



UNIVEN reflects on its achievements over the past four decades



UNIVEN 40th Anniversary Celebration cake

The University of Venda (UNIVEN) opened its doors in 1982 on the grounds of the Dimani Agricultural High School in the Tshivhase territory. Over the past 40 years of its existence, UNIVEN has seen tremendous transformation and growth at an extremely fast pace. On Thursday 27 October 2022, UNIVEN celebrated its 40th Anniversary of serving local and international communities by shaping future generations. This hybrid 40th Anniversary celebration was held at the University Auditorium under the theme 'Reflection on the University's achievements over the past four decades.'

Recent University rankings by Times Higher Education World University Rankings show that UNIVEN is among the top 15 best universities in the country. This significant growth is one of the greatest achievements ever attained by the University of Venda since its establishment in 1982.



A toast for another successful upcoming 40 years and more

The celebration was characterised by embracing past achievements, recognising success stories, and helping to shape the future.

The event was amongst others attended by former Vice-Chancellors, Chairpersons of the Council, former SRC Presidents, alumni, friends, and partners of the University both local and international, Traditional and Religious Leaders including staff and students, as well as retired staff members of the University.



When outlining the evolution of the University of Venda during the 40th-Anniversary celebration event, the Vice-Chancellor and Principal, Dr. Bernard Nthambeleni indicated that UNIVEN started with only 177 students, and today it has an enrolment of more than 15 000 students. He said in the past 40 years, UNIVEN has created a vibrant space that produced and still produces well-rounded graduates who compete locally and internationally. These are graduates that are holding important positions locally and internationally both in the public and private sectors.

"Anniversaries are opportune moments to take stock of the road traversed, to reflect on the decisions made and the detours we have taken during our journey. They are also an opportunity to pay tribute to those that have laid the foundation of our journey and eased our burdens and lifted our spirits along the way. It is also a moment to celebrate the milestones achieved and reflect on the hurdles ahead".

"As we celebrate this 40th Anniversary, it is befitting to pay homage to our forerunners who shared a vision for an educated nation, for without their foresight, there would be the no University of Venda to speak of. The challenge ahead of us is to do more and better than what we have done so far. Our path is upward and there is no room for regression".



When opening and welcoming guests, the Chairperson of Council, Mr. Juneas Lekgetha indicated that over the past years, UNIVEN has produced great leaders whom today are making a remarkable impact locally and internationally.

"We are proud to be a university that serves the children of not only this country but of the whole world." He said UNIVEN will always ensure that it plays a leading role in our society.

The Chairperson of the University Council, Mr. Juneas Lekgetha said that the University of Venda Council pledges to continue playing the role of providing stewardship, guidance, and oversight to the University Management as per the mandate. Mr. Lekgetha expressed his gratitude to his fellow Council Members for their tireless effort in offering guidance to different Committees of the Council.



When acknowledging all messages from all speakers and those who wished UNIVEN well in its 40th Anniversary Celebration, UNIVEN Chancellor, Advocate Mojanku Gumbi said the leadership of this University is on a mission to build this country. "We always make sure that we produce responsible graduates who know how to lead themselves before they could lead others. UNIVEN produces graduates that aim to address challenges that are faced by this country and even the whole African continent." Advocate Gumbi concluded her talk with the words that Africa needs analytical graduates who are ready to address African challenges.

Congratulatory messages were received from Prof. Gudani Tshamano (SRC President), Mr. Nditsheni Tshithavhane (Staff representative), Mr. Ntevheleni Thovhogi (Alumni), Mr. Norman Madzhinga (Afroshine Holdings-representing donors and sponsors), Prof J

Scharf MD MPH (the University of Virginia-international partnering university), Mr.

Sylvester Motadi (Convocation President), Prof Tshilidzi Marwala (UJ Vice-Chancellor – Representative of Institutions of Higher Learning), Dr. Phethiwe Matutu (USAF CEO), Cllr Dowelani Nenguda (Vhembe District Executive Mayor) and Thovhele MPK Tshivhase (Representing Traditional Leaders).

