

Nendila

NEWSLETTER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF VENDA



University of Venda
Creating future leaders

UNIVEN's Department of Youth in Development Studies Celebrates Youth Month with Empowering Public Lecture



On photo: Prof Thierry . Luescher with students in attendance of the Youth Month Celebration

The Department of Youth in Development Studies at the University of Venda recently hosted a Youth Month Celebration to commemorate the spirit and legacy of the June 16 Soweto Uprising.

The highlight of the event was a captivating public lecture by Prof Thierry M Luescher, an esteemed expert in youth development.

In his lecture, Prof Luescher explored the contemporary realities faced by today's youth, including their struggles and triumphs. He also shed light on the unique perspectives and innovative solutions that young people bring to society. His talk sparked a lively and dynamic discussion among the students, who were inspired to reflect on the vital role of youth in shaping the future of our communities.

Prof Luescher also stressed the critical role that young people play in driving leadership and entrepreneurship. In his public lecture, he underscored the importance of empowering youth to take on leadership roles and ex-

plore entrepreneurial opportunities, noting that their unique perspectives and innovative ideas can spur economic growth and promote social change.

A senior Lecturer in the Department of Youth in Development Studies, Prof. Tsoaledi Daniel Thobejane added his own perspective on the importance of the event, saying, "The youth are not simply the leaders of tomorrow; they are the change-makers of today. By celebrating their contributions and honoring their struggles, we pave the way for a more equitable and just future for all. It is my hope that this event will inspire us to continue supporting and uplifting our youth, who hold the keys to shaping a better world for generations to come."

As Prof Thizwilondi Josephine Mudau, Head of Department of Youth in Development Studies courteously said, "The future belongs to our young students, and it is our responsibility as a University to support them in their journey to shape the world they will inherit." Prof. Mudau's sentiment underscored the importance of the event and the public lecture as a platform for engaging



On photo: Prof Thierry M Luescher



On photo: Prof Thizwilondi Mudau More on page 2

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UNIVEN's Department of Youth in Development Studies Celebrates Youth Month with Empowering Public Lecture



On photo: Prof Thierry Luescher with students in attendance of the Youth Month Celebration

in meaningful dialogue and providing a space for students to share their experiences and voice their aspirations.

The Student Representative Council (SRC) Secretary General, Mr Ngelekanyo Maduwa, took the opportunity to address students in attendance, expressing his gratitude to the event organisers and reinforcing the importance of events such as these in fostering a culture of youth engagement and empowerment. "We are extremely grateful to the Department of Youth in Development Studies for organising this event, which is a testament to their commitment to promoting youth development and celebrating the vitality and resilience of our generation," the Secretary General stated. "Events like these provide a valuable platform for us to come together, learn from each other, and chart a course towards a brighter future," he concluded.

One young person in attendance, Mr Tsundzuka Hakamela, shared his experience and insights on the Youth Month Celebration. "As a young person, it's

empowering to see our University coming together to recognise the struggles and contributions of the youth. Prof Luescher's lecture was thought-provoking and inspiring, reminding us of our own potential and the power we hold to shape our own destinies," he said.

The Faculty Manager of Humanities, Social Sciences and Education, Dr Mafemani Joseph Baloyi, was enthused by the level of engagement displayed by the students, stating, "It was truly inspiring to see our students so actively involved in the topic, and thoughtfully applying these insights to their own lives."

The second session of the event, which was led by Dr Keamogetse Morwe, included a slide show of pictures and words that were uttered by various students from different universities pertaining to issues such as "The Fees must Fall Movement" and student leadership in various institutions of higher learning.

Senior Managers assess progress made towards attaining the strategic objectives set out in the University's 2021-2025 Strategic Plan

On 20 and 21 June 2024, the University of Venda (UNIVEN) held the Mid-Term Strategic Plan Review Workshop under the theme, '2021-2025 Strategic Plan Implementation Review – is the glass half-empty or half-full?'

The purpose of this Mid-Term Strategic Plan Review Session was to assess progress made towards attaining the strategic objectives set out in the University's 2021-2025 Strategic Plan and to propose improvement interventions. This session took place at Warmbaths Forever Resort, Bela-bela.

During this workshop, the University's Executive and Senior Management Committee members highlighted institutional achievements and measures to address the identified shortcomings towards the strategic plan objectives; to understand individual divisions strategic interventions towards achievements of the strategic plan, challenges and mitigating factors; to identify risk issues and challenges affecting effective and efficient implementation of the strategic plan and to develop an institutional performance and improvement plan.

In his opening and scene setting, Prof Bernard Nthambeleni gave a high-level strategic plan

achievements and highlighted trajectory for new strategic path (New strategy development 2026-2030). Prof Nthambeleni further spoke about the role of leadership as a significant part in shaping the dynamics of an institution and performance. In his presentation, he touched on matters relating to the alignment of strategic objectives that the university wants to achieve. "We need to understand our roles and lead other staff members



with a positive direction. We also need to ensure

that the university performs accordingly."

He continued to express that all staff members need to understand the 2021-2025 strategic plan before we implement the 2026-2030 Strategic Plan. "We also need to look back to check whether we have achieved what we said we will achieve or not. This workshop's expectation was to provide a presentation that highlights the institutional achievements to date and mechanisms to address the identified shortcomings towards the attainment of the university wide strategic objectives."

When talking about working towards the 2026-2030 Strategy Development, Prof Nthambeleni said that the external review panel recommended the retention of the 4 Strategic Thrusts that are contained in the 2021-2025 Strategic Plan.

As he was concluding, Prof Nthambeleni mentioned that it is key to prioritise measures to address the identified shortcomings towards the attainment of the University wide strategic objectives. "We need to accelerate the implementation of identified practical solutions."

Director Strategy and Risk, Dr Mutshinyalo Ramtombi gave a high level 3-year institutional per-



On photo: Attendees of the 2024 Mid-Term Strategic Plan Review Workshop

formance on the implementation of strategic plan 2021-2025 and 2023 Annual Performance Report (APR). He gave highlights on the 2023 APR indicators selected for auditing, emerging issues and recommendations while touching on issues related to 2020-2023 Combined Emerging Audit Issues (Internally and Externally); 2020-2023 Combined Emerging Audit Issues (Internal Artificial Intelligence); UNIVEN rankings in the past 4 years; Engaged Scholarship and Community Engagement Projects; Selected Entrepreneurial University Initiatives and Selected Outstanding Partnerships. Dr Ratombo concluded his presentation by giving an update on the new Strategic Plan 2026-2030.

Risk Officer, Mr Tinyiko Sibiya gave an update on Strategic Risk Register and progress on its implementation.

