



# NEWS @ NUST

A newsletter of the National University of Science and Technology

September 2018

## Alumni meets the Vice-Chancellor



Attendance of the Alumni event at the Ceremonial Hall

The National University of Science and Technology's Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Eng. Mqhele Dlodlo hosted the first ever NUST Alumni Meet and Greet to share his vision and update the alumni on developments currently taking place within campus.

The university recognises the need to reconnect with its former students as they should live at the heart of every institution serving a critical bond between NUST and the world.

Alumni in attendance were representatives from various faculties, who now represent different interests within our industry and community. Amongst those, in attendance was a special guest, recently appointed Minister of Industry, Commerce and Enterprise Development, Nqobizitha Mangaliso Ndlovu. He graduated at NUST in 2011 with a Master of Science (MSC) in Finance.

The Minister observed that Zimbabwe has various opportunities for graduates and students to tap into as the country is currently importing most of its goods and services. He challenged alumni to take advantage of all opportunities availed, especially in his ministry to produce goods locally.

"The President has opened Zimbabwe for business, have we opened NUST for business? Have we opened NUST for Industrial revolution, for technological revolution?" asked Honourable Ndlovu.

Minister Ndlovu expressed his pride in being a NUST graduate and challenged other graduates to think in other terms and show the rest of the world what a NUST is capable of doing within our community.

The Vice-Chancellor noted that the university is seized with a spirit of renewal and growth hence thrives to be the best NUST can be, in terms of reclaiming its spot as the top university of science and technology in the country.

The Vice-Chancellor bemoaned the lack of infrastructure at NUST and highlighted to the alumni that his energies are

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currently directed towards solving this problem. The university has signed various memorandums of agreement with different stakeholders to address this challenge. Funding has been secured through build, operate and transfer arrangements for the Student Residence, Campus services and Health Science which will house the Faculty of Medicine, Health Care Science, Dentistry, amongst other projects.

In a bid to commercialise the university, plans are in the pipeline to construct sports stadiums with a capacity to house 20000 people. He went further to mention that the university has signed a memorandum of agreement with a leading solar energy generating plant which will power the entire campus. The excess will be sold to the national grid.

The Vice-Chancellor urged alumni to continue sharing their positive alma mater's stories, support the university financially and morally through their expertise

As the evening came to a wrap a total of 5 graduates volunteered to be in the alumni steering committee. The mandate of this committee is to set up structures, procedures and systems for conducting all alumni affairs including drafting a constitution. The members of this committee are; Doreen Dzatira, Buhle Francis, Prosper Ncube, Mzingaye Ndlovu and Duncan Ngwenya. More members of this committee will be elected in Harare on the 5th of October at Rainbow Towers.

# Alumni meets the Vice-Chancellor: In pictures



# “You and I are stakeholders of NUST”, urges the Vice-Chancellor



Students attending the VC's address at Ceremonial Hall

The Vice-Chancellor Prof. Eng. Mqhele Dlodlo, shared his vision for the university during an engagement with students from all faculties in a meeting arranged by the Student Representative Council.

He noted that students have a role to play towards the development of NUST.

The Vice-Chancellor urged the students to curb the slow pace at which

**“You are stakeholders in the development of NUST, we dont take you lightly”**

Prof Eng. Dlodlo

development is taking place in Bulawayo. He encouraged them to work towards developing technologies that will quicken development in the city. Prof Dlodlo advised students that the development of

the city and of the nation at large has to begin at NUST therefore they must start innovations well before graduating.

Amongst the Vice-Chancellor’s goals is building a student residence that will accommodate all students at NUST. His aim is to build state of the art apartments that are fully equipped with all needs necessary for a university student. Going forward his aim is to make NUST a self-sustaining community with all facilities that students and staff may need on a day to day basis while on campus.

The Vice-Chancellor mentioned that students must take advantage of the changing environment which is very supportive of a developmental vision. The business community has taken a step further by supporting the education sector with the likes of Strive Masiyiwa providing free Wi-Fi to tertiary institutions so as to complement all research efforts. He urged students to use such resources effectively towards accomplishing their education goals.

Prof. Dlodlo was happy to see that students were active and eager to work with him in re-building the university to be the best it can be. Students raised a number of concerns which the Vice-Chancellor promised to look into and give necessary feedback. According to Prof. Dlodlo all the issues will be solved especially at a stage when funds are available and a yearly plan has been put into place to effectively execute some of them.