The event was sponsored by the following companies: Nedbank, MGB Hotel at 2Ten, Simeka Heights, Ricoh, Gochi Construction, KMS Architects, KC Maiwashe and Associates Quantity Surveyors, and Dembe Solutions.

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Tshivenda dance group performing Malende during the 40th Anniversary Celebration.



Sepedi dance group performing during the 40th Anniversary Celebration



Xitsonga dance group Performing during the 40th Anniversary Celebration



A group photo of some of the dignitaries during the 40th Anniversary Celebration before the main event

The University of Venda ranked 15 in South Africa



The University of Venda has been ranked among the top institutions in the world. On Wednesday, 12 October 2022, Times Higher Education published its annual ranking of the world's top universities for

2023, listing 15 South African universities among them, with UNIVEN ranked the 15th best South African university.

Times Higher Education ranked the universities based on 13 carefully calibrated

performance indicators that measure an institution's performance across four areas: teaching, research, knowledge transfer, and international outlook.

UNIVEN Vice-Chancellor and Principal, Dr. Bernard Nthambeleni was pleased about this good news. He said, "We are thrilled that the University has started to reap the rewards and we can only improve from here knowing that our University is heading in the right direction. This is particularly important to the University community and partners. As we celebrate 40 years of our existence it shows the great strides that we have made in building the University of Venda's global brand visibility. As a result of this ranking, I am optimistic that we will continue forging strategic partnerships and the recruitment of international talent. This further demonstrates that the University of Venda is indeed on track to making an impact and relevance. There is no doubt that having a highly-ranked partner can in turn improve the University's reputation. We call on all our stakeholders to join us as we celebrate our highest-ever global ranking."

Rankings play a pivotal role in maintaining and building the University's position and reputation.

The Vice-Chancellor and Principal of the University of Venda receives the BMF Limpopo Black Excellence Award



On photo L-R: Cllr Sara Rambuda, MEC Rodgers Monama, Cllr Dowelani Nenguda, Mr Mpho Motsei, Minister Ronald Lamola and Dr Bernard Nthambeleni



Dr John Mudau (far right) and partners of UIGC connect



The Vice-Chancellor and Principal, Dr Nthambeleni also unveiled the new UIGC Connect logo to the public.

The Vice-Chancellor and Principal of the University of Venda (UNIVEN), Dr Bernard Nthambeleni, was honoured by the Black Management Forum (BMF) on Friday, 14 October 2022 for his contribution in steering UNIVEN towards the right direction and for being an ethical leader. Dr Nthambeleni received the BMF Limpopo Black Excellence Award at an exclusive gala dinner that was held at Khoroni Peermont Hotel in Thohoyandou. The event was blessed by the presence of the University Chancellor, Adv Mojanku Gumbi.



When presenting the awards, the BMF Limpopo Chairperson, Mr Mpho Motsei, told the audience that as BMF they recognise exceptional leaders from the academia and business space respectively. He said, his organisation took a decision to honour Dr Nthambeleni because he is the epitome of what leadership is all about. Mr Motsei said "The BMF is entirely impressed with the accomplishments of Dr Nthambeleni and the leadership roles that he has shown as a black leader". He further said that under Dr Nthambeleni's leadership, the whole of Thohoyandou will gain access to fibre connection through UIGC Connect.

"You are very fit to receive the BMF Limpopo Black Excellence Award, for your contribution to leadership and empowerment of others along the way", added Mr Motsei.



In his response, Dr Nthambeleni said it is humbling to have been honoured in that fashion and receiving this glorious award. He said the award received is not only for him but also for the whole University community because these are the people who have shown support since he joined the University. Dr Nthambeleni mentioned that the achievements are the result of teamwork and not only his effort as an individual.



Amongst the recipients of the BMF Limpopo Excellence Awards, was Dr Mike Nkuna, the Executive Chairman and Founder of Masingita Property Investment Holdings (grounded on real estate, real estate management, property investment and investment holdings). Dr Nkuna is a pioneer developer of property in previously disadvantaged areas. He was described as a businessman who is bringing solution to the unemployment problem in this country. "You are literally bringing cities into our villages and financially empowering so many families," said Mr Motsei.