DVC Teaching and Learning, Prof Lekalaka-Mokgele delivered a presentation about the overview of teaching and learning performance 2021-2023 including improvement interventions. In her presentation, Prof Lekalaka-Mokgele spoke about interventions to improve students'

success and throughput rates in context of the 3rd year strategic plan implementation; strategies to address identified students at risk; state of the programme reviews and interventions to deal with registration in Higher Education Qualifications Sub-Framework (HEQSF) non-aligned programmes; Measures to address students-staff ratio and update on the implementation of divisional risk register.

DVC Research and Postgraduate Studies, Prof Nosisi Feza talked about the review of Research output and improvement strategies; Academics with PhD vs publication units' challenges and mitigating factors; implementation of commercialisation strategy; Filing and registration of patents; strategies to improve international student recruitment; interventions to increase NRF rated researchers; interventions to increase self-funded Research professors, community engagement strategy and update on the implementation of divisional Risk Register.

Director IPQA, Dr Patience Mativandla highlighted the overview of Corporate Services Performance from 2021 to 2023 academic year,

including improvements interventions. In her presentation, Dr Mativandla spoke about contribution towards the realisation of core business objectives of the University (intervention strategies for advancing the corporate services initiatives focusing on core business); intervention strategies for advancing institutional transformation; interventions strategies to address shortcomings on lecture halls and student spaces; strategies to improve student recruitment in the context of UIEIBP (Agriculture). She concluded by giving an update on the implementation of divisional risk register. University Registrar, Adv Joel Baloyi's presentation was on the Academic / student administration process(es) improvement (outcome of Lekgotla); intervention strategies to address prolonged student residency period (academic non-performing students); intervention strategies to accelerate the implementation of business intelligence; and mechanisms to improve institutional governance and compliance.

Director ICT, Mr Sam Khoza shared the ICT contributions to the implementation of Artificial Intelligence and current trends of ChatGPT dynamics to support the core business in the delivery of their mandate while Dr Phyllia Vukeya presented about DHET Funding Framework (2003) which included Block Grants and Earmarked Grants.

DVC Corporate Services, Dr Robert Martin gave the conceptualisation of the long-term plan of the university to inform the 2021-2030 Strategic Plan while Dr Sannah Mativandla underscored the Strategic issues towards the development of the Annual Performance Plan 2025 (emanating from the outcome of review and external audit).

When closing the workshop, Prof Bernard Nthambeleni thanked EMC and SMC for the richness of the contributions made towards this planning session which is instrumental in the decision making. He said there were innovative ways on how senior managers were engaging with the current strategic plan which shows that the future of this University looks bright. Prof Nthambeleni expressed that he is pleased to see ownership in spaces that they need to take control of. "We need to also hold each other accountable. We need to move as a team. There is value in what we have achieved during these two planning days." He appreciated his office for making sure that all the arrangements unfolded as planned.



On photo: Attendees During one of the workshop sessions

UNIVEN hosts the 3rd SAHDIA DVC's meeting to accelerate scientific discovery for the benefit of all South Africans



Front Row: SAHDIA DVC's for Research and Internationalisation from L-R: Prof Nokuthula Kunene UNIZULU, Prof Jesika Singh UL, Prof Jose Frantz UWC and Prof Nosisi Feza UNIVEN

On 10 and 11 June 2024 the University Venda through the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Research and Post Graduate Studies, Prof Nosisi Feza hosted the 3rd SAHDIA (South African Historically Disadvantaged Institutions Alliance) meeting at 2Ten Hotel in Thohoyandou. SAHDIA is an alliance of the eight historically disadvantaged institutions in South Africa namely universities of Fort Hare; Limpopo; Venda; Walter Sisulu; Western Cape; Zululand and Mangosuthu University of Technology. SAHDIA is moving towards transforming the landscape of higher education by fostering research and partnerships among South Africa's historically disadvantaged universities. This vital initiative underscores the significance of collaborative efforts in academia, harnessing collective expertise to address the unique challenges faced by these institutions and their communities.

At this latest session delegates had Prof Lufuno Makhado from the University of Venda (UNIVEN) talking about One Health as an interdisciplinary research niche area and Prof Pascal Besson presented on HIV/AIDS programme and contribution to Global Health at an international scale. In addition, delegates were workshopped on how to incorporate entrepreneurship into the curriculum and research with a focus on aligning it to addressing SDG 2030, Agenda 2063 and the Vision 2030 National Development Plan by Prof Thobeka Ncwanywa from Walter Sisulu University (WSU).

SAHDIA as a network facilitates a robust exchange of knowledge, resources, and best practices, enriching educational experiences for students and researchers. By connecting these universities, SAHDIA accelerates scientific discovery and innovation, ensuring that advance-

ments are inclusive and benefit diverse populations within South Africa. SAHDIA recently held its third network meeting at the University of Venda and this gathering underscored the pivotal role of collaboration in transforming the narrative surrounding HDIs, emphasising a shift towards a more positive and impactful story.

In a country marked by deep-seated inequalities, the collaboration among HDIs is not just beneficial but essential. By pooling resources, expertise, and innovative strategies, these institutions can overcome systemic barriers and amplify their impact on both the educational landscape and broader society. Such partnerships foster a culture of shared learning and mutual support, driving academic excellence, research and innovation that reflect the unique

challenges and opportunities within South Africa.

One of the key benefits of this collaborative approach is the ability to harness diverse perspectives and experiences. This diversity enriches the academic environment, fostering a more inclusive and comprehensive understanding of complex social issues. By working together, HDIs can develop curricula and research agendas that are more attuned to the needs of their communities, ultimately producing graduates who are well-equipped to address local and global challenges.



On photo: SAHDIA members after the Faculty of Health Sciences Site Visit

UNIVEN Peer Educators Empowered to Combat Gender-Based Violence through Inclusive Workshop



Ms Maggy Hlungwani, HIV/AIDS Coordinator at Campus Health handing over certificates to Peer Educators

As the country is celebrating Youth Month, the University of Venda (UNIVEN) Campus Health Clinic coordinated a transformative Gender Based Violence (GBV) Peer Education Training/Workshop from 13 - 14 June 2024. Campus Health clinic is committed to promoting general health and wellness among students through peer education. During this two-day immersive session at Sports Hall, young leaders learned valuable knowledge and skills for preventing and responding to GBV, empowering them to become agents of change in their communities. Peer education is a key approach utilised to enhance the overall health and well-being of university students, ensuring they graduate alive.

House Initiative and GBV Technical Specialist at Networking HIV/Aids Community of Southern Africa (NACOSA) and Co-facilitated by Ms Maggy Hlungwani, UNIVEN HIV Coordinator.

