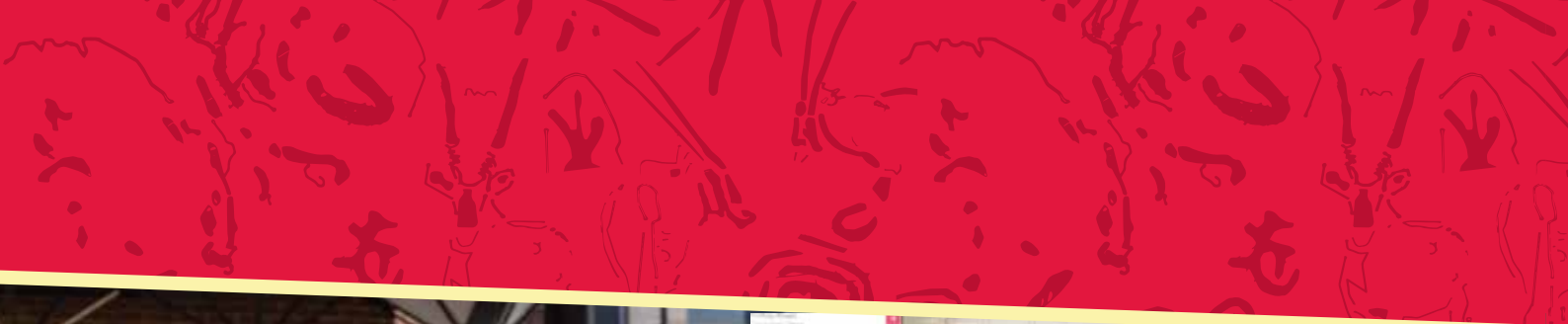
Professor Baker obtained her BSc at the University of Cape Town and then completed her National Diploma in Analytical Chemistry, first class, at the Cape Peninsula University of Technology. She was drawn into the domain of electrochemistry research during her National Diploma internship. She studied under the mentorship of Professor Andrew Crouch and graduated with a BSc Honours (Chemistry) and successfully completed her MSc dissertation (Chemistry) whilst registered at UWC. In 2004 she received her PhD (Chemistry) at the University of Stellenbosch.

Her very successful academic career was recognised when she received the Distinguished Woman Scientist (Natural Sciences and Engineering) Award from the Department of Science and Technology in August 2014.

In 2016 Professor Baker took over as Director of the Southern African Systems Analysis Centre where she managed the programme's first three-year cycle from 2016 to 2018.

She was the Co-Director of the first International Associated Laboratory established between the UWC SensorLab and University Cergy-Pontoise (Paris, France), an esteemed external research, teaching and training laboratory. She was appointed as Fellow in Residence on the Paris-Seine Initiative for Excellence for the period March-June 2020 to cement this partnership.

PROFESSOR BAKER HAS PUBLISHED OVER 65 RESEARCH ARTICLES IN INTERNATIONAL AND NATIONAL JOURNALS, WRITTEN EIGHT BOOK CHAPTERS, COLLABORATED WITH RESEARCHERS IN THE US, GERMANY AND FRANCE, PARTICIPATED IN INTERNATIONAL TEACHING AND TRAINING PROGRAMMES AT UNIVERSITIES IN FRANCE, PORTUGAL AND THE UK, AND IS AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF TWO RESEARCH CONSORTIA FUNDED BY THE SEVENTH FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME OF THE EUROPEAN UNION.







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