Minister of Justice and Correctional Services, Honourable Ronald Lamola who was the keynote speaker during the dinner, spoke about 'The role of ethical and progressive leadership in the development of South African Economy'. In his address, Minister

Lamola commended the University for its significant achievement for being ranked one of the best 15 universities in South Africa. He highlighted that recently UNIVEN, collaborated with the Ministry of Justice and Correctional Services and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. The collaboration was to fight against the issues of human trafficking and drug abuse. He congratulated the BMF for making sure that the event becomes an annual event.



Minister Ronald Lamola congratulating Dr Bernard Nthambeleni



MEC Rodgers Monama, Dr Mike Nkuna and Minister Ronald Lamola

The MEC for Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism, Rodgers Monama introduced the Keynote speaker, Minister Ronald Lamola. The MEC when introducing the Minister indicated that, issues of ethical leadership became a priority in the Limpopo Government. He mentioned that UNIVEN should be proud to be associated with Minister Lamola as its alumnus.

The Vice-Chancellor and Principal of the University of Venda receives the BMF Limpopo Black Excellence Award...



On the behalf of sponsors, the UIGC CEO, Dr John Mudau said UIGC's broader vision is to ensure that the company has alliance and partnerships with entities and organisations who share UIGC ethos. "Our view is that BMF remains strategic to our businesses," highlighted Dr Mudau. He shared with the guests about what UIGC does and the businesses they offer. Dr Mudau congratulated the two award recipients and encouraged them to continue to add value and support the work done by the UIGC.

BMF stands for the development and empowerment of managerial leadership, primarily among black people. UIGC was the official sponsor of the event and the BMF appreciated the partnership and sponsorship by the UIGC.



Dr Mike Nkuna, Mr Mpho Motsei and Dr Bernard Nthambeleni



Recipients of the awards pose for a photo with their families, Chancellor of UNIVEN Adv Mojanku Gumbi (middle) and MEC Rodgers Monama (second from right)



Team UNIVEN pose for a photo with Dr Bernard Nthambeleni (4th from right) and Adv Gumbi (4th from left)

Finance Division embarks on benchmarking with TUT for UNIVEN financial best practice

In a delegation led by UNIVEN Chief Financial Officer (CFO), Mr. Botwe Krazyia, the University of Venda's Finance Division embarked on benchmarking exercise with the Tshwane University of Technology (TUT) to improve and streamline UNIVEN financial processes. This one-day excise was attended by Finance staff members from the Directorate of Supply Chain Management and Expenditure, Financial Management and Reporting as well as Revenue and Financial Aid. "We are excited to be hosted here at your campus and thank you for providing a space for the two universities to share best practices and experiences," says Mr. Krazyia.



Mrs. Tshilidzi Ramulondi (UNIVEN) and Mrs Siphwe Xaba (TUT) share some insight during the session while Mr. Mfaniseni Mnguni was listening



Mr. Botwe Krazyia engaging Mr. Theo Madurai on financial strategic issues during the session

The purpose of the exercise was to share practices on aspects of interest to make UNIVEN's financial systems work effectively and efficiently. In the same light, with best practices, UNIVEN would become more financially sustainable.



Mrs. Mavis Madzhie (Director: Financial Management and Reporting, Mrs. Khathutshelo Mulelu, and Mrs. Beauty Muthelwana (Director: Supply Chain Management and Expenditure) pose for a photo in UNIVEN regalia.



TUT and UNIVEN teams pose for a group photo outside the venue

UNIVEN School of Law in collaboration with Vhembe District Municipality presents Law and Criminal Justice career days

The School of Law in the Faculty of Management, Commerce, and Law in collaboration with the Vhembe District Municipality in Limpopo, hosted the first-ever two-day Law and Criminal Justice Career Expo. This successful event was held at the University Auditorium from 29-30 September 2022.



In his opening remarks, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (DVC) Corporate Services, Dr. Robert Martin, on behalf of the University of Venda (UNIVEN) stated that it was his privilege to officially open this crucial event. "It makes it very special that in our 40 years of existence, we are hosting our first Law and Criminal Justice Career Days". He spoke about the four strategic thrusts encapsulated in the UNIVEN Strategic Plan 2021/2025. His focus was on strategic thrust 2, which speaks of an entrepreneurial university. He encouraged students to be entrepreneurial and start their firms and not wait for opportunities but rather create them themselves.



