

a) Development Grant for Historically Disadvantaged Institutions

Council considered the Development Grant for Historically Disadvantaged Institutions offered by the Department of Higher Education and Training to put in place systems to develop and sustain the financial health of HDIs and to strengthen the academic enterprise. Council agreed that a business plan on how to utilize these funds should be developed by PSP Icon and submitted to the DHET by 15 April 2015.

b) Differentiation in Higher Education

Council was informed that a document on differentiation in higher education had been received from the DHET. This document would be made available to Council members.

c) Correspondence with the DHET

A letter was received from the DHET requesting the University to, by the end of April 2015, provide the DHET with a list of top five priority projects over the next three years.

The University had responded to the letter indicating its concern that the DHET had changed the infrastructure process. MUT requested the DHET to consider current MUT funding for five projects whose cost had escalated from R530 million in July 2014 to R812 million in April 2015.

A Progress and Audit Report 2014/15 that provides the DHET with progress on all infrastructure projects funded by the DHET had been submitted to the DHET.

Council received a report on the Meetings of the Minister of Higher Education and University Chairs of Council Forum – South Africa (UCCF-SA).

### 3.8 Internal and External Collaborations

Council noted and appreciated the following collaborations by the University:

- a) The Circle of Excellence Awards ceremony was held on Friday, 20 February 2015. The Circle of Excellence Awards ceremony recognizes academic excellence at high performing Umlazi high schools.
- b) An exploratory study tour to Tanzania and Kenya was undertaken by the Vice-Chancellor together with the DVC: Academic and the Executive Director: OVC. This visit was to explore possible partnership opportunities for collaboration with respect to student development and exchanges with institutions on the African continent. The study tour for students to Tanzania and Kenya would take place around June 2015.

c) Emanating from this visit, MUT was visited by the Vice-Chancellor of the Nelson Mandela African Institute of Science and Technology as well as students from Arusha who talked to MUT students.

d) Partnerships and stakeholder engagements resulted in different partnerships e.g. with Sanlam and Transnet.

e) The outcome of alumni activities to establish relationships has resulted in increasing the alumni database and it continues to grow.

f) Technology Station in Chemicals (TSC) – The TSC contributed to the placement of MUT students for WIL.

g) MUT-Transnet MoU.

h) SANLAM Stakeholders' Dinner

i) The Chancellor handed over of a house built by MUT using green technology building techniques.

j) The UNESCO Africa Engineering Week started on 28th August and ended on 30th September 2015. The purpose of the event was to promote the engineering profession.

k) The National Science Week was held from the 3rd to 7th August 2015 at St Lucia where students were exposed to science in action.

l) MUT, in partnership with eThekweni Municipality, celebrated the International Literacy Day on the 8th of September 2015.

### 3.9 Financial Matters

#### 2016 INTERIM BUDGET

Council considered the interim budget for 2016. Since the University was waiting for confirmation of the subsidy from the DHET, this was not the final budget. The shortfall, as a result of the zero percent fee increase, amounted to R39.540 million. On Monday 30 November 2015 a letter was received from the Minister of Higher Education and Training confirming that the shortfall amounting to R39.540 million would be paid to the University in January 2016. The Finance & Remuneration Committee met on Monday, 30 November 2015 to review the budget and it recommended that the budget should be revised to include the shortfall. The Council meeting approved the 2016 interim budget.