

### TENDER APPEALS TRIBUNAL RULES:

The Tender Appeals rules are part of the SCM policy. Council had delegated the responsibility to EXCO to finalize the Tender Appeals Tribunal rules. EXCO had approved the rules and they were being received by Council for ratification. The meeting considered and ratified the Tender Appeals Tribunal rules.

### REPORT ON POLICIES STATUS

Council received a report on the status of policy development with the view to strengthening compliance at MUT. The report also sought to hold each executive accountable in ensuring that policies are presented to Council timeously. Council resolved that all policies approved by Council should be signed by the Chairperson of Council.

## 3.6 Academic Matters

### ACADEMIC CHALLENGES AT MUT

Council considered the current academic challenges at MUT.

MUT's historical disadvantages within the SA Higher Education Landscape (HEMIS Data):

- a) Unequal and/or unfavourable staff: student ratios –MUT has the most unfavourable ratio among the contact teaching universities in South Africa.
- b) Qualification and expertise of existing staff – MUT has the lowest number of staff with doctoral degrees.
- c) The Postgraduate enrolment in 2015 was 31.
- d) Total number of research outputs in 2015 was 14.73 units.

The following achievements show that in spite of the above challenges, the University has been doing well.

### MUT'S RECENT ACADEMIC SUCCESSES IN 2015

The Council considered and applauded MUT for the following academic achievements:

- a) Four new qualifications were registered. MUT is the first UoT to offer the following programmes in the country: the Post Graduate Diploma in Nature Conservation, the Advanced Diploma in Marketing, the Advanced Diploma in Human Resource Management and the BSc in Environmental Health.
- b) A letter of confirmation to offer the Master of Nature Conservation was received. This would be the first Master's degree to be offered by MUT.
- c) ECP Programmes: The DHET has approved the offering of the ECP programme in Biomedical

Sciences, Public Financial and Accounting, Building and Surveying.

- d) The Teaching and Learning Colloquium was held on 07 May 2015.
- e) The Vice-Chancellor's Teaching Excellence Awards held on 08 May 2015 to recognize academic staff that have done well in their teaching activities.
- f) MUT has the lowest dropout rate in the entire higher education sector.
- g) MUT had an average success rate of 83% which is the highest among UoT's.
- h) Mr Njabulo Gumede from the Faculty of Natural Sciences was awarded a National Excellence in Teaching and Learning Award by CHE. He is the second staff member to receive the national award.

### nGAP POSITIONS FOR COUNCIL APPROVAL

Council considered the nGAP project of the DHET designed to assist in the development of the next generation of academics by attracting young people into academia. Council noted that the DHET had made funding available for MUT for four posts to be created. Council expressed appreciation for the nGAP programme, but felt that the University needed to look at the pros and cons of its impact financially and otherwise. After deliberations Council approved in principle the creation of the positions, subject to certain conditions, one of which was that full details of the financial and other implications (structural), that will arise as a result of the creation of the new positions is provided. Subsequently, Council received and considered how the funding of the four lecturing positions would be provided when the DHET gradually reduces its funding of the positions from the fourth year onwards.

## 3.7 Operational Information

### VICE-CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

Council considered the Vice-Chancellor's Report and recommended that rather than using input indicators, the report should use output indicators. Improvement is needed in the way the report is crafted, e.g. key performance indicators need to be shown in the office of the VC and Executive Director: OVC. Council suggested that since some targets are quarterly; all targets should be measured on a quarterly basis.

Council members were requested to interrogate the report further and thereafter forward their comments for improvement.

### ANNUAL PERFORMANCE PLAN (APP)

Council noted the report on the APP and recommended that Management re-formulates the APP in line with best