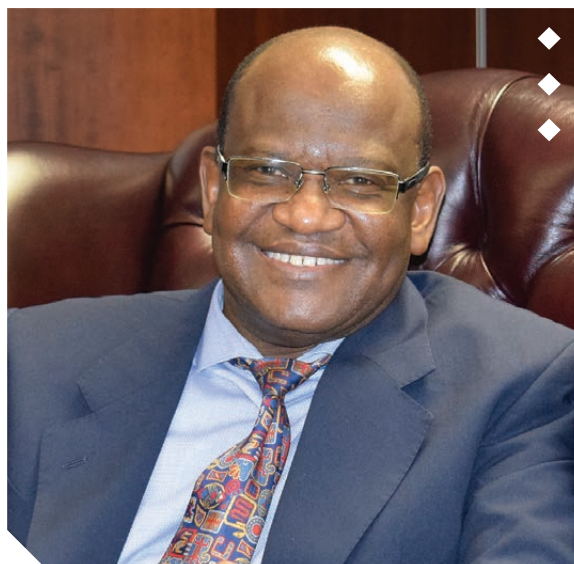


# State of the University Address

## VC uses SOTU to set the university on a strategic path

Every year, the MUT Vice-Chancellor delivers the State of the University (SOTU) address to staff, setting the tone for what the University wants to achieve for the year. Ever since joining MUT, Dr Enoch Duma Malaza has referred to Strategy 2025 which was co-developed with staff and students. This year's SOTU was special for two reasons. The MUT Strategy 2025, whose development Dr Malaza championed, had been approved for implementation by the MUT Council in 2019, and 2020 was the first year of its implementation.



Dr Enoch Duma Malaza

"In 2019 we concluded a long journey which started in the middle of 2018. We now have a strategic blueprint to steer by as we chart the way into the future," said Dr Malaza, addressing staff at Bozzoli Hall, which was filled to capacity. "Our MUT Strategy 2025 commits us to the creation of a beautiful university that future generations will be proud of."

Recapping the goals of Strategy 2025, Dr Malaza highlighted some of the priorities for 2020. The milestones that the University wanted to achieve by the end of the year include playing a significant role in strengthening civil society, partnering with the community as part of the MUT 'Anchor Strategy', reviewing the MUT Campus Master Plan, implementing the new organisational structure, and strengthening the capacity of support departments to deliver on key services of the University.

As part of the address, which was delivered on 17 February, Dr Malaza told staff that the University aimed to deepen its role of strengthening civil society by providing 'knowledge and understanding', shaping cultural values, and training and socialising people on the new economic and social era of the Fourth

Industrial Revolution (4IR)". He went on to explain that this role committed the University to providing knowledge and skills required to meet the challenges of sustainable development, and to enable members of the community to make informed, ethical choices.

In terms of partnering with the community through MUT's Anchor Strategy, Dr Malaza informed staff that the University planned to establish an Anchor Committee. This committee will provide a platform for establishing relationships with partners from the community.

The MUT Campus Master Plan, which is its plan for sustainable development in infrastructure, will also be reviewed this year. In terms of infrastructure projects, the University has a few key projects earmarked for 2020. "These include the completion of the student centre, the redesign of the main entrance as a pedestrian area with a link to the land on the west side of the main road, and the reconfiguration of the entrance to the Technology Station in Chemicals as the new main entrance to the University," said Dr Malaza.