Ms Hlungwani spoke about the importance of community engagement in combating GBV. "This workshop was a crucial step in raising awareness and creating a culture of safety at UNIVEN. By empowering our Peer Educators with the skills and knowledge to address GBV, we are contributing to a safer and more supportive campus environment. I am proud of the dedication and passion shown by the participants, and I look forward to seeing the impact of this workshop on our communi-



On Photo: Dr Ntlotleng Mabena, Executive Director of Open House Initiative and GBV Technical Specialist at NACOSA facilitating the GBV Workshop at UNIVEN

The workshop was facilitated by Dr Ntlotleng Mabena, Executive Director of Open

House Initiative and GBV Technical Specialist at Networking HIV/Aids Community of Southern Africa (NACOSA) and Co-facilitated by Ms Maggy Hlungwani, UNIVEN HIV Coordinator.

ties," remarked Hlungwani in her welcoming speech. Through dynamic methodologies and engaging activities, participants explored deep into crucial topics like, Sexual Orientation, the definition and types of GBV, the impact of GBV on individuals and com-

munities, strategies for prevention, reporting, and responding to incidents of GBV. Through interactive activities, case studies, and group discussions, Peer Educators learned about the importance of bystander intervention, developing empathy and understanding, and recognising the signs and symptoms of GBV. Additionally, the workshop provided an opportunity for participants to share their own experiences and perspectives on GBV, fostering a sense of solidarity and community in the fight against violence.

Dr Mabena highlighted the need for proactive and collaborative efforts to combat GBV. "It is imperative to raise awareness about Gender-Based Violence and equip students with the knowledge and tools to address this issue effectively. By coming together in events like this workshop, we can create a culture of safety and support on campus and in society at large," she said.

Dr Mabena concluded by remarking that "Overall, the workshop was a resounding success, providing the Peer Educators with invaluable knowledge and skills to combat Gender-Based Violence. This event exemplified the crucial role of education and community engagement in raising awareness and driving positive change. We are confident that the Peer Educators will utilise their newfound expertise to make a difference in their communities and beyond."

Mr Ronald Vele, a Peer Educator at UNIVEN, shared his insights stating that "The workshop was truly an eye-opening, and I have learned so much about the devastating impact of GBV on individuals and communities. As a Peer Educator, I am committed to using this experience to educate other students and work together to create a safe and supportive environment on campus and beyond. By raising awareness and promoting positive change, we can make a real difference in the fight against GBV."

Another Peer Educator, Ms Pearl Masingi said "The workshop helped me realise that GBV is not just an issue affecting women and girls, but also men and boys. This is an important revelation for us all, especially considering the negative impact GBV has on society. We must continue to break down stereotypes and raise awareness about the various forms of GBV that affect people of all genders. By so doing, we can work towards creating a safer and more equal environment for everyone.

As the workshop ended, the Peer Educators were presented with certificates to acknowledge their participation and commitment to learning about GBV. The certificates served as a symbol of their newfound knowledge and skills, and the positive impact they can make as leaders and advocates in the fight against GBV.

Prof Eric Maluta appointed as the new Director of the Green Technology Confucius Institute at the University of Venda



The Director of the Green Technology Confucius Institute (GTCI) at the University of Venda, Prof Eric Maluta highlighted GTCI's mandate that focuses on the training of Chinese language and the development of Green Technology Research at the University of Venda in collaboration with the Hubei University of Technology in China. The centre promotes the student, staff and researcher exchange for the Chinese language and Green Technology Research.

Professor Maluta, a physicist and science communicator, joined the University of Venda's Physics Department in 2013. He holds undergraduate and Honours degrees from the University of Limpopo, a Master's degree in renewable energy at UNIVEN, and a PhD from the University of Bath. Maluta is the first master's graduate in the Department of Physics at UNIVEN and was part of the team to promote the first PhD candidate in the department of Physics.

He has been involved in various projects aimed at improving secondary school physical sciences and science public engagement. He has also served as Deputy Chair and Chairperson of the local organizing committee for Hot and Dense Nuclear and Astronomy Matter (HDM) international workshops in 2013 and 2017, respectively.

Prof Maluta is a member of the South Africa Institute of Physics Council as President Elect, International Union of Pure and Applied Physics (IUPAP), Commission 14 on Teachers Education and South African Association of Science & Technology Centres (SAASTEC) Board Ordinary Member, ASSAF, Quest Editorial Advisory Board Member.

He supervised several master's and doctoral students until completion in the Green Technology research areas.

Prof Eric Maluta's current research projects are based on the Green Technology, Solar Energy Parameters Analysis, Renewable Energy, Computational studies of semiconductors, energy materials and dye sensitised solar cells.

Prof Maluta is currently working on dye uptake on the TiO₂ semiconductor, Band gap engineering and the study of charge transfer at TiO₂/dye-molecule interfaces in these types of solar cells. Apart from the computational studies of energy materials and dye solar cells, he is working on the analysis of solar radiation and renewable energy hybrid systems for rural development. When congratulating Prof Maluta, the Vice-Chancellor and Principal, Prof Bernard Nthambeleni said " in his new role, Prof Maluta is set to accelerate new ideas and solutions that will put UNIVEN at the forefront of green technology research. I am confident that he will strengthen research efforts in areas of renewable energy and drive effective university and industry collaboration."

Tip Offs

If you spot anything out of the ordinary on campus

Contact the University Hotline

Toll free number 0800 212 755
or email: univenhotline@tip-offs.com

Improper conduct includes the following:

1. Financial misconduct,
2. Misuse or misappropriation of University assets,
3. Health and safety risks,
4. Plagiarism,
5. Fraud and corruption.

The University of Venda Accountancy Department participates in Tubatse Annual Careers Exhibition



On Photo: The grade 12 learners and teachers attending the careers exhibition

The University of Venda (UNIVEN) participated in the 1st Tubatse Annual Careers Exhibition organised by the Careers Exhibition Network (CEN) on 12 and 13 June 2024. The event was hosted by Sekhukhune TVET College (CN Phatudi Campus) in Burgersfort. UNIVEN was represented by the Accountancy Department staff members, Mr Ambani Tshikovhi CA(SA), Ms Rendani Tshinavhe, and Mr Casios Ungedzani (Academic Trainee). Some of the institutions and sponsors who were invited to attend the exhibition included Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), MerSETA, MQA, FASSET, SAPS, Higher Health, Sekhukhune TVET College, SAAD, SASKO, MMC Business Solutions, Mtrendz Group, Tshwane University of Technology (TUT), Songatech, Bazil Technologies, and Okuhle Kodwa College.

Ms. Rendani Tshinavhe informed the students about the various programmes that UNIVEN offers as well as the minimal requirements for enrollment. She also gave thorough details regarding the deadlines for applications for the 2025 academic year, as well as the documentation needed for the application and admissions processes.

Since there are other applicants seeking admission to UNIVEN, Ms. Rendani Tshinavhe emphasised the significance of obtaining higher points to guarantee admission. "Aim to get more than 26 points to improve your chances of being admitted to the programme of your choice," she said.

