

The Council of the University of KwaZulu-Natal

cordially invites you to the

Malegapuru William Makgoba Annual Lecture

Founding Vice-Chancellor of the University of KwaZulu-Natal

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Professor Alan Aderem

Internationally recognised Immunologist and Systems Biologist and
Honorary Doctor of UKZN

Date

8 October 2015

Time

18h00 - 19h30

Venue

GSB & L Auditorium, Graduate School of Business and Leadership,
Westville Campus, University of KwaZulu-Natal

RSVP [Click Here](#)

Enquiries: 031 260 7718

Light finger supper will be served after the Lecture in the Comsa Lounge



Professor Alan Aderem is an internationally recognised immunologist and systems biologist who is also known for his participation in South Africa's struggle for liberation and equality. He has had a strong influence on shaping the biomedical research environment in South Africa, especially in emphasizing the importance of basic science as a foundation for improving health care.

Professor Aderem obtained his Ph.D. at the University of Cape Town and completed a postdoctoral fellowship at The Rockefeller University in New York. He rose through the ranks at The Rockefeller University, becoming head of the laboratory of Signal Transduction in 1991. In 1996, he accepted a professorship of Immunology and Medicine at the University of Washington. Professor Aderem co-founded the Institute for Systems Biology (ISB) in 2000 and served as its Director until 2011.

The ISB was the first institute for systems biology worldwide, and Aderem has been one of the major pioneers of the field. In 2012, Professor Aderem became President of Seattle BioMed, the largest independent non-profit organization in the U.S. focused solely on infectious disease research. He is integrating systems approaches into Seattle BioMed's research programs in order to accelerate the development of vaccines, drugs and diagnostics. His own research focuses on diseases afflicting citizens of resource poor countries, including tuberculosis, AIDS, and malaria.

Professor Aderem has been recognized through a number of awards and serves on a variety of prestigious boards and panels, including boards for the US National Institutes of Health, The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, and European Research Council. Professor Aderem chairs the Board of Directors of the KwaZulu-Natal Research Institute for Tuberculosis and HIV (K-RITH). He was awarded a Doctorate of Science, Honoris Causa, by UKZN in 2015.

As a teenager, Professor Aderem joined the anti-apartheid movement in South Africa. His active role in trade unions and community movements, particularly during the 1976 uprising, led to him being banned and house arrested for 5 years from 1977 to 1982. As part of his contribution to improving the fabric of South African society Professor Aderem played an important role in guiding the post apartheid government in its policies on medical research. He did this in his capacity as Chair of the Science, Engineering and Technology Institution review of the Medical Research Council.