

## Fallen hero: The story of Professor Malinga

A shockwave reverberated across the University when it was announced that Professor Senzo Jerome Malinga, the former Dean of the Faculty of Engineering, had passed away after a very short illness. This was less than 18 months after leaving the Institution in April 2017.

Here are a few things we did not know about Professor Malinga:

- He was instrumental in establishing the Malinga clan's lineage and tracing it back to Malawi, Zimbabwe and across South Africa. The clan has already formed several chapters with the intention of ensuring that no one from the Malinga clan is marginalised. There is even a foundation which is already operational and has started funding some Malinga members with postgraduate studies.
- He used his networks towards the greater good of the University. Some of these include organising conferences for his female electrical engineering students with the South African Institute of Electrical Engineers, exposing them to mentorship from females in electrical engineering.
- He also used his global connections to open opportunities for MUT. Cyril Ndaba, former Deputy High Commissioner in the UK, facilitated the MoU between MUT and Leeds Metropolitan University; and later as Consular General in California, facilitated a benchmark visit for the MUT executive management.



Professor Senzo Malinga

Paying tribute to Professor Malinga, Dr Enoch Duma Malaza, Vice-Chancellor and Principal, said: "There are a few things that resonated with me when I read his accomplishments. I sincerely wish that I had met him, not because we share science and engineering but because he had a similar outlook to mine". These Dr Malaza lists as follows:

- He left a diversified faculty with people from Poland, Russia, DRC, Nigeria and Zimbabwe amongst others, working with South Africans. This resonates with my approach that we should encourage diversity, global citizenship and transformative leadership.
- He integrated the arts with science, technology and engineering (STEM). The first conference, FROM STEM TO STEAM, aimed at showing how to integrate the arts with science, technology and engineering.
- He promoted the arts in Umlazi Township. I am told that he brought the 1st Umlazi Arts Festival which was hosted here at MUT. He brought renowned artists, poets and jazz musicians who not only entertained, but showed students the skills of each trade.

## “Rest in peace, Zindela!”

The core purpose of MUT is to contribute to the advancement of vocation-based education and training that will enhance the country's skills and competitiveness for the development of humanity.

As the saying goes,

## “It takes a village to raise a child.”

Graduates and willing friends of MUT are welcome to support the alumni donate-a-bench project or the alumni bursary fund.

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