Mr Ambani Tshikovhi shared with the students the programmes and processes of becoming a Chartered Accountant (CA (SA)) when enrolling at UNIVEN. These programmes include the three-year BCom in Accounting programme, the three-year BCom in Cost and Management Accounting programme, and the four-year BCom in Accounting Sciences programme, which is accredited by the South African Institute of Chartered Accountants (SAICA). He encouraged students to enroll for BCom in Accounting Sciences programme, which is a pathway to the Chartered Accountancy (CA (SA)) profession. Mr Tshikovhi also highlighted rewarding career opportunities among the many that the CA (SA) route offers.

Mr Casio's Ungedzani, shared his journey as an aspiring CA (SA) with grade 12 learners. The UNIVEN Accountancy Department will make sure that students are well taken care of by organising various bursary opportunities such as ISFAP, Standard Bank, IDC, BANK SETA, WR SETA, FASSET, and NSFAS that will cover for students' registration, tuition and accommodation fees, as well as book and meal allowances, which smoothen the students' journey. He told students during his speech that the journey is doable and worthwhile.

Mr Ungedzani stated that UNIVEN guarantees the mental health of its students by offering various health service structures within the institution, in

addition to its primary goal of providing high-quality education.



Photo above: UNIVEN representatives from L-R: Mr Ambani Tshikovhi CA(SA), Ms Rendani Tshinavhe and Mr Casios Ungedzani



Photo above: Excited grade 12 learners during the exhibition

Prof Khangwelo Desmond Musetsho is appointed the Chairperson of the Environmental Assessment Practitioners Association of South Africa (EAPASA)

The Board of Environmental Assessment Practitioners Association of South Africa (EAPASA) announced significant changes in its leadership structure on 07 June 2024.

EAPASA was appointed by the Minister of the Department of Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment (DFFE), Ms Barbara Creecy, as the single registration authority for environmental assessment practitioners in South Africa, under Section 24H of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998.

During a general meeting held on May 10, 2024, members from all quarters of the country convened to conduct the nomination and appointment process in strict adherence to EAPASA's constitutional provisions. Subsequently, at the full seating of the Board on May 23, 2024, Professor Khangwelo Desmond Musetsho was duly nominated and appointed as the Chairperson of the EAPASA Board.

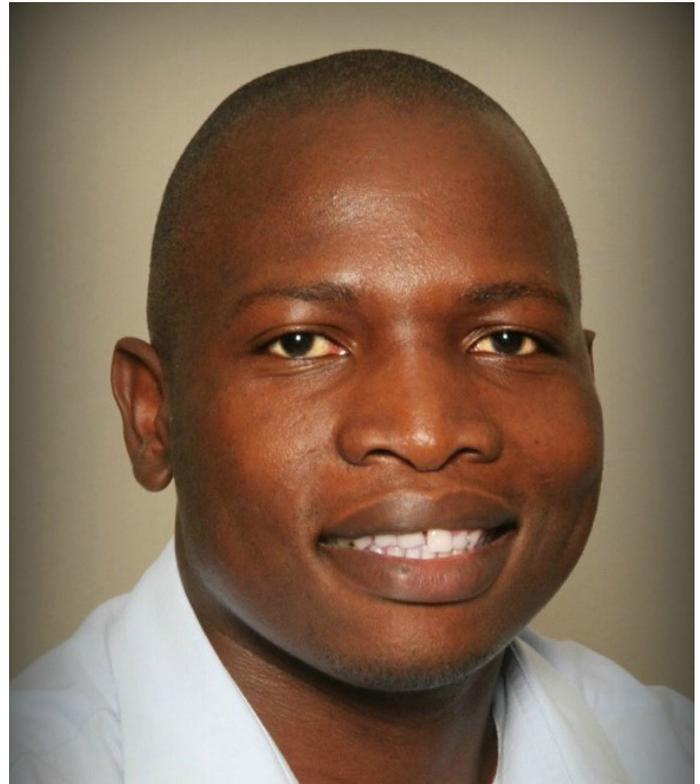
Prof Musetsho is one of the founding Board members at EAPASA and has served the Board as Vice-Chairperson for many years. He also serves as a Council Member at the Council for the Built Environment (CBE), a Department of Public Works and Infrastructure (DPWI) entity, appointed by Honourable Minister Sihle Zikalala. He also serves as a Council Member at the South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions (SACNASP), a Department of Science and Innovation (DSI) entity, appointed by Honourable Minister Blade Nzimande. He served the National Executive Committee of South African Affiliate of the International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIASa) and led the Limpopo Branch for several years. He is a former Board Member of the South African Wetlands Society (SAWS) and the Central Branch Committee of the Institute of Waste Management in Southern Africa (IWMSA) and a member of the Institute of Directors in South Africa (IoDSA).

He is the founder and has been the Principal Environmental Scientist at Naledzi Environmental Consultants (Pty) Ltd for 21 years. He holds a PhD in Environmental Management and a Master of Business Leadership (MBL). His professional repertoire extends beyond the confines of environmental consultancy. He has enriched the academic world as a University Lecturer, currently a Professor of Practice at the University of Venda, Prof Musetsho has further contributed to urban planning as a member of the Capricorn District Municipal Planning Tribunal, and fostered community development through various leadership roles, such as being the Chairperson of the Mphaphuli Development Trust (MDT). His expertise is diverse yet focused, and he has made significant contributions to EIAs, Wetland Ecology/ Assessments, Land Management, and Ecosystem Services Valuations. He is a Professional Natural Scientist at SACNASP and a Registered EAP with EAPASA.

Professor Musetsho is a product of the University of Venda, a recipient of both the Zahira Armed and the Best Overall Student awards for the School of Environmental Sciences (now the Department of Geography and Environmental Sciences under the Faculty of Science, Engineering and Agriculture) at the end of his first qualification. He has been associated with the University of Venda since joining the private sector through part-time lecturing, replacement lecturer and linking the university with various professional bodies. He was also a student leader involved in the

Student Representative Council (SRC) and Environmental Societies, leading campaigns on and outside the campus for environmental awareness. He is indeed a true embodiment of the University motto: "Creating future leaders".

He is caring and a genuine guardian of the King Code of Corporate Governance and Companies Act. He is an ever-present individual in dialogues around Professional Bodies' development in South Africa and abroad. He has facilitated numerous conferences presenting aspects related to professional development, and environmental assessments amongst others. His community environmental activism has seen him leading awareness campaigns on national radio and TV (SABC, Newzroom Africa, ETV etc) regularly, which should place UNIVEN at the forefront of these campaigns. Prof Musetsho has experience in leading strategic projects, programmes, and initiatives aimed at business development, improvement, and transformation. He is an expert in conducting Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) and associated activities such as Environmental Audits and Environmental Rehabilitation. He was born and bred in the Vhembe region, a product of the University who has been a torch bearer and an ambassador of the University in many fronts.