The Executive Dean of the Faculty of Management, Commerce, and Law, Prof. Modimowabarwa Kanyane welcomed the audience. "My role is to welcome all of you and recognise the entire legal fraternity which is the backbone of this expo. The Faculty is a merger of the two schools of Law and Management Sciences and today this event was organised within the school of Law. It comes at a time when the faculty is finding its feet and being able to respond to academic projects. It is for this reason that we want to inform students that there are many career opportunities in the legal and criminal justice space".



The School of Law's Interim Director, Prof. Lonias Ndlovu, talked about the purpose of the gathering. He said, "we have two distinct disciplines which are Law and Criminal Justice. This is the first time we are holding this Career Expo. To date, students had been exposed to these rare opportunities through the law clinic and some adjectival law modules such as criminal and civil procedure, and limited drafting opportunities across the curriculum." He further said they want every student to have secured articles by the time they leave the university. This event was planned for final year Law students, but other students in the first and second levels were also invited.



Among the speakers present, was Cllr Maria Mamedzi who represented the Executive Mayor of Vhembe District Municipality. Her speech was based on the South African Constitution of 1996. She said, "when adopting the Constitution, we made it clear that the constitution shall be the supreme law of the country and that everything the state and the people shall do should be in line with the Constitution. She advised young people to study Law so that they could be able to interpret the Constitution for the nation. "Choosing a career in Law is very important for our constitutional democracy. Let's take the profession seriously and give it the respect it deserves, concluded Cllr Mamedzi.



The speaker who addressed the gathering was Adv Maanda Musetha representing the Limpopo Society of Advocates, who advised final-year Law students who want to be advocates to visit the relevant schools to serve their articles. There are offices in Thohoyandou Unit D where students can go and inquire about their various disciplines.



Mr. Maboku Mangena, an alumnus of UNIVEN, spoke on the relevance of lawyers in society and the critical role played by lawyers in society. He said "given the fact that you have chosen to be a lawyer to serve our country and its people, there is a need to protect our profession to be a noble one. There is a need for an honest discussion to talk about the LLB programmes and as academics, we should continually engage with one another. Related to this was the need to shape and develop the curriculum for law.



Adv Mcaps Motimela SC, from the Black Lawyers Association (BLA) Legal Education Centre, indicated to students that the future will be what they make it to be. His talk was more of the question of 'why Law'. "The fact that you managed to reach the heights you've reached, indicate that you have the character, personality, and brains to get what you want". Adv Motimela informed the students that the power they are about to ascend is community-based. Therefore, students need to find their passion and empower that passion.



Ms. Khomotjo Matsaung from the Legal Practice Council (LPC), who is the Director in the Limpopo Province, highlighted that the profession requires someone ethical. The LPC is a statutory body regulated by the Legal Practice Act. It is mandated to set norms and standards, provide for the admission and enrolment of legal practitioners, and to regulate the legal practitioners to conduct themselves accountable.

"There is a need for an honest discussion to talk about the LLB programmes and as academics, we should continually engage with one another."



UNIVEN School of Law in collaboration with Vhembe District Municipality presents Law and Criminal Justice career days continued...



Students listening to different presenters



Ms. Queen Gopo from the school of Legal Practice encouraged students to apply for Law school for the 2023 intake. She said the advantage of the school is that students will get more knowledge. Ms. Gopo highlighted that "our prestigious profession has been tainted with how practitioners conduct themselves.

There were presentations from various representatives from numerous legal firms and councils such as the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA) represented by Adv Nkhetheni Munyai; NF Mavundlela Attorneys Mr. Terrence Maluleka. Clearance Mangena's attorneys were represented by Clearance Mangena who is also the Director. M Mulaudzi Attorneys was represented by Ms. Matamela Mulaudzi.

