BIOGRAPHY OF PROF. MARK SOLMS

GRADUATION CEREMONY

10 DECEMBER 2014

Professor Mark Solms is best known for his discovery of the forebrain mechanisms of dreaming and for his integration of psychoanalytic theories and methods with those of modern neuroscience.

Born in 1961, he was educated at Pretoria Boys’ School and the University of the Witwatersrand. He emigrated to London in 1988, where he worked academically at the psychology department at University College London and clinically at the Royal London Hospital at the Neurosurgery Department, while he trained at the Institute of Psychoanalysis. He returned to South Africa in 2002.

Professor Solms currently holds the Chair of Neuropsychology at the University of Cape Town and the Groote Schuur Hospital. He is the President of the South African Psychoanalytical Association. And the Research Chair of the International Psychoanalytical Association.

He was awarded Honorary Membership of the New York Psychoanalytic Society in 1998 and the American College of Psychoanalysts in 2004. Other awards include the George Sarton Medal of the Rijksuniversiteit Gent in Belgium, the Arnold Pfeffer Prize of the New York Psychoanalytic Institute and the Sigourney Prize of the American Psychoanalytical Association.

Professor Solms founded the International Neuropsychoanalysis Society in 2000 and was Founding Editor of the journal Neuropsychoanalysis. He is a member on the editorial boards of several other major journals.

He has published widely in both neuroscientific and psychoanalytic journals and is also frequently published in general-interest journals, like Scientific American. He has published more than 250 articles and book chapters, and five books, amongst his other achievements.

Ladies and Gentlemen it gives me great pleasure to invite Professor Solms to address you today.