On photo: Prof Khangwelo Desmond Musetsho


University of Venda
Creating Future Leaders

INVITATION TO ATTEND
*Convocation Fundraising
Gala Dinner*
AUGUST
FRIDAY 23rd 2024 5 PM for 6 PM

Protea Hotel Fire & Ice, 221 Garsfontein Road, Menlyn, Pretoria

Dress Code : Black Tie

SPONSORSHIP PACKAGES

Platinum Package : R150 000 (Two ten-seater tables & five other benefits)
Gold Package : R100 000 (Two ten-seater tables & four other benefits)
Silver : R50 000 (Two ten-seater tables & three other benefits)
Package for chairs : R2 500 (For each chair & one other benefit)

To sponsor, you may deposit funds into the University of Venda ABSA Account
Number : 1000 000 538 with Ref. ConvocationGala2024 or click here to donate
<https://univen.devman.co.za/Devman/event/payment/>
Send proof of payment to Mr Mashudu Ramaleba at
mashudu.ramaleba@univen.ac.za who is
contactable at 071 632 3422.

Mr Rudzani Mamphweli is a new Community Engagement Officer



The Directorate of Community Engagement, Entrepreneurship, Inclusive Innovation, and Commercialisation (DCEEIIC) welcomes Mr. Rudzani Bernard Mamphweli as a Community Engagement Officer. He has been appointed in this position with effect from 01 June 2024.

Mr Mamphweli has a Bachelor of Social Work and BA Hons (Sociology) from

the University of Venda. He also has a master's in international development studies from Palacky University in the Czech Republic, made possible by the prestigious Erasmus Mundus scholarship. He is currently a PhD candidate in Sociology at the University of Kwazulu Natal. In August-September 2023, Mr Mamphweli represented the University of Venda in the Henan Training Programme for Young Prominent Leaders of South Africa, which was hosted by the People's Government of Henan Province in China.

Mamphweli has served as a Czech Aid sponsored intern that offered an opportunity for him to travel to Bosnia/Herzegovina in South-Eastern Europe where he learnt about monitoring and evaluation of rural village-based projects funded by Czech Development Cooperation. Before joining the DCEEIIC, he was a Lecturer in Sociology.

He has been an engaged scholar with experience in community engagement, international/rural development, stakeholder mobilisation, communication and marketing, and project coordination. Additional services rendered are Senior Project Assistant (International Organization for Migration), DSI/NRF/UNIVEN Innovation Champion intern, Office Intern (German Development Cooperation).

Mr Mamphweli is looking forward to supporting the documentation, reciprocal interactions associated with the University wide community-based projects-initiatives, for impact in society.

On behalf of the University, the Director Community Engagement, Entrepreneurship, Inclusive Innovation, and Commercialisation (DCEEIIC), Prof Vhonaani Netshandama offered Mr Mamphweli her very sincere congratulations.

UNIVEN female Physics Master's student jets to Russia

A female Physics Master's student, Ms Vhuthu Miranda Tshilengo from the Faculty of Science, Engineering, and Agriculture was invited to attend the SA-JINR International Student Practice in Dubna, Russia.

This three-week programme, held from June 2 to June 21, 2024, is designed to attract talented young individuals to the Joint Institute for Nuclear Research (JINR) and raise awareness about the opportunities for studying and conducting scientific research. Initiated by the JINR University Centre in 2004, the Practice provides students with information about the extensive range of scientific research at JINR, allows them to conduct a research project at the Institute's primary experimental facilities under expert guidance, meet Institute staff, choose a scientific supervisor for potential future thesis work at JINR, attend lectures by leading JINR scientists on contemporary physics issues, and experience Russian culture.

Ms Tshilengo hails from Tshilamba, Mutale, near Thohoyandou. She earned a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics and Physics from the University of Venda in 2020 and an Honours degree in Physics in 2021. She began her Master of Science in Physics at the University of Venda in 2022, focusing on Radio Astronomy, and is currently in the final year of her master's degree programme, completing her project. Her research utilises existing MeerKAT data from the MHONGOOSE large survey project, which is stored on the Inter-University Institute for Data-Intensive Astronomy's (IDIA) federated research cloud.

She is conducting commensal searches for radio transients and variables under the supervision of Prof Patrick Woudt from the University of Cape Town and Prof Eric Maluta from the University of Venda. Conducting these transient surveys with

radio imaging requires substantial computing power, data storage, and time. Such surveys are crucial for astronomers to gain new insights in time-domain radio astronomy, particularly in discovering the population of faint radio transients and variables.

The faculty is proud of Ms Tshilengo and wished her the best of luck.



On photo: Ms Vhuthu Miranda Tshilengo

Prof Edwin Madala hosts PhD candidates from the University of Johannesburg



L-R: Kgalaletso Othibeng, Prof Edwin Madala and Akhona Myoli

Prof Ntakadzeni Edwin Madala, attached to the Department of Biochemistry and Microbiology, in the Faculty of Science, Engineering and Agriculture, recently hosted Mses Akhona Myoli and Kgalaletso Othibeng, second-year PhD candidates from the University of Johannesburg, supervised by Dr Fidele Tugizimana. Their research focuses on plant metabolomics, a field heavily reliant on analytical instruments like the Shimadzu LCMS-9030, a key asset at the University of Venda (UNIVEN).

Ms Myoli's research aims to decode and predictively characterise the influence of plant growth-promoting rhizobacteria (PGPR) on the unexplored phytochemical space of South African medicinal plants. Meanwhile, Ms Othibeng's work focuses on using emerging computational tools and strategies to characterise the metabolome and underlying biochemistry of selected South African medicinal plants.

They have come to UNIVEN to learn and master concepts related to the LC-MS technique, gaining in-depth theoretical and hands-on experience with the instrumentation, analytical capabilities, and various methods of data acquisition in MS-based metabolomics studies.

UNIVEN has been actively researching mass spectrometry to understand the complexity of plant metabolomes and enhance the pharmacological activities of various plants.

During their visit, the two UJ students had an opportunity to exchange ideas with UNIVEN students. Currently, over 11 MSc and PhD students are working on mass spectrometry-related projects, most of whom are registered in the Department of Biochemistry and Microbiology. It is also noteworthy to mention that UNIVEN hosts at least two scholars/students from various universities each month, all coming to gain experience on mass spectrometry research under the guidance of Prof Madala. Kgalaletso Othibeng expressed gratitude to UNIVEN for providing them with this rare opportunity to learn how data is acquired, highlighting to the UNIVEN students the privilege of having such instrument of this nature at their disposal.

Prof Potgieter, the Executive Dean, stated that the use of high level equipment stationed in the Faculty of Science, Engineering and Agriculture by internal and external staff and students for training and research activities is part of the transformation plan in the Faculty to make research resourc-

es more accessible where staff and students can get training in new research technologies and also get research output from the data that was created from the use of these equipment.



