

MUT FOUNDER TURNS 90



Prince Mangosuthu Buthelezi

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

"Shenge holds a very dear place in my heart. I did not study at MUT but my husband did. He's a very responsible and dedicated soul. I guess being a student there added value to his principles. Siyabonga Sokalisa, Siyathokoza Mbabazane ngamathuba owawavulela indlu empisholo. Unwele olude Phungashe" - Sihle MaNdlovu Mhlongo

"Always taking the long view to create a better tomorrow. A great leader and great model of what a leader should be" - Ronald Lee Burrell

"Nanoma niyangibona nginje I am the result of this wonderful man who created jobs opportunities, ngakho ngithi umwele olude Shenge" - Thandazani Mathonsi

"I am the product of MUT and will always be grateful of Shenge for the vision he had to empower a black child" - Phindi Mjadu

"Siyabonga Shenge. I graduated twice in a row at MUT. My first graduation was in 2011 and last one was in 2012. National Diploma and BTech" - Siyabonga WoNyazi

On 27 August 2018, Prince Mangosuthu Buthelezi turned 90 years of age. MUT was probably among the first to recognise the birthday of this eminent man during Dr Enoch Duma Malaza's inauguration. Dr Malaza asked the choir to sing "Happy Birthday" to Prince Buthelezi and acknowledged the major role he had played in the establishment of MUT.

Prince Buthelezi has come a long way since 1974 when he started approaching his long-time friend, Sir Harry Oppenheimer, to consider funding the establishment of a technikon, as it was called at the time. "Next year, we will be celebrating 40 years as a higher education institution. This is because of the vision you had that there would be a need for technological professionals," said Dr Malaza.

The excitement and anticipation of our 40-year celebrations will be building up soon, and the University looks forward to having Prince Buthelezi celebrate yet another milestone in his remarkable journey.



Dr Malaza's family during the inauguration

Vice-Chancellor's inauguration gives family a glimpse of his world

It is not often that a Vice-Chancellor's whole family is able to visit his place of work. Yet that's what our new VC's family was able to do just prior to his inauguration when they saw not only his office but a University laboratory and a library. "Stakeholder engagement is very far-reaching. There are experiences you want to create, and this one - where we had a pre-inauguration engagement for the family - was particularly important for the University. MUT was able to show the family that both they and Dr Malaza are welcome at MUT. This experience also allows for an emotional connection between the family and the University," said Mbali Mkhize, Senior Director: Marketing & Communications. "Furthermore, we wanted them to realise that they have a role to play in elevating the MUT brand. What better way to become MUT's brand ambassadors than by physically experiencing it," she added.

Professor Alfred Msomi, acting dean in the Faculty of Natural Sciences, accompanied by Dr Michael Shapi, head of the Department of Chemistry, hosted the family at the Chemistry Laboratory and gave them a sense of what MUT is all about. Dr Lindelani Qwabe demonstrated an experiment in the Department of Analytical Chemistry, and Professor Msomi also took the family to visit the library. The family and friends of Dr Malaza were able to see how much support the University requires from corporations and individual donors.

Representing Dr Malaza's family, Themba Mvusi reminded him how they had always looked up to him as someone who believed in hard work and the importance of integrity. "Your ability to listen and your forthrightness will allow you to deal with the challenges of the sector. We will continue to pray for you. Congratulations and God bless you," he said. Themba is the brother-in-law of Dr Malaza.

Vice-Chancellor installed with great success

Saturday 25 August was a big day in the life of Dr Enoch Duma Malaza: he was installed as MUT's Vice-Chancellor in an extraordinary event. Three members of parliament (MPs) were in attendance, with the intention of spending the whole day at MUT. These distinguished guests were Dr Naledi Pandor, Minister of Higher Education & Training; Ms Lindiwe Sisulu, MUT Chancellor and Minister of International Relations & Cooperation; and Prince Mangosuthu Buthelezi, founder of MUT. MUT council members were led by the council chairperson, Mr Moraliame Moraliame. Universities South Africa (USAf) was well represented by a number of vice-chancellors and deputy vice-chancellors.

The robing ceremony was carried out by Chancellor Sisulu, who was excited about the choice made by MUT. This was followed by messages and gestures of support from various parties, including representatives of organised labour, the Institutional Forum, Senate, student leadership, Dr Malaza's family and the University Convocation.

A message that showed particular confidence in Dr Malaza was that of our founding father, Prince Mangosuthu Buthelezi. In his congratulatory message to Dr Malaza, the Prince of KwaPhindangene, said: "In Dr Malaza we have found the right kind of leader for MUT. I am not saying this because he is a fellow alumnus of Fort Hare. He is an experienced champion of higher education. I wish to thank him for bringing his formidable experience to the institution I founded 39 years ago".

In performing the felicitation address, Dr Naledi Pandor, Minister of Higher Education and Training, reminded MUT that everyone needed to collaborate fully in ensuring quality and excellence in the country's institutions. "We must own our institutions; they belong to all of us, not just the Chancellor or Vice-Chancellor! There is no university that can succeed without all stakeholders playing a full role in its attempts to forge ahead and craft a good future for the country and its citizens," said Dr Pandor. Branding the event as "the start of a new beginning for MUT", she anticipated that the leadership and commitment of the new MUT Vice-Chancellor would support her department in advancing the key objectives of quality and excellence.



MUT Chancellor, Lindiwe Sisulu, MP, installing the new VC, Dr Enoch Duma Malaza