

to pay the prescribed fees and depend mostly on NSFAS funding. In addition they need various forms of academic and social support.

The University has put in place various academic, social and health programmes to support students. These include the Pre-Tech programme for Engineering students, the four-year Extended Curriculum Programme, the Study Skills programme, the Students-at-Risk Programme, a one-on-one Counselling Service, the Peer support Programme, the Sisterhood Programme for women students, the Pregnancy Resource Programme, the HIV Support Programme and the Disability Programme.

As a University of Technology, MUT has established firm relationships with a number of industries in the Durban area and beyond. These relationships assist in providing opportunities for students to go through Work integrated Learning (WIL) and to find employment. In spite of the disadvantages experienced by the University and its students, many of the students achieve success in the fields of Engineering, Natural Sciences and Management Sciences.

## **TENDER MANAGEMENT**

The University Council is working tirelessly to improve systems and accountability pertaining to University tenders as this impacts on the governance of the University. The Tender Committee is directly involved in the tender process and makes recommendations to Council. In 2015 the Tender Committee held eight (8) meetings on various University tenders. The Committee's responsibilities are to:

- Review tenders and expressions of interest on all procurement activity in excess of the University's procurement thresholds
- Advise Council on Query discrepancies
- Request for supporting documentation, more information or clarification if necessary

The committee technically scrutinizes bids in accordance with the tendered specifications and the Tender Policy.

MUT's Supply Chain Management Policy is under review. A number of activities regarding the review of the policy have been followed including relevant consultation with Auditors to make sure that the University follows relevant regulations as well as legislation.

The Bid Evaluation Committee established by the University continues to:

- Review recommendations provided by the Tender Committee for all tender processes and where required, amend, reject or endorse any recommendation(s)
- Provide recommendations for all responses to tenders to the Council.

## **3.5 Policies**

### **SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT (SCM) POLICY**

A workshop was held on 31 March 2015 to discuss the SCM policy as per EXCO recommendation. The revised SCM policy was considered by Council which suggested that a comparison between the MUT Statute, the Higher Education Act and the SCM Policy and its delegation of Authority should be considered. After deliberations the meeting agreed that a special Council workshop be convened to consider the following documents: Delegation of Authority, SCM Policy, MUT Statute and the Higher Education Act. Council members were requested to read them and make comments thereon before the special Council workshop that will be scheduled in July 2015.

### **POLICY ON FRAUD AND OTHER IRREGULARITIES**

Council considered the Policy on Fraud and other Irregularities and resolved that the revised policy should be considered by the Audit & Risk Committee before it is re-submitted to Council.

### **QUALITY ASSURANCE POLICY**

Council approved the revised Quality Assurance Policy.

### **LEARNING ASSESSMENT AND MODERATION POLICY**

Council approved the revised Learning Assessment and Moderation Policy.

### **RESEARCH POLICY**

Council approved the revised Research Policy.

### **LANGUAGE POLICY**

Council approved the revised the Language Policy.

### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT POLICY**

Council approved the revised Community Engagement Policy.

### **RESEARCH ETHICS POLICY**

Council approved the revised Research Ethics Policy.

### **FINANCIAL AID POLICY**

Council approved the revised Financial Aid Policy.

### **CHARTER OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL (EXCO)**

The meeting approved the Charter of EXCO.

### **CHARTER FOR THE PLANNING AND RESOURCE COMMITTEE**

The meeting approved the Charter for the Planning and Resource Committee.