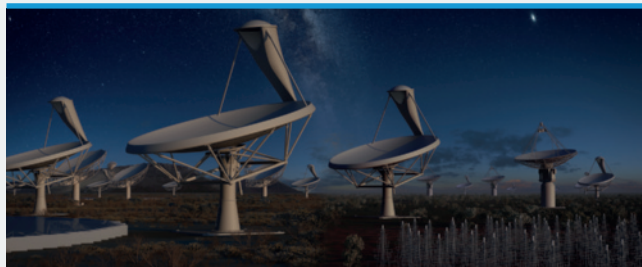




The University of Cape Town's geographical vantage point at the tip of Africa offers an exhilarating research environment that combines excellence with impact. As a leading research university (1st in Africa THE, QS, ARWU 2015; 120 in the world THE 2015), UCT is one of the best places in the world to research Africa-specific problems, from the chemistry of malarial drug discovery to the development of urban Africa. We have strong collaborative networks across the globe, and often form a nexus of partnerships between researchers in the global north and south, particularly Africa. It is therefore not surprising that we attract researchers — from postgraduates to leaders in their field — from all over the continent and the world.

SKA, WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

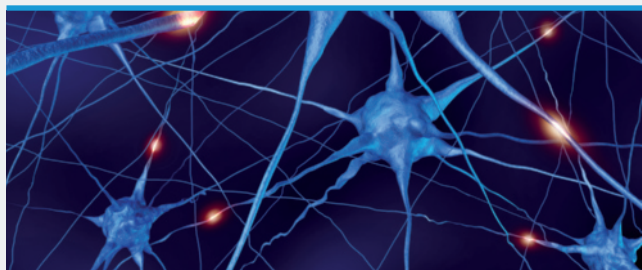


Experts in the Southern Skies

UCT is fast becoming Africa's astronomy and cosmology hub. It includes global leaders, such as George Ellis, who co-wrote *The Large Scale Structure of Space-Time* with Stephen Hawking; Michael Feast, who published his first paper in *Nature* at 21 and his most recent at the age of 87; and Russ Taylor, who is leading our involvement in the SKA project and the big data challenges it brings.

Conserving biodiversity

A recent paper in *Nature Plants* describes a local plant that engages in what is possibly the best example of faecal mimicry for seed dispersal anywhere in the world. This is typical of the work we do in our hotspot of biodiversity, with extensive interdisciplinary expertise in conservation, climate adaptation and community conflict.



Big in brains

Some neurological disorders, such as neuro-HIV, have far greater prevalence in Africa than elsewhere. UCT draws together cutting-edge technology and skills from a range of neuroscience disciplines to create a web of expertise that integrates laboratory, clinic and community, and opens new ways for Africa to contribute to the global body of knowledge in this rapidly advancing field.

