



INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AFRICA

AWARD FOR SERVICE EXCELLENCE - 2012

Dr Loveness Kaunda

Dr Loveness Kaunda has served IEASA enthusiastically and tirelessly with her knowledge and wisdom, acquired from a long academic career, since she became Director of the International Academic Programmes Office (IAPO) at the University of Cape Town in 2006.

It is fitting at this time, therefore, for IEASA to honour Dr Kaunda with an award in recognition of her contribution to the Association – the IEASA Award for Service Excellence.

Loveness Kaunda is a Malawian-born South African who began her career in education as a high school teacher before she joined the University of Malawi and then the National University of Lesotho. She then took up an appointment at the University of Cape Town as an English Language lecturer in the Academic Development Programme. She was subsequently promoted to the rank of Senior Lecturer. She has published numerous language and science education research papers in local and international journals and presented papers at various conferences.

In January 2006, Loveness was appointed the Director of the International Academic Programmes Office (IAPO). With support from the senior executive of the University, she has transformed the operational efficiencies of IAPO and set it on a path to meet UCT's strategic goals as they relate to internationalisation. Since her appointment, she has played a key role in lobbying the Department of Home Affairs to relax legislation that restricts student mobility.

Loveness has served as the Chair of the IEASA Directors' Forum from 2008-2010 and again from 2011 to the present. Since 2008, she has served on the IEASA Management Council with the portfolio of Academic Liaison and Research. She has also become increasingly involved in the Internationalisation at Home (I@H) portfolio and is responsible for launching the Special Interest Group on Internationalisation of the Curriculum, which lies at the heart of I@H.

Loveness has also been a valued member of IEASA's Publications Committee which is responsible for producing the annual Study SA Guide which has become the authoritative guide to higher education opportunities in South Africa. She has represented IEASA at many international conferences, presented numerous papers and shared her knowledge and expertise widely with other IEASA member universities including through UCT Colloquia on Internationalisation at Home. Her voice of reason shines through in everything she says and does and she is admired for her practical approach to addressing issues.

Under Loveness' leadership UCT has won several of the IEASA-Golden Awards for Excellence in Internationalisation. As she approaches retirement from UCT at the end of this year, it is particularly fitting that we are able to honour her also for her role as the Chair of this year's IEASA Conference Organising Committee and that UCT is the host University.

For her commitment, leadership and passion to advance internationalisation in South Africa, and for her lasting contribution to advancing the goals of IEASA, it is fitting at this time that we pay tribute to and honour Dr Loveness Kaunda with the IEASA Award for Service Excellence.
