



REWARD SPECIALIST AND PHILANTHROPIST

Born in the small village of Emadundube in Umbumbulu, KwaZulu-Natal, Kwenzi is a persuasive, conceptual and forward-looking thinker who is a professional Reward Specialist and has worked in the human resources field in various academic institutions.

Kwenzekile Claudia Khuzwayo - Class of '92

Her career started at MUT almost 22 years ago where she rose through the ranks of HR Generalist, Manager and ultimately Reward Specialist. She also has many accolades to her name, from winning the Best Contributing Employee of the Year award in 2005 at MUT, to receiving an award from Wits University for being the best student in the Sculpturing Future Leaders Development Programme.

Being the fourth child out of nine children, life was not easy for Kwenzi, but her HR diploma from MUT was the key to unlocking her future development. As a student at MUT she created strong networks, investing her time in sports and student development programmes which allowed her to mature both mentally and spiritually. She is a mom to one daughter, Sanelisiwe, and is a guardian to two children of her late siblings.

Kwenzi is an entrepreneur and a philanthropist who is passionate about community development, especially amongst youth from

disadvantaged backgrounds. She was inspired by the Zenzele Project, a fundraising initiative to help needy MUT students through financial contributions by MUT staff. When she left MUT to further her career, she established her own bursary project and has since identified a number of needy students whom she takes in to give them a place to stay while mentoring them and funding their tertiary studies. "When I see my mentees graduate and grow into good citizens who are contributing to the economy of South Africa, I regard that as a milestone for both myself and them because many of them come from impoverished families and have never imagined that they can be university graduates," says Kwenzi.

Kwenzi is the founder and director of Ubemuhle Consulting. She also serves on the boards of various organisations and NPOs, which she says allows her to participate strategically in planning and ensuring corporate governance within those organisations.