Above Pictures: Mses Myoli and Othibeng sharing information

University of Venda Vice-Chancellor and Principal Welcomes Back Comrades Marathon runners with Praise and Warmth



From L-R: Dr Arthur Raynolds, Mr Kudakwashe Madzima, Mr Victor Sigama, Dr Malebogo Andries Legodi, Prof Bernard Nthambeleni, Mr Genius Katekwe, Mr Lungisani Managa, Mr Tinyiko Sibiya and Dr Takalani Dzaga

The University of Venda Vice-Chancellor and Principal, Prof Bernard Nthambeleni, warmly welcomed back six staff members who completed the challenging Comrades Marathon held on 09 June 2024. In a fitting tribute, Prof. Nthambeleni, along with other University senior managers, gathered at the DSU building to celebrate the triumphant return of the six UNIVEN staff members. The session that was a heartwarming moment of recognition and camaraderie was held on Thursday, 13 June 2024.

Prof Nthambeleni expressed great pride in the staff members' achievements, saying, "We are honoured to have such dedicated and passionate individuals in our midst."

The Comrades Marathon is an ultramarathon of approximately 88 kilometres which is run annually in the KwaZulu-Natal province of South Africa between the cities of Durban and Pietermaritzburg. It is the world's largest and oldest ultramarathon race.

The Vice-Chancellor and Principal congratulated each staff member individually, expressing his pride in their accomplishments and highlighting the unique qualities that helped them succeed in the gruelling marathon. The Vice-Chancellor went on to add that "The Comrades Marathon is not just a race, it is a testament to the human spirit and determination. These staff members have shown that they have what it takes to persevere and succeed in the face of adversity."

Mr Tinyiko Sibiya: Strategy and Risk, Mr Lungisani Managa: Finance, Mr Genius Katekwe: Faculty of Management Commerce and Law, Dr Malebogo Andries Legodi: Faculty of Science, Engineering and Agriculture, Mr Kudakwashe Madzima: Faculty of Science, Engineering and Agriculture, Dr Arthur Raynolds: Faculty of Management Commerce and Law were the six staff members recognised by the Vice Chancellor. The seventh runner, Adv Rudzani Makhema was acknowledged in absentia. All the runners shared their experiences.

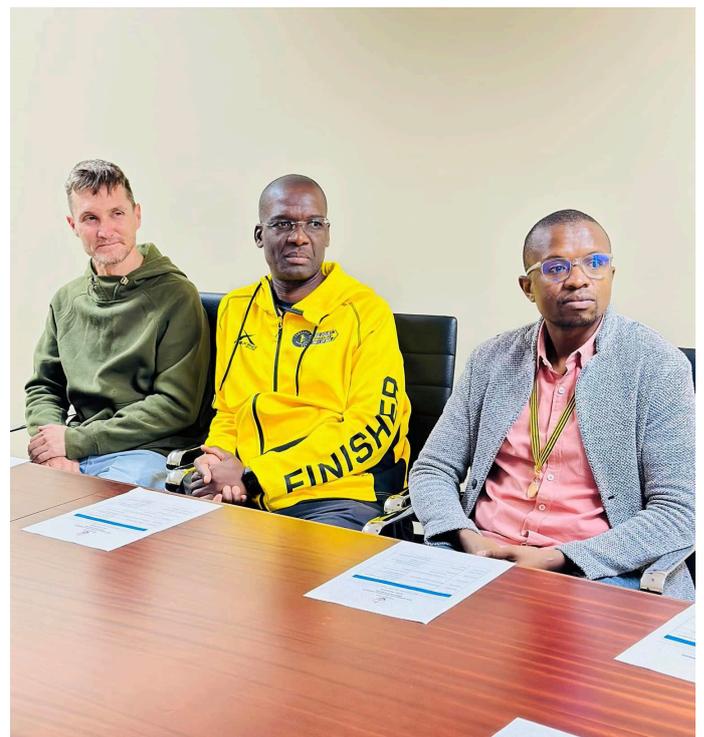
Dr Takalani Dzaga, Director of Marketing, Branding, and Communication added his voice congratulating the participants. He praised the six staff members for their incredible display of perseverance and dedication, noting that their success serves as an inspiration to others.

Dr Dzaga also issued a call to action, expressing the University's hope that more staff members, including female staff, would join the marathon in the future.

The Head of Human Resource Operations, Mr Victor Sigama, chimed in by

emphasising the importance of supporting staff members in participating in activities like the Comrades Marathon. He explained, "Encouraging our staff members to engage in such events not only boosts their morale but also benefits their physical and mental health. We believe that happier and healthier staff members lead to a more productive and motivated workplace."

Mr Sibiya, one of the Comrades Marathon participants said "The experience of completing the Comrades Marathon was incredibly fulfilling. To have the University management welcome us back with such warmth and appreciation was the cherry on top. It feels great to be part of an institution that values its staff members and celebrates their achievements beyond their daily work responsibilities."



UNIVEN enhances student safety through installation of streetlights in Ngovhela cluster



that he would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the University Management for prioritising the safety and well-being of UNIVEN students. Mr Ndaka further expressed that this initiative highlights the commitment of UNIVEN to creating a positive and inclusive learning environment. "On behalf of the SRC, I would like to express our appreciation to the Housing Unit, Protection Services, Off-Campus Accredited Residences, and all other stakeholders who contributed to this important achievement."

Sergeant Tambani, a representative from the South African Police Services, weighed in on the significance of the streetlight installation saying "Safety is a joint effort, and this initiative demonstrates the effectiveness of partnerships between the University, security services, and the local community. The installation of streetlights is a proactive step in reducing the risk of crime and fostering a safer environment. I commend UNIVEN for their dedication to enhancing student safety and look forward to continuing to work together to ensure the well-being of the students."

The University of Venda (UNIVEN)'s Student Housing unit under Student Affairs Department, in collaboration with Protection Services Department and Off-Campus Accredited Residences (Ngovhela cluster), recently held a ribbon-cutting ceremony to mark the installation of streetlights from Westgate residences to Phoshoho.

The ceremony was a joyous occasion, attended by community leaders, residents, and students, all united in their excitement over this important step in enhancing the safety and security of the Ngovhela cluster. The new streetlights will not only provide increased visibility at night but will also serve as a symbol of the University's commitment to providing a safer, more secured environment for its students.

UNIVEN's Director Protection Services, Mr Ratshilumela Mulaudzi said "This initiative is a shining example of the strength of partnership and community spirit. It is only through the combined efforts of the Housing Unit, Protection Services, and Off-Campus Accredited Residences that we have been able to achieve this important milestone. We are grateful for the support and cooperation of all parties involved, and we look forward to working together to further enhance the safety and security of our UNIVEN community."

