
MUT MINUTES

The minutes of the **Annual General Meeting** of the **Convocation** held on **Saturday, 13 November 2021**, at **11h00** through Microsoft Teams and in the Dr Seme Hall (**Hybrid**).

SECTION A: ADMINISTRATIVE

1. Constitution of the meeting

a. Present

Mr S. Dlamini	ConvEXCO President (Chairperson)
Mr T. Hadebe	ConvEXCO Member
Mr P.P. Masala	Acting Registrar
Ms S. Mnyandu	ConvEXCO Member
Mr D. Buthelezi	ConvEXCO Member
Mr S. Mbonambi	ConvEXCO Member
Professor M.M. Ramogale	Acting Vice-Chancellor and Principal
Ms M. Mkhize	Senior Director: Marketing and Communications
Mrs Z. Sishi	Director: Stakeholder Relations
Ms M. Baloyi	Alumni Relations Officer
Alumni List (63)	Attached as Annexure (A)

b. Apologies

Mr S. Ndlovu	ConvEXCO Member- Treasurer
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c. Absent

None

d. By Invitation

Mr G. Govender	Acting Senior Director: Office of the VC
Ms N. Mthembu	Entrepreneurship Coordinator
Mr E. Selebi	Representative: Entrepreneurship

e. In Attendance

Mrs T.P. Khoza	Senior Committee Officer: Secretariat
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The quorum was established at 11h08.

2. Opening and welcome

- 2.1 The Chairperson opened the meeting and welcomed all members present.
- 2.2 There was one apology received, as indicated under the constitution of the meeting.

3. Confirmation of the agenda

The agenda was amended with the following item to be considered after all matters on the agenda have been dealt with:

“The Revised Convocation Constitution”

The revised agenda was confirmed with the proposal for adoption made by Mr Shandu and seconded by Mr Mvelase.

4. Declaration of a possible conflict of interest

No possible conflict of interest was declared by any member of the Committee.

5. Announcements

There were no announcements received.

6. Standing items

6.1 Charter/Terms of Reference

The Committee noted that the Charter/Terms of Reference would be developed and aligned to the Constitution when revised and adopted.

SECTION B: ITEMS PROPOSED TO BE ON THE AGENDA

Adoption of the previous minutes

1. The Minutes of the Convocation Annual General Meeting held on 28 November 2020.

The adoption of the minutes was proposed by Mr Hadebe and seconded by Mr Mdladla.

Resolution:

The minutes of the ordinary meeting of EMC held