BIOGRAPHY

PROFESSOR MELISSA STEYN

GRADUATION CEREMONY

MONDAY, 30 JUNE 2014: 13H30

Professor Melissa Steyn has been developing Diversity Studies as a field in Higher Education since founding the Intercultural and Diversity Studies of Southern Africa at the University of Cape Town in 2001.

She has subsequently relocated to Johannesburg and is the founding director of the Wits Centre for Diversity Studies. She holds the Department of Science and Technology-National Research Foundation National Chair in Critical Diversity Studies.

Her work engages with intersecting hegemonic social formations, but she is best known for her publications on whiteness and white identity in post-apartheid South Africa. Her book, *Whiteness just isn’t what is used to be: White identity in a changing South Africa* won the 2002 Outstanding Scholarship Award in International and Intercultural Communication from the National Communication Association in the United States.


Steyn is a recipient of the University of Cape Town’s Distinguished Teacher’s Award in 2009, the Council for Higher Education/Higher Education Learning and Teaching Association of Southern Africa National Excellence in Teaching Award in 2010 and was named as one of Routledge’s Sociology Super Authors for 2013.

She holds a University of Southampton Diamond Jubilee 3 year International Visiting Fellowship. She chairs the Anti-Racism Network in Higher Education in South Africa.