

An asset to MUT

Through his vast executive leadership experience in South African higher education, Dr Malaza has demonstrated an ability to lead and deliver on vision and mission, which are critical at institutional level. He has a sound understanding of all levels of the University's academic business, from institution-wide planning to academic planning and quality assurance, which are critical at institutional level. His experience and expertise in providing institutional leadership and his ability to oversee the University's academic mission and support functions with cost-effective management of resources, planning and budgeting, and quality performance, will be critical in taking us forward as an institution. Lastly, his wide knowledge of global trends shaping higher education and his in-depth knowledge of the South African higher education policy landscape will be invaluable in delivering on MUT's vision and mission.

Siyakwamukela, Dr Malaza!



Dr Malaza

Message from the Vice-Chancellor and Principal, Dr Duma Malaza

In higher education, as in life, change is one of the few constants. The news about the recent resignation of our neighbouring university's Vice-Chancellor, Dr van Jaarsveld, who will soon be moving to greener pastures overseas, and the news of the incoming Vice-Chancellor at UCT, Prof Phakeng - among many other events - show how inevitable change is. These universities are about to go through a period of transition, just as MUT is doing under my leadership.

I would like to reassure you that I come to MUT as a humble servant. I come to MUT not as someone who claims to know everything or to have achieved greatness here and there. Rather, I come to MUT as one of your own and I invite you to join me on this quest to make MUT a university that our own children would aspire to be a part of. My first task has been to study every statutory document about MUT, understand the challenges which the University has experienced, and seek ways in which we can move forward as an institution. For this reason I have kept an open-door policy and I have made it known to almost everyone that I have consulted, that we are all human. We all make mistakes and we all need a second chance in life. In my opinion, no one should feel burdened by the mistakes of the past.

The purpose of my being here is to work with you, so that together we can create an envisioned future for MUT - something concrete, vivid, visible and real. As James Collins and Jerry L. Porras state in *Built to last: Successful habits of visionary companies*, an envisioned future is made up of 'Big, Hairy, Audacious Goals' (BHAGS). "A true BHAG is clear and compelling, serves as unifying focal point of effort, and acts as a clear catalyst for team spirit. It has a clear finish line, so the organisation can know when it has achieved the goal; people like to shoot for finish lines," the authors note.

Although I have a very supportive family comprising my wife Yolanda and four children, I want you to know that you are my second family. It may just happen that I spend more time with some of you than with my own family. I am looking forward to forming friendships with you and am grateful to be given this opportunity to be your leader. It is my sincere hope that you and I can learn something of value from one another.

Dr Malaza

TEACHING AND LEARNING MATTERS

Leader to leader:

A tribute to Prof Marcus Ramogale

"Successful individuals thrive under leaders that give them space to be creative. Professor Ramogale, you are a leader and you lead by example. The excellence which you display does not go unnoticed. Thank you for never standing in our way. You have always been supportive and constructive. Thank you for allowing us the space to be ourselves. We are very grateful and blessed that you are such an excellent role model."

This was the tribute offered by Dr Manyane Makua, Senior Director of the Teaching & Learning Development Centre (TLDC), to Prof Marcus Ramogale and the MUT executive leadership which has been instrumental in its support for the TLDC'S Teaching & Learning Colloquium and awards ceremony.



Prof Ramogale

MUT's ground-breaking Teaching & Learning Colloquium draws top participants

Now in its sixth year, the TLDC'S Teaching & Learning Colloquium has shown a marked increase in size each year. This year the Colloquium, conceptualised by Dr Manyane Makua, delivered an unprecedented programme for both MUT and the country. For three days, the TLDC hosted more than 120 delegates from universities across South Africa and academics from the US. Speakers of note included Professor Ahmed Bawa, CEO of Universities South Africa (USAF), Dr Whitty Green from the Department of Higher Education, and the distinguished professors Bill Cope and Mary Kalantzis from the University of Illinois, USA.



Dr Manyane Makua

Vice-Chancellor's Teaching Excellence Awards 2018

Some of the accomplishments featured by the Teaching and Learning portfolio include a pass rate of 70% and a 19% graduation rate, according to Acting DVC, Mr Gona Govender. In recognition of academic excellence in teaching and learning, the Vice-Chancellor's Teaching Excellence Awards are held annually on the sidelines of the Teaching & Learning Colloquium. The top student performers in 2017 each received a R3 000 monetary award.

The student winners were as follows:

- Mxolisi Zondi (21), who matriculated at Buhlebethu, Mzombe, Port Shepstone and is studying ICT in the Faculty of Natural Sciences.
- Sithembile Mvuyane, from Amanzimtoti, who is studying Accounting in the Faculty of Management Sciences.
- Solomon Makana (19), who hails from Mpumalanga and is an Electrical Engineering student.



Winners of the VC's Teaching Excellence Awards, MUT management and some guests

Teaching Excellence Award winners

There were three award categories for the teaching awards: Best Emerging Teacher, Best Established Teacher and the Senate Award. "Assessment is extremely rigorous. Winning is not easy, but entering is a huge learning experience which on its own requires a great deal of perseverance," said Dr Makua.

The winners were as follows:

- Best Emerging Teacher: Hlengiwe Ndaba (Department of Chemistry) and Miranda Mpaka (Department of Biomedical Sciences), both from the Faculty of Natural Sciences. Each won R30,000 and an all-expenses paid trip to the Higher Education Learning and Teaching Association of Southern Africa (HELTASA) conference.
- Best Established Teacher: Professor Peter Small, Head, Department of Nature Conservation, and Nkululeko Fuyane (Department of Marketing). They each received a trophy, a R65,000 monetary award, an all-expenses paid trip to the HELTASA conference, a Southern Sun voucher and a goodie bag.
- Senate Award: Professor Peter Small, who has distinguished himself as an excellent teacher and leader. He was honoured with a R50,000 monetary award and a certificate. This is regarded as being the most prestigious and sought-after award. Spot prizes for the Best Paper Presentations concluded the ceremony.