He encouraged students to always voice their concerns via the student affairs. He emphasized that the university has adopted a transparent system and such engagements are a welcome gesture.

**Social media pages:**

-  National University of Science and Technology
-  @nustzim
-  NUST zimbabwe

# Memorandum of Understanding between NUST AND EISAZ



VC Prof. Eng. Mqhele Dlodlo(left) exchanging MOU papers with EISAZ president Mr. Austin Tigere(right)

**A** Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been signed between NUST and Engineering Iron and Steel Association of Zimbabwe (EISAZ) recently. This MOU will currently focus on the faculty of Industrial Technology.

The formalisation of a relationship between EISAZ and NUST involves collaboration and cooperation of the two organisations to promote the effective use of resources while enhancing opportunities of mutual interest. The MOU focuses on skill oriented training and other programs to benefit the students and staff of both organizations in terms of joint research, innovative technology development, professional skills and competence development.

NUST had a relationship with members of EISAZ in the past through student attachment and student programs; however the scope of this new alliance will also consist of the sharing of facilities, industrial visits, joint conferences, curriculum design and review etc.

EISAZ President, Mr. Austin Tigere said their organization treasures its engineers who are NUST graduates and is looking forward to this collaboration with the institution.

According to Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Eng. Mqhele Dlodlo, this memorandum is only the commencement of a relationship that will greatly benefit the students. NUST is excited for a bright future of Iron and steel and related product lines and even service lines.

Prof. Eng. Dlodlo stated that this MOU has started with the Faculty of Industrial Technology however other faculties such as Medicine and Commerce will be put into consideration as they also have a lot to contribute in terms of equipment and management issues.



Mudadisi Owen(second from the left) receiving his prize for first position

## NUST Faculty of Industrial Technology hosts Engineering Student Awards

The NUST Faculty of Industrial Technology hosted the 5th Annual National Engineering Students Awards Competition (NESAC), at the Delta Lecture Theatre, drawing Zimbabwe's best engineering minds to battle it out and showcase their technical, communication and innovative skills.

Fifteen engineering students from five Universities and four Polytechnical colleges participated in this event which saw University of Zimbabwe student, Owen Mudadisi walking away with \$1000 and a trophy. His presentation was about waste polystyrene insulated banana ripening facility with automated control for small scale banana ripening.

Second prize winner, Prudence Mariwa, received \$600 whilst Victor Tatenda Mandabva received \$300 for the third prize including certificates of recognition.

In a speech read on his behalf by PPC General Manager, Dr Ngangezwe Khumalo; Mr Kelibone Masiyane reiterated the need to expose students to real life industries through their learning period so that they extend their energies is coming up with real life problems.

Dr Khumalo highlighted the need to promote research development among tertiary students.

"If students and the industry work together we can come up with more solutions and implement better ways and better transform our economy", said Dr Khumalo.

He emphasized that through NESAC students are trained to identify societal challenges, dream up possible solutions, strategise on the best approach, test and try out the most promising of them, implement and evaluate such solutions, and above all validate the chosen solutions against the original needs.

The NUST Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Eng. Dlodlo encouraged professional engineers to be active in mentoring upcoming engineers as they have a key role to play in the revival of Zimbabwe industries.

In attendance was the NESAC Chairperson, Dr Shelly Gondo who encouraged students to make use of Zimbabwe's raw materials in coming up with solutions for our societal woes.

# EDU-ZONES AN INSTITUTIONAL FUTURE FOR RESEARCH

NUST is among the beneficiaries of free WIFI from Liquid Telecoms. This is a project that offers internet connectivity through installation of Edu-zones to tertiary institutions in Zimbabwe.

This gesture fulfils Strive Masiyiwa’s vision of enriching research in academic institutions. The initiative by Liquid Telecom was launched by His Excellency President Emmerson Mnangagwa, early this year.

The Liquid Telecom project is set to increase connectivity and reduce network congestion at the university as Edu-zones would have enormous speed.

In an article on News Day Wellington Makamure, Liquid Telecom Zimbabwe managing director, said: “Liquid Telecom is in the process of finalising the interterrestrial high speed optic fibre linking Africa, from the southern tip to the northern tip through Cairo. We have built the largest independent terrestrial fibre network across Africa. We are implementing our founder and chairman Strive Masiyiwa’s vision to provide all universities, colleges and secondary schools in all the countries we operate as Liquid Telecom to have free Edu-Zones and wi-fi internet within three years.”