Exhibitors and Presenters included Vhembe District Municipality, SAPS, Correctional Services, the Judiciary, the Magistrate Office, National Prosecuting Authority, Chapter 9 Institutions, School for Legal Practice, Legal Practice Council, Attorneys & Advocates, Law Firms, Department of Home Affairs, SANDF Defence Legal Services Division, and Forensic Services.

The exhibition continued on day two which was 30 September 2022.

Ms. Connie Mphau proposed a vote of thanks. She thanked and appreciated all the speakers for devoting their time to come and share their knowledge and experiences with UNIVEN's future leaders. Ms. Mphau commended the committee for making sure that the event is a success.



A group of some of the exhibitors posing for a photo



Exhibitors busy in their stalls

Chancellor Advocate Mojanku Gumbi officially opens three new University buildings

In the morning of Thursday, 27 October 2022, the University of Venda (UNIVEN) Chancellor, Adv Mojanku Gumbi together with the Chairperson of Council, Mr. Juneas Lekgetha, Vice-Chancellor and Principal, Dr. Bernard Nthambeleni, Executive and Senior Management, Council Members, Limpopo MEC for Education, Vhembe District Executive Mayor, and other dignitaries officially opened three new buildings that were recently completed. These buildings are the Faculty of Humanities, Social Sciences and Education and Mvelaphanda Male and Female Residences. The buildings were officially opened as part of the UNIVEN 40th Anniversary Celebration.

The University Vice-Chancellor and Principal was happy to witness this ceremony. He indicated that the University is growing and there is a need to also increase residences on campus to accommodate more students. Even though the number of students accommodated on campus is not enough, the University is working on projects that will make sure that most students are accommodated on campus.

3955 students are accommodated in the on-campus residences. Mvelaphanda residences will accommodate additional 1808 students. There are currently 70 accredited off-campus residences.



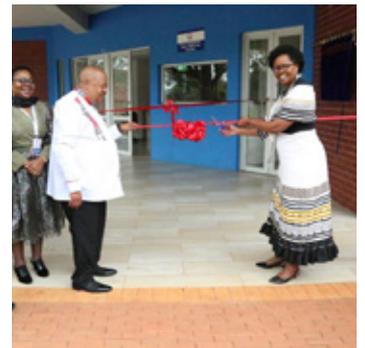
From L-R: Mr. Juneas Lekgetha (Chairperson of Council), Adv Mojanku Gumbi (Chancellor), and Dr. Bernard Nthambeleni (Vice-Chancellor and Principal) officially opening Mvelaphanda Male and Female Residences



Adv Mojanku Gumbi (cutting the ribbon) in the presence of Mr. Juneas Lekgetha, Chairperson of Council, and Dr. Bernard Nthambeleni Vice-Chancellor and Principal, as well as other guests and staff members



The walk towards Mvelaphanda Female Residence for the official opening



Adv Mojanku Gumbi cutting the ribbon when officially opening the Faculty of Humanities, Social Sciences and Education Building

Municipal Manager of Collins Chabane Local Municipality delivers a Public Lecture on Post Covid-19 Local Government opportunities and threats

The University of Venda (UNIVEN)'s Department of Public and Development Administration held a Public Lecture that was intended to share with the attendees how to overcome threats and spot opportunities after the Covid-19 lockdown. The keynote speaker was the Acting Municipal Manager of Collins Chabane Local Municipality, Mr. Azwihangwisi Collen Radali. The Public Lecture took place recently at the UNIVEN Research Conference Centre.



On behalf of Mr. Richard Shilenge, the Acting Municipal Manager, Mr. Azwihangwisi Collen Radali in his address, mentioned that he was very elated to deliver this public lecture. Mr. Radali further mentioned that the Municipality normally gets students who come from UNIVEN, asking to conduct their research either at the Municipality or within the communities that fall under the Collins Chabane Municipality, and we normally say our Municipality is over-regulated. "Covid-19 has brought a lot of regulations and as a Municipality, we were subjected to those regulations". These regulations have helped the Municipality to navigate through the Covid-19 pandemic. Mr. Radali stated that Covid-19 brought sorrows, nightmares, and realities. Despite the regulations, he said they had to deliver services to the communities they serve. As a local government, they were expected to provide water and sanitation which is a primary service that helps to mitigate the spread of Covid-19. Mr. Radali said they were expected to provide these services despite the regulations and challenges that came with Covid-19. "Employees had to work from home, which led to improved productivity". Mr. Radali said the Municipality has not abandoned the traditional way of doing things because they believe the communities, they are serving still maintain the use of traditional methods of doing things.



