

## *Curriculum Vitae*

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**Prof. Phillip V. Tobias** *FRS, FRCP, MBBCh, PhD, DSc (Witwatersrand)*

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Professor Phillip V. Tobias is currently Professor Emeritus in the Department of Anatomy and Human Biology at the University of the Witwatersrand, and Director of the Paleo-Anthropology Research Unit at the same university. His illustrious career as teacher and scientist is essentially associated with the Department of Anatomy of the Medical School of the University of the Witwatersrand where, in 1959, he became Professor and Head of the Department, succeeding Professor Raymond Dart. At that time Professor Tobias was the youngest Professor and Head at the University. He also served the Medical School as Dean from 1980 to 1982.

Inspired by Professor Dart, Professor Tobias' research career developed in the fields of physical anthropology and human biology of the living peoples of sub-Saharan Africa, and paleo-anthropology and human evolution based on the study of hominid fossils. He initiated studies at the famous limestone caves at Sterkfontein while his fossil excavations also took place at, amongst others, Makapansgat, Taung and Gladysvale, as well as farther afield in Africa.

Best known for his numerous paleo-anthropological studies, Professor Tobias has documented his findings and philosophy in some nine hundred publications in all categories of the written word (books, scientific articles and popular articles). In recognition of his signal contribution to science, Professor Tobias has been awarded ten Honorary Doctorates, has been visiting Professor at numerous universities across the world and has also been honoured with a great number of medals, prizes and awards. He is a highly sought after speaker and has been invited to present no less than forty-six Eponymous lectures, both locally and internationally. He has also been nominated three times for the Nobel Prize. It is indeed an honour and privilege to have such an eminent scientist present the 1996 Sir Arnold Theiler Memorial Lecture.