Edu-zones would empower institutions to access a hub of information access which is available on online archives. This will empower the university in continuing to uplift the nation with research that is aimed at problem solving.

## Community Engagement in computer science

The Department of Computer Science hosted a public lecture in the Ceremonial Hall on the 5th of September. The topic of the lecture was “Community Engagement in Computer Science: Switching the paradigm to community.” Guest speaker, Dr Gertjan van Stan, encouraged computer science students to create or design technologies that will serve their communities first, their nations second, their continent third and lastly the world in its entirety.

One of the guest speakers was former NUST student, Tafara Makaza who is currently studying computer science at Williams University, USA. Tafara developed an application called “Fixa” which he launched in August 2018. The application which is available on Android Google Playstore makes it convenient and faster for customers to contact professional workers for example, plumbers.

According to Tafara a customer can download the application ‘Fixa Zimbabwe’, register their number, request for a service and pay using Ecocash. Professional service providers looking for customers can apply to be a Fixa professional. After the service, customers can rate the workers using the star ratings therefore they can see whoever fits a particular field. He jokingly referred to the application as an ‘Uber’ for jobs.

Tafara encouraged computer science students to be innovative and produce various products to serve the community. He advised them to trial their products before enrolling the final innovation to the market.

Public lectures at the university have been used as a method of engaging students and inspiring them to aim higher, hopefully computer science students benefitted greatly from the lecture.



Far Right: Ms Nothando Ndlovu (red polo-neck) with other techwomen fellows

## Physics lecturer selected for STEM techwomen workshop

A physics lecturer, Miss Nothando Ndlovu has been selected to represent Zimbabwe in the 2018 STEM TechWomen mentorship program in the United States of America. Miss Ndlovu is amongst the 100 women selected for this year's program, drawn from 20 countries in Africa, Middle East and Asia.

TechWomen is an initiative of the US Department of Educational and Cultural Affairs. This program empowers, connects and supports the next generation of women leaders in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) from Africa, Central, South Asia, and the Middle East. It provides them with access and opportunities needed to advance their careers, pursue their dreams, and inspire women and girls in their communities.

This program brings together emerging women leaders in the STEM career path with their professional counterparts. It strengthens participants' professional capacity, increases mutual understanding between key networks of professionals, and expands girls' interest in STEM careers by exposing them to female role models.

In this 5 week long program women engage in project based mentorships at leading companies in San Fransisco Bay area and Silicon Valley. They participate in professional developing workshops and networking events and travel to Washington DC for targeted meetings.

To qualify for this program preference would be given to applicants who demonstrate themselves as emerging leaders in their chosen professional track through their work experience, volunteer experience, community activities and education. They have to be committed to return to their home countries to share what they have learned and mentor women and girls.

Miss Ndlovu holds a degree in Applied Physics from NUST and a Masters in Physics from the University of Fort Hare in South Africa. She recently became a substantive lecturer after being a Teaching assistant in the department for the past two years.



### CHOLERA ALERT!!!

#### The basic cholera prevention tips include;


- ✎ Drink and use safe water- Boil it or treat it with a chlorine product or household bleach
- ✎ Wash your hands with soap and running water
- ✎ Cook your food thoroughly and eat while it is hot
- ✎ Wash your fruits and vegetables under running water
- ✎ Avoid shaking hands at public gatherings including funerals
- ✎ Should you suspect that you have cholera visit the clinic immediately or alert any health officials near you

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# The Notable Alumni

## Profile: Hon. Nqobizitha Mangaliso Ndlovu

- PLUMTREE-born Nqobizitha Mangaliso Ndlovu, a former National University of Science and Technology student was appointed as the new Minister of Industry and Commerce.
- Ndlovu studied Msc Finance and Investment at the National University of Science and Technology and graduated in 2011.
- The former Mpopoma High School student also studied Development Finance at The University of Cape Town Graduate School of Business.
- He also carries a degree in Business and Finance at the Midlands State University (MSU).
- From 2010-2012 the energetic Ndlovu was a lecturer at the Lupane State University (LSU).
- The Plumtree-born Minister is currently studying for his Masters in Development and Finance at the University of Capetown.
- He is the prominent Regional Manager of the National Indigenisation and Economic Empowerment Board, a position that he has maintained from 2012 till present.