Director of Legal Services, Advocate Eric Nemukula representing the Office of the Vice-Chancellor and Principal highlighted that the installation of streetlights is more than just a safety measure, it's a reflection of our institution's dedication to providing a secure and conducive learning environment for our students. "We understand that a safe and secure learning environment is crucial for students to thrive. By working together with the Housing Unit, Protection Services, and Off-Campus Accredited Residences, we have taken an important step in ensuring the safety of our students and fostering a sense of community within the Ngovhela cluster."

The team worked tirelessly to ensure that the installation of these streetlights becomes a success.

UNIVEN's Off-Campus Coordinator, Mr Thomani Ndwammbi was at the forefront of the effort, leading by example with his passion for student well-being. He famously stated, "At the end of the day, it's not about us, it's about the students." With this as his mantra, he spearheaded the cleaning and light installation, emphasising the importance of providing a safe and comfortable learning environment for the students.

UNIVEN SRC President, Mr John Ndaka expressed gratitude towards the University's efforts, stating



On Photo: Mr Thomani Ndwammbi, UNIVEN's Off-Campus Coordinator

NEDBANK makes a huge impact in helping students who are in-need



L-R: Tshildizi Ramulondi, Mpolokeng Botipe, Tenda Madzena, Prof Sebi Lekalakala, Joseph Khoza, Ngelekanyo Maduwa, Percy Ngobeli and Dr Refilwe Pila-Nemutandani

Nedbank came in as a good Samaritan by contributing food parcels and non-perishables towards UNIVEN "Thohoyanzie" feeding scheme. This has made a huge impact in helping those students who are in-need. Contributions received calculated to the monetary value of R20 000.00.

The donation will support the essential work being done by the Advancement Unit of the Department of Marketing, Branding and Communication to ensure that unfunded students receive the resources and assistance they need.

The Nedbank's Regional Manager, Mr Joseph Khoza, serving Limpopo and Mpumalanga regions, on behalf of Nedbank, has donated 62 backpacks which some inside contained food parcels and sanitary towels to 85 beneficiaries of UNIVEN Thohoyanzie scheme, demonstrating their commitment to social responsibility and community impact. Mr Khoza emphasised the bank's commitment to not only generating income but also impacting the communities in which it operates. "This wave by Nedbank is a testament to their dedication to social responsibility and their willingness to lend a helping hand to those in need," said Khoza in his remarks when handing over donations.

On behalf of the University management, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Teaching and Learning, Prof Sebi Mokgele-Lekalakala, expressed gratitude for the donation from Nedbank to UNIVEN students and encouraged them to do more. She believes that CHETL Directorate will ensure that donated resources are distributed fairly to support all needy students. She stated that UNIVEN receives students from disadvantaged backgrounds. Prof Mokgele-Lekalakala deems that universities need an integrated approach to student well-being and that financial institutions have a social responsibility to support their communities. She trusts that providing resources to disadvantaged students is essential for their success and well-being.

The SRC Secretary General, Mr Ngelekanyo Maduwa, on behalf of students witnessed and appreciated the kindness and Ubuntu demonstrated by Nedbank to the needy students.

"Thohoyanzie" is a feeding scheme which is a collaboration among Student Counselling and Career Development Unit (SCCDU), SRC and Advancement Unit for assisting students who are from disadvantaged background. The scheme aimed at providing social relief to those students

who are needy and deserving. It depends on the support from donors, students and staff members within the University.

Dr Gloria Dama from SCCDU welcomed the guests. The programme was facilitated by the Manager Advancement Unit, Mr Percy Ngobeli.

Dr Refilwe Pila-Nemutandani who is the Head of SCCDU expressed a vote of thanks and appreciated the donations by Nedbank.



UNIVEN and Hubei University of Technology launch the Academy that will serve as a hub to schools and universities in the SADC region and beyond



"The University of Venda (UNIVEN) has a rich history of producing graduates that have occupied influential positions in various public and private sectors across the globe," these are the words of the UNIVEN Vice-Chancellor and Principal, Prof Bernard Nthambeleni during the launch of the UNIVEN-HBUT Future Leaders Academy. The launch of this Academy is a collaboration between UNIVEN and Hubei University of Technology (HBUT) in China.

This Academy will play an important role in shaping capable, responsible leaders who contribute to society's progress. The signing ceremony and the launch of this Academy took place at the University of Venda, Thohoyandou on Thursday, 27 June 2024.

He stated that the Academy will be the academic programme arm of the Green Technology Confucius Institute (GTCI) where full degrees, exchange and short programmes will be coordinated.

Prof Nthambeleni indicated that the establishment of this Academy will indeed benefit South Africa as it will provide training opportunities and new skills sets, that ordinarily will not be offered in the South African education and training system.

The Academy will work hand in hand with all our faculties, the Institutional Planning and Quality Assurance and other national bodies for unique programmes development.

He informed the audience that the Chinese Director and lecturers are eager to learn local languages as well because this would enable them to communicate and even teach Chinese language better.

Prof Nthambeleni said, "I do hope the UNIVEN language department will leverage on this opportunity to roll out short courses in Tshivenda or other local languages for the benefit of our Chinese and other nationalities within and outside the campus."

When welcoming the HBUT Vice-President, Professor Chen Zicai and members of his delegation to UNIVEN, Prof Nthambeleni said "Your visit today solidifies our partnership which has grown in leaps and bounds in the last few months. We recognise your sacrifices and support of your delegation in making sure that the collaboration between our universities succeeds. The many achievements in the establishment of our joint Green Technology Confucius Institute (GTCI) were made possible because of your unwavering support. Our world is increasingly interconnected and the importance of building and nurturing relationships across borders cannot be overstated."

Prof Nthambeleni reported that GTCI at the University of Venda (UNIVEN) could be described as vibrant from its launch on 05 December 2023 to date. On its inaugural Chinese language class, approximately 3000 applications including staff and students were received but only 300 could be accommodated in the classrooms. He further reported that the Limpopo Premier's Office staff participated and completed with the first batch of Chinese language course.

Prof Chen Zicai, Vice-President of Scientific Research and Cooperation at HBUT remarked that, as HBUT, they cherish this partnership be



The Vice-Chancellor and Principal told the audience that UNIVEN focuses on developing and implementing new academic programmes in key fields of Engineering: Mining, agricultural, water, agro-processing and construction technology; Health Sciences: Optometry, dentistry, and physiotherapy; Emerging Area: Disaster management; African and foreign language and cultural studies.





cause UNIVEN is HBUT's strategic partner. He said since 2019 (when the first MoU was signed), a lot has been accomplished under this partnership. Towards the end of his remarks, Prof Chen Zicai wished this Future Leaders Academy a bright future and thanked UNIVEN for the full support and commitment in this partnership.



The Director International Relations and Partnerships, Dr Segun Obadire gave a high-level overview on the conception of the "HBUT-UNIVEN Future Leaders Academy." He said UNIVEN and Hubei University of Technology are taking a step forward by launching and signing the agreement to develop the Academy.



