



BEST STUDENT - BEST LECTURER

Sthembile grew up in Madadeni, Newcastle where she started her primary education and matriculated at Bethamoya High School. Having obtained both her B.Tech and Master's degrees in Nature Conservation (the latter cum laude), Sthembile is destined for excellence.

Sthembile Nkosi - Class of '12

As an undergraduate student, she received four Dean's Commendation awards and she has presented her research in Singapore. She is also the Founder and Chairperson of the Congress on Ecosystems Rehabilitation and Restoration.

Although Sthembile's career started in administration, she now works as a lecturer for MUT's Department of Nature Conservation. In April 2019 she received the MUT Vice-Chancellor's Award for being the Best Emerging Teacher 2019. Sthembile is on her way to the top and wants to build a strong reputation for herself in her

profession. She founded the MUT Community Engagement Project: Ecosystems Rehabilitation and Restoration, a multi-disciplinary project which deals with the rehabilitation of degraded ecosystems, especially in townships and informal settlements neighbouring MUT. "I also founded the Congress on Ecosystems Rehabilitation and Restoration in 2018. It is a rare research and scientific platform, where even undergraduate students are able to undertake research under the mentorship of experienced researchers. This Congress is the first of its kind in the higher education system," says Sthembile.