**NATIONAL UNIVERSITY  
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SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**



**Hon. MP. Nqobizitha Mangaliso Ndlovu**





THE Chairman of NUST Council, Ambassador Zenzo Nsimbi and members of the NUST Council; the Vice-Chancellor of NUST Prof. Eng. Mqhele Dlodlo, members of staff, students and The Alumni join the nation in congratulating, **Hon. MP. Nqobizitha Mangaliso Ndlovu**, on his appointment as the Minister of Industry, Commerce and Enterprise Development.

As a NUST graduate, we have no doubt of your capabilities in this befitting position. The university wishes you the best in your mission for a better Zimbabwe.

“NUST is a MUST.”  
“THINK IN OTHER TERMS”

**AMHLOPHE! MAKOROKOTO! CONGRATULATIONS!**

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The appointment of Ndlovu has been dipped as a sign of President Emmerson Dambudzo Mnangagwa’s bid to revive the Zimbabwean Industry. The National University of Science and Technology together with the Zimbabwean nation support the Minister as he works to deliver the goals set towards reviving Zimbabwean industries.



**COUNT DOWN TO 2018 GRADUATION**

Remember:-

⇒ Graduation will be held on Friday 09 November 2018.

⇒ Each graduand receives three cards, one for graduand and two for guests.

⇒ Collection of cards at the Admissions (Dates to be advised).

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# Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) programme inspires hope



**Chairperson of the Finance Department (left) and IPAZ members (right)**

**T**HE Investment Professionals of Zimbabwe (IPAZ) has encouraged Finance students at National University of Science and Technology (NUST) to enrol on a Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) programme at public lecture held at the Delta theatre recently.

A member of IPAZ, Ranga Makwata, advised students to enrol for the CFA programme which will widen their scope globally. According to Makwata, the CFA programme is available only for degree holders.

“The CFA programme helps you gain skills which are at a global scale and enriches the degree you have attained to be competitive worldwide” Makwata said.

Makwata further explained that the programme is examined in three levels and one has to pass all the levels to attain a CFA charter, after also conducting four years of work experience.

According to Makwata fourth year students can begin the enrolment as they will learn similar things which they are currently studying. He encouraged students in part four to enrol and begin their Level One whilst they are in their final year.

The CFA programme provides skills for students to be flexible in investment management which cuts across financial and economic areas.

The programmes fees are pegged at US \$2,400 and averages US \$800 per stage.

Students at the public lecture were advised to consult one of IPAZ member, Mr. Simba, who would mentor them and prepare them in registering for CFA programmes.

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## Next Gen Biomedical Scientists (NGBS) Career Guidance at NUST

**T**he Next Gen. Biomedical Scientists (NGBS) conducted a career guidance session at NUST with high school students recently. NGBS aims at increasing enrolment of STEM students who are much appreciated by the government.

During this career guidance session students got a chance to do various bio-medical experiments. The experiments aided their mindset to be investigative while enhancing their bio-medical science knowledge. The secondary high schools present included Milton High, Founders High, Sizane High and Montrose High.

Applied Biology and Biochemistry lecturer, Prof. Shadreck Dube, noted that their aim was to bring out great minds from science

through such interactions. He urged students to “think in other terms” as the NUST motto states.

“Resources are not a limiting factor rather mind training. Setting your mind right as a scientist helps you bring out best innovations” Prof. Dube said. He encouraged students to think beyond what they see and not be limited by their thinking.

NGBS member Mr. Muzenda urged students that Africa is viewed with a reputation of being customers of other people’s inventions. He encouraged them to break this trend especially in the country.

“We expect inventions from you. Whenever a new disease arises in your societies you should invent those tablets needed and not rely on western inventions.” Mr Muzenda said.

Dr. Justin Manasa, NBGS partner, enlightened students not to focus on the traditional paths which sciences used to offer. He mentioned that nowadays one can study virology and genomics rather than being general practitioners.

NGBS team urged students that after training they should come up with health problems and solutions in their communities. They promised to fund such productive researches.

# Next Gen Biomedical Scientists (NGBS) Career Guidance at NUST: In Pictures



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