



Some of the Enactus 2017 members

MUT'S ENACTUS TEAM BREAKS NEW GROUND

"Enactus is a community of student, academic and business leaders committed to using the power of entrepreneurial action to transform lives and shape a better and more sustainable world" (www.enactus.org). For more than 10 years, MUT's Enactus team has been active, making a difference within disadvantaged communities of Umlazi and other rural areas such as Nongoma and KwaSwayimane. The team is vibrant and is often characterised by its willingness to serve. It is a dedicated team of like-minded individuals not driven by monetary gain but by high levels of civic engagement. The team's philosophy is driven by the very mission this global organisation is founded on.

MUT Enactus scooped a fourth position overall on 12 July 2017 at the Enactus 2017 National Competition, out of 25 Enactus teams from various South African universities. In addition, MUT Enactus won first place in the Business Solutions for Community Engagement category and second place in the Triple Bottom Line for Sustainable Projects category.

The team's trepidation at facing the defending champions (the University of Johannesburg), as well as North West University, Central University of Technology and others, strengthened their 'ASINAVALO' resolve, said Mxolisi Ngwenya, Enactus Co-Faculty Advisor.

The team had all the attributes of a winner - a good pitch, confidence and authenticity, and tried-and-tested projects. Their first project, "Ceiling in a Can", is an adaptation of the patent registered by Dave Pons with MUT's Research Office. Dave is a lecturer in the Department of Agriculture at MUT and needed assistance in finding funds and creating a market in order to run his project successfully. After thorough research on the Ceiling in a Can product, Enactus MUT approached Dave to expand the scope of his project by implementing strategies to overcome the challenges his product was facing.

The team conducted a needs analysis and found that the informal settlements of Emhlabeni (next to MUT) and Cato Manor (near Durban) had a desperate need for the product as the shacks become extremely cold in winter and the roofs leak in summer. Ceiling in a Can would definitely be the answer to better living conditions by providing cheap and easy insulation from the elements. The team then identified that Ceiling in a Can has great entrepreneurial value since it can be used to start a fast and affordable ceiling installation business. The needs analysis enabled them to draw up a list of potential clients who would be interested in, or in need of the product. Their findings led them to develop their current business model, which is an umbrella structure strategy that starts with the launch of two cooperatives and the identification of five local community members from both the Emhlabeni and Cato Manor informal settlements. "They have the drive and passion required to grow the business and expand the scope of the business model," the Enactus team concluded.

The MUT Enactus team received high praise for their Ceiling in a Can project and the outstanding work of Mxolisi Ngwenya, who won the Junior Alumni of the Year award plus R5 000. Furthermore, the team made it into the top four of the Ford Special competition series and won \$5 000 US dollars. Should the team win the competition, they are in line to win a further \$25 000. These results will be announced in 2018.

In total, Enactus MUT won six trophies during the Enactus competition. "This signifies the growth of our students through what has been a difficult year of project engagements. Passion and commitment have prevailed," commented the Enactus MUT President, Vuyisanani Tshika. The second Enactus project from MUT was LL Heavens, which is a poultry farm business run by former MUT students which makes approximately R51 000 per week. The team sourced funding of over R140 000 for this project.

SPORTING EXCELLENCE



Lindani Mbonambi

MUT student gets national colours

Tenacity and a sense of purpose have seen Lindani Mbonambi, a third-year Accounting student from Ntuzuma in Durban, gain his national boxing colours and make the team which will compete in China in 2018. Lindani achieved gold in the KZN Elite Boxing Tournament in Ladysmith from 23-25 June 2017 and was awarded his KwaZulu-Natal colours. He followed this with an outstanding performance at the USSA Games at MUT on 1-3 July 2017, winning a gold medal after beating a boxer from the University of Zululand. He has been selected for the national team heading to China next year. What drives him is his commitment to the sport and his mentor, Muzi Mvimbi, a former MUT student who is now a professional boxer.



Some of the MUT fighters selected for Russia from left: Mndeni Magagula, Thembelihle Cele and Zamani Lubanyana

Four MUT fighters selected for Russia

At the conclusion of the 2017 USSA tournament at Tshwane University of Technology on 1 July, four MUT fighters were selected to go to Russia. They are Thembelihle Cele (under 60kg), Siso Gumede (under 65kg), Zamani Lubanyana (under 70kg) and Mndeni Magagula (open). The fighters were selected for their good performance in the tournament, with Mndeni gaining first position and Zamani winning the "best fighter" award. This is the second group of MUT fighters to visit Russia in the last few years.

MUT cricketer signs with Umlazi Club

MUT cricketer, Mlungisi Nxumalo, has signed a three-season contract with Umlazi Cricket Club which will play in the KZN Premier League next season. Mlungisi, the top order batsman, was selected after his trial season with the club. He impressed the selectors, particularly during the last two games when he scored the winning runs. Mlungisi is proud of his achievement and says he could not have done it without the help of his coach, Xolani Gasa, who saw potential in him in 2015. "To get a chance to compete in the premier league in SA means a lot to me. This will help me prepare for the upcoming USSA games in Kimberly in September," said Mlungisi. Mlungisi said his target was to go for the Top Run Scorer and Batsman of the Tournament awards.



MUT cricket team

MUT cricket team wins inter-varsity tournament

MUT's 1st cricket team won the inter-varsity T20 tournament at the UKZN Edgewood campus on 6 May 2017. Our team dominated the first game, beating the host team (UKZN) by 77 runs and going straight through to the final against DUT. MUT started their innings very well with our batsmen going at a rate of 10.2 runs per over, and humiliated DUT to 62 runs all out. Credit goes to our passionate coach Sandile Simelane, team manager Sakhelephi Khumalo, and team manager Mlungisi Nxumalo for putting this great team together and making sure they were ready for the tournament. Well done to our batsman, Akani Chauke, for being the highest run scorer of the tournament.