

For immediate release

Klaus-Jürgen Bathe Leadership (KJB) Programme presents:

# **INSUBORDINATE LEADERSHIP**

## a lecture to open women's month

by Pregs Govender

**1 August 2019**

12:30 registration and snacks

13:00 -14:00 lecture and discussion

University of Cape Town  
LT3, Kramer Law Building



**UCT's Klaus-Jürgen Bathe Leadership (KJB) Programme in collaboration with UCT's Poverty & Inequality Initiative invites you to its 2019 Inaugural Leadership Lecture in August.**

*On the eve of women's month in South Africa, Govender focuses on transformational leadership in an age of reductive advertising hype and government speeches. Govender asserts that the high level of GBV demands an urgent transformation of SA's patriarchal, racist, and capitalist society.*

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**The Klaus-Jürgen Bathe(KJB) Leadership Programme Lecture** seeks to connect South Africa's foremost critical thinkers with the UCT community and the broader public. The KJB Programme was established at UCT in March 2014, through a gift donated by Professor Klaus-Jürgen Bathe, who graduated from UCT as an engineer in 1967 and is an award-winning researcher and teacher at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. The primary goal of the Programme is to produce graduates with outstanding leadership qualities and a strong sense of social justice, who will go on to play leading and significant roles in business, government, industry and civil society in South Africa and on the African continent.

Visit: [www.kjbatheleadership.uct.ac.za](http://www.kjbatheleadership.uct.ac.za)

**Pregs Govender** is an educator and life-long learner; writer and author of *Love and Courage, A Story of Insubordination*. She began her activism in 1974 in student struggles. Govender learnt from other liberation struggles and community organizations, including women's organizations, that she volunteered with. After teaching in schools and the university from which she had graduated, she joined SA's majority women clothing union. During SA's transition to Democracy, Govender managed the Women's National Coalition campaign, which mobilized rural and urban women to shape the negotiations and Constitution. An African National Congress MP in SA's first democratic parliament and member of its Finance Committee, Govender initiated SA's globally influential Women's Budget in the 1994 Budget debates and built an alliance with research NGOs. She steered the initiative's political impact on the '98/99 National Budget. She also chaired Parliament's Committee on Women, which ensured that 80% of women's transformative legislative priorities, including the Domestic Violence Act, were enacted. Govender was the only MP to register opposition to the arms deal in SA's Defence Budget Vote and chaired public hearings on HIV/AIDS that broke the silence on treatment in the ANC Caucus. She resigned as MP in 2002 and wrote *Love and Courage*. Govender chaired the Independent Panel Review of SA's Parliament (2008-2009), many of whose recommendations have strengthened Parliament's oversight role. During Govender's term as Commissioner and Deputy Chair (2009-2015), the South African Human Rights Commission linked individual violations to the structural injustice of inequality and poverty, initiating a water and sanitation campaign that had local and global impact.

**Booking is essential for catering purposes. Seating is limited.**

**Please RSVP by 15 July to Tammy Matose, Programme Administrator, KJB Programme on [tammy.matose@uct.ac.za](mailto:tammy.matose@uct.ac.za).**

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**Additional notes to the editor:**

**This year's KJB lecture is based on Govender's book:  
*Love and Courage: a story of Insubordination*, (1<sup>st</sup> ed 2007; 2<sup>nd</sup> ed 2016):**

**Mary Robinson**, former Irish Prime Minister and; Chair of The Elders, speaking at the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Mandela Lecture: *"I'd like to finish with a passage Pregs used in relation to her own personal journey, which I believe can be transposed to the journey that many South Africans may also have taken "The worst experience had sent me spiralling. Yet it had also awakened love from which courage flowed...Life as it waxes and wanes, always provides opportunities for our humanity to emerge" I have every confidence in South Africa realising the opportunities for its humanity to fully emerge.*

**Graca Machel**; UCT Chancellor; former Mozambican freedom fighter and Cabinet Minister: *"Pregs Govender is a visionary and courageous feminist leader, following in the footsteps of the many great African women activists who have achieved so much and yet are rarely properly acknowledged. This beautiful book is an inspiration to all those working toward justice and liberation in Africa and through-out the world."*

**Eve Ensler**, Author, *Vagina Monologues*; Founder, *1Billion Rising*: *"Love and Courage, A Story of Insubordination is compelling and mandatory reading for anyone working to build feminist, anti-racist, anti-capitalist movements. Her story could not be more important or more relevant to our current struggles across the planet"*.

**Kumi Naidoo**; former head of Greenpeace and currently of Amnesty International: *"Love and Courage is a gift to the world at a time when our world is facing the possibility of catastrophic calamity because of climate change and multiple persistent injustices"*

**Keorapetse Kgositsile**, former National Poet Laureate: *"Pregs Govender's Love and Courage... In her admirably lucid prose, her creativity, love and courage emerge and merge to connect her and the reader interested in what it means to be alive. In the process of taking the reader to where and how she has been, she illustrates with clarity how the personal is unarguably political"*.