

From the Editor-in-Chief

Many of us have at some point read or been quoted a few verses from the Bible or other spiritual books, concerning 'seasons' in our lives. The reference to constantly changing seasons in our lives brings hope that hard times and sorrow will not endure forever. At the same time, it brings an awareness that life cannot be forever rosy and that change is inevitable. The influence of changing seasons in our lives is often expressed through song, painting, poetry and other forms of art.

A few years ago, Iris Cupid, CEO of the SABC Foundation, drew my attention to the storyline of the seasons of our lives in the workplace. I subsequently began to assess how the seasons in our lives have an impact on us as employees, students and other MUT stakeholders.

MUT's most recent season has been a combination of joy and sadness. The season saw us welcoming our new Vice-Chancellor, Dr Enoch Duma Malaza, and our graduates, the Class of 2017, some of whom are already employed. Many staff members have also celebrated a season of joy in attaining their PhDs - the ultimate journey in education. MUT alumni continue to excel in their respective fields, more reason for celebration!

Amidst these high points for the University, the season of Black Panther must not take a back seat. It is a season for Africa to rise up and for Africans to take pride in their diverse African culture and attire, especially the youth. Through Black Panther we were encouraged to go to the movies and the African vibe was an inspiration to us all. It was wonderful to witness something so successful.



During this season of gladness, we were devastated to learn of the passing away of one of our Quantity Surveying students, Zolile Khumalo. She is sorely missed by her family, friends and the MUT community. As with changing seasons, there are transitions that we have to navigate, be it as staff or as students. In this case it was the season of loss, despair and loneliness after Zolile's tragic loss. We were all there for one another and spoke words of comfort wherever we could. South Africa rose up and said, "We are with you MUT. We are with Zolile and with every woman that is abused". We saw men rising across campus saying "no" to gender-based violence. We saw government and political parties offering their support, and some literally walking with us to visit the bereaved.

Our greatest season will be the period of transition as we walk with the new VC and buy into his vision and goals for MUT, which he has assured us will be ours. "I would like to see students and staff having aspirations about coming to MUT to work and study," he says. This begins for him a season of consultation with staff and students, to identify those aspirations that will enable different stakeholder groupings to develop a core ideology for MUT. This will include deliberations on what we stand for and why we exist, our core values and our core purpose for being at MUT.

There are many seasons ahead. Something big is coming out of these consultations - a strategy formed with all staff, students, alumni and other strategic stakeholder groupings. **We are looking forward to a season of new growth, both for MUT and South Africa.**

Mbali Mkhize



VICE-CHANCELLOR'S TAKE

Dr Enoch Duma Malaza - ready to lead MUT into a new season

With the appointment of Dr Enoch Duma Malaza as the new Vice-Chancellor of MUT, the University has secured the services of a distinguished leader and seasoned academic. Below we look at some of the key attributes he brings to MUT at an exciting moment in its history.

Who is Dr Enoch Duma Malaza?



Dr Malaza, MUT Vice-Chancellor & Principal

Dr Malaza, who grew up in Springs, Gauteng and was a top student and leader at school, obtained his B.Sc at the University of Fort Hare in 1983. As a Fulbright Scholar he was able to attend Brown University in the USA, where he completed his M.Sc in Physics in 1986. A British Council scholarship enabled him to continue his studies in the United Kingdom, where he went on to complete his PhD in Physics at Cambridge University. On returning home to South Africa, he conducted postdoctoral research in Physics at the University of Cape Town, followed by another stint abroad at the Universite de Paris XI (ORSAY) in Paris in 1991. In 1996 he was recognised by the National Research Foundation (NRF) as a promising young researcher.

Dr Malaza's illustrious career includes serving as Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Academic at the former University of Transkei; Director: Institutional Planning at the University of Cape Town; Director: Quality Assurance at the University of Pretoria; CEO of Higher Education South Africa (HESA), now known as Universities South Africa (USAf); Executive Director: Institutional Planning and Quality Assurance at Vaal University of Technology; and most recently, Executive Director: Institutional Planning and Governance at the University of KwaZulu-Natal.

Highlights of his career include managing the preparations for the Higher Education Quality Committee pilot audit in 2005 at the University of Pretoria and being the first CEO of HESA, where he successfully built and maintained strategic relations for HESA at national, regional and international levels.

His association with various prestigious and strategic organisations over the years includes being a member of the board of the National Student Financial Aid Scheme (2006-2011), the International Association of Universities (2006-2008), the Tertiary Education and Research Network (2006-2012) and the South African Technology Network (2008-2011). He has also served as a member of Council for the UbuntuNet Alliance for Research and Education Networking (2008-2012) and the American Council on Education's Internationalisation Network (2008-2012).