Prof Natasha Potgieter, Prof Eric Maluta and Dr Mutshinyalo Ratombo gave quite impressive feedback on the Hubei University of Technology visit which they undertook in May 2024.

This was followed by a signing of the Agreement on Joint Establishment of UNIVEN-HBUT Future Leaders' Academy between the University of Venda, South Africa and Hubei University of Technology, China. The signing was facilitated by Adv Eric Nemukula, Director Legal Services.



DVC Research and Postgraduate Studies, Prof Nosisi Feza in her vote of thanks expressed gratitude to all the participants. She indicated that



the collaboration should go beyond green technology and the language training that we have started but include more other areas. She thanked Prof Nthambeleni for articulating UNIVEN's journey together with HBUT.

At the end of the signing ceremony, UNIVEN Vice-Chancellor and Principal, Prof Bernard Nthambeleni and HBUT Vice-President of Scientific Research and Cooperation, Prof Chen Zicai unveiled the Plaque on the UNIVEN-HBUT Future Leaders Academy that was held at the GTCI.



The launch of Vhuthu project embodies the spirit of partnership that is essential for sustainable development



On Photo: Dr Shonisani Elizabeth Tshivhase

In a commitment to community outreach and empowerment, the University of Venda (UNIVEN) recently hosted Vhuthu Project that brought together the resources and expertise of the University's Directorate of Community Engagement, Entrepreneurship, Inclusive Innovation, and Commercialisation (DCEEIIC), Public Health under the Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Pretoria, North-West University and University of Limpopo.

The event that was held at Ha-Muraga village, saw the community coming together for a vibrant Vhuthu celebration, a traditional event that showcased the cultural heritage and community spirit of the region.

This initiative has been implemented across several communities in Limpopo, including Siambe, Nweli, Mbahe, Malavuwe, Tshitani and Muraga, and it was aimed at bolstering Vhuthu values that are crucial to maintaining community cohesion.

Attendees were treated to a lively display of dancing, singing, and drumming. The event served as a reminder of the importance of preserving and celebrating cultural traditions and provided a forum for community members to connect and strengthen their bonds.

Dr Shonisani Elizabeth Tshivhase, a Lecturer in the Department of Public Health said the project



On Photo: Youth of Ha Muraga performing Domba

ect "represents our commitment to making a meaningful difference in the communities that



On Photo: Mr Rudzani Mamphweli

we serve. We are honoured to partner with the communities and provide support for their sustainable development initiatives. Together, we can create a brighter future for all." Moreover, Dr Tshivhase emphasised, "our vision is not just about academic excellence, but also about using our knowledge and resources to



On Photo: Ha Muraga elders performing a dance

contribute to a better world. This project is just one example of our university's dedication to being a force for good in our local communities. We look forward to continuing to work closely with the people of Ha-Muraga, and all the adopted communities; Siambe, Nweli, Tshitani, Mbahe and Malavuwe to support their efforts towards a more prosperous and sustainable future."

The celebration of Vhuthu Project was not only marked by speeches, but also by the local youth vibrant performances, who captivated the audience with their songs, dances, and poems.

These talented young people, brimming with enthusiasm and creativity, not only shared their passion for the arts but also showcased the rich cultural heritage of their community. Their performances added a joyful and festive atmosphere to the event, highlighting the importance of preserving and promoting local traditions while pursuing sustainable development.

The University's Community Engagement Officer, Mr Rudzani Mamphweli said "I was thrilled

to see such a lively and positive response from



On Photo: Khosi Vho Ntikedzeni Mphaphuli

the local youth. This project is a testament to our university's dedication to building strong relationships with the communities around us, and the performances of the young people



On Photo: 10 years old, Ritonde Tshikoliso

showed us the importance of fostering cultural expression and artistic talent. We are honoured to be a part of this vibrant community and to support its ongoing development."

Mr Mamphweli also took the stage to deliver a keynote address, emphasising the significance of the Vhuthu Project for the community. "This project represents not only an investment in our community's future, but also a celebration of its past and present," he said.

The Ward Councillor, Mr Tshimangadzo Sitholimela added that it is through initiatives like these that we can truly harness the potential of

our young people, nurture their talents, and support their dreams.



On Photo: Young people embracing their traditions



On Photo: Khosi Vho Ntikedzeni Mphaphuli with guests

A significant step towards enhancing leadership and management skills within the University of Venda staff



The Department of Human Resources through its Organisational Development and Training Unit, has officially launched the Management Development Programme at the University's Research Conference Centre on Tuesday, 18 June 2024. The inaugural cohort of the programme is specifically tailored for Heads of Departments (HoDs) and Managers who previously attended the Postgraduate Certificate in Entrepreneurial Leadership.

The event commenced with an electrifying atmosphere as the Director of Human Resources at the University of Venda, Mrs. Uanda Ndou, delivered her opening remarks. She warmly welcomed the esteemed guests and participants while expressing her enthusiasm for the collaboration with the renowned University of Cape Town (UCT) -Graduate School of Business. She underscored the importance of this initiative as a pivotal step in the University's ongoing efforts to implement the Career Pathing Programme, aligning it with the institution's operational objectives.

Dr Rutendo Hwindingwi (the programme convenor/integrator) (via MS teams) gave a brief introduction overview of the MD programme and he further emphasised on the collaboration as a crucial aspect of the programme's success. Mr Rayner Canning the Director of Business Development of UCT-Graduate School of Business (via MS teams) extended a warm welcome to the participants of the Management Development Programme. He encouraged active engagement and full participation while expressing gratitude to the University of Venda for the partnership that made this initiative possible. In his words he further indicated that "cu-

riosity skilled a cat".

The Management Development Programme represents a significant milestone in the professional development of the University's leadership cadre. By targeting HoDs and Managers who have previously completed the PGC in Entrepreneurial Leadership, the programme aims to equip participants with advanced management skills, strategic thinking capabilities and leadership competencies essential for driving organizational growth and success. Participants in the programme can look forward to a comprehensive curriculum designed to enhance their managerial acumen, decision-making abilities, and people management skills. Through a blend of theoretical knowledge, practical exercises, case studies and interactive sessions, the Management Development Programme promises to be a transformative learning experience for all involved.

As the Management Development Programme kicks off, the University of Venda reaffirms its commitment to nurturing and developing its human capital. By investing in the professional growth and development of its employees, the University not only enhances its organisational effectiveness but also fosters a culture of continuous learning and improvement. With the support of esteemed partners like the UCT Graduate School of Business, the Management Development Programme at the University of Venda holds great promise in shaping a new generation of effective and visionary leaders. As the first cohort embarks on this exciting journey, the University looks forward to witnessing the positive impact of this initiative on its workforce and overall institutional performance.

We would like to hear from you!

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