In his opening and welcome message, the University Registrar, Adv Edward Lambani said "we are doing this primarily for our 40th Anniversary Celebration. UNIVEN is 40 years old, and it is post-adulthood. UNIVEN has produced a lot of graduates and just recently it was rated number 15 in the country. It is indeed a University full of impact and relevance. Adv Lambani said, today we are having a public lecture by someone coming from next door, we exist because they do". He mentioned that Collins Chabane Municipality is our Municipality, and it is unfortunate some months ago we experienced some unfortunate experiences where we lost Mr. Moses Maluleke who was the Mayor until his unfortunate demise. UNIVEN has decided to become an encore for all the district Municipalities. Adv Lambani thanked the Local Municipality for this public lecture so that students and staff could get to hear a lot about the government's initiatives post-covid-19. It has taught us how to operate in a technology-driven environment.



In his discussion, Senior Lecturer in the Department of Public and Development Administration, Dr. Ntwanano Mathebula dissected and engaged attendees in a thought-provoking lecture on the topic 'Local Government post-Covid-19 opportunities and threats. Dr. Mathebula started by acknowledging the fact that the Collins Chabane Local Municipality is a new Municipality that is not even 10 years old yet and that is why academics and students need to foster relationships in terms of research because the Municipality needs inputs to take decisions that are empirically motivated through research.



Dr. Harry Munzhedzi who is the Head of the Department of Public and Development Administration thanked everyone who attended particularly students. He emphasised that events of such nature are necessary because they create an interface between those in the discipline and those in the practice of Public Administration. Students and academics alike need to constantly hear a voice like that of Mr. Radali who is a senior municipal official and capable of narrating practical experiences in Public Administration. They should not only understand Public Administration from a theoretical point of view but from a practical point of view as well.



Public and Development Administration Lecturer, Mrs. Sanah Matloga introducing the guest speaker.

...events of such nature are necessary because they create an interface between those in the discipline and those in the practice of Public Administration.



Mr. Justice Lebopa, Adv Edward Lambani, Mr. Azwihangwisi C Radali, Ms. Sanah Matloga, Dr. Harry Munzhedzi, Dr. Ntwanano Mathebula.



UNIVEN hosts the first of its kind Vice-Chancellor's Golf Day



The University of Venda (UNIVEN) led by the Vice-Chancellor and Principal, Dr. Bernard Nthambeleni hosted a successful Golf Day in the history of the University. The Golf Day was the first of its kind and it took place a few days before the main celebration of the 40th Anniversary. The Vice-Chancellor's Golf Day was held at Tzaneen Country Club on Friday, 21 October 2022. This Golf Day amongst others was part of the UNIVEN fund-raising initiatives.



The University Registrar, Adv Edward Lambani welcomed the guests.

The winners who were announced by the CEO of UIGC, Dr. John Mudau during the award-giving ceremony were Willem Reed (40 points), Nielan Kallan (39 points), Franco Putter (39 points), Nathi Sedibe (38 points), Rhangani Mbhalati (38 points), Dr. Terry Ramabulana (37 points), Rallion Razwinane (37 points), James Malatji (36 points), and Andy Matakanye (33 points). The last person to receive the award was the Vice-Chancellor and Principal, Dr. Nthambeleni for playing Golf for the first time.

Golf lovers came in large numbers to this auspicious occasion of the golf game and made the day a memorable one. This magnitude kind of event attracted golf players as far as Durban and Gauteng as well as other provinces.

The Vice-Chancellor and Principal during the award-giving ceremony which took place later in the evening of Friday, 21 October said: "When we made a call for the UNIVEN Golf Day, we never thought that it will be this big." He further appreciated the attendees for their commitment and their love for the game.

"This confirms that UNIVEN is in the right direction. We cannot allow this remarkable day to just pass by without being recognised." Dr. Nthambeleni was inspired and moved by the attendance of the event, as a result, he declared that it should be an annual event.

UIGC was the main sponsor of this event. Other companies that contributed to the success of the Vice-Chancellor's Golf Day are as follows: Simeka Residence; K.C. Maiwashe & Associates; African Bank; KMS/Intersect; Dembe Solutions; (PTY) LTD;

Afroshine; Gochi Trading; Enyuka Quantity Surveyors; Nchebeko Residence; FUNDI; ; Chapu External Auditors; Muthathe Residence; Westgate/Matidza Residence; Motus Automotive Retail; and Old Mutual; Dolt Holdings.



UNIVEN staff members posing for a photo with some of the sponsors

"This confirms that UNIVEN is in the right direction. We cannot allow this remarkable day to just pass by without being recognised."



Dr. Takalani Dzaga when directing the programme



Dr. Bernard Nthambeleni when receiving his award handed over by Dr. Robert Martin



Willem Reed who took the first position when receiving his award from the Vice-Chancellor and Principal



UNIVEN staff members posing for a photo in the morning of the golf day

UNIVEN hosts the first of its kind Vice-Chancellor's Golf Day continued...

Some of the winners



A University of Venda Alumna in Food Science and Technology continues to raise the UNIVEN flag high

Collen Precious Kelebogile Mudau, a University of Venda alumna (Cum laude) in Food Science and Technology, continues to achieve new milestones after completing her master's degree in Microbiology and Physio-chemistry for food and wine processes (MP2) at the University of Burgundy (France). She is currently studying for her PhD at Le Mans University (Demark). Her amazing journey started after securing a six-month first-hand international Work Integrated Learning (WIL) placement at University College Leuven-Limburg (UCLL) in Diepenbeek, Belgium, under the Flemish Priority Country Programme in cooperation with the Flemish Ministry for Education and Training.

During her final year of her master's degree, she managed to secure another six months internship at Le Mans Université investigating "Techno-functionality and Characterisation of Rapeseed Protein Isolate" under the supervision of Professor Taco Nicolai.

She was selected as one of two candidates who were awarded an opportunity to study towards a doctoral degree as of 23 October 2022. Ms. Mudau describes her time in France as an eye-opener, saying that "One thing I learned with my academic experience in France is that you are bound to experience some highs and lows, there will be a time where you question everything you have learned so far, and then there will be times when you feel on top of the world".

Ms. Mudau extended her gratitude to her Family, Dr. Sevierine Jaloustre, Mr. Mpho Edward Mashau (Department of Food Science and Technology at UNIVEN), and Mrs. Gail Vermaak, for making her dream come true and giving her financial, academic, social, and mental support.

On behalf of the University, Dr. Segun Obadire, the Acting Director of International Relations and Partnerships when congratulating Ms. Mudau said "We are truly very proud of her achievements! She is a true ambassador of UNIVEN and many thanks for all your support all the way. Now she is starting her doctoral study on a high note, and we wish her great success further".

A recorded interview coordinated by the F'SAGRI could be found in the link below:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1IoLldw4Uispl-FRw7AOxqjwTv9EMAcOV?usp=sharing>.



"One thing I learned with my academic experience in France is that you are bound to experience some highs and lows, there will be a time where you question everything you have learned so far, and then there will be times when you feel on top of the world".

We would like to hear from you!

Nendila is your communication channel.

Nendila editorial committee:

Dr Takalani Dzaga
Chief editor

Ms Welheminah Mabogo
Coordinator

Mr Peter Mashishi
Contributor

Ms Mmalehu Seabi
Ms Khodani Zwiswa Radzilani
Interns

Ms Mushoni Mulaudzi
Preservation (Library)

Send your contributions to:

Welheminah Mabogo,
Nendila Coordinator
University of Venda,
Private Bag x5050
Thohoyandou, 0950

Contact Details:

Tel: 015 962 8525
Fax: 015 962 8494

e-mail:
welheminah.mabogo@univen.ac.za

Physical:
Office number 49, Ground Floor
Main Administration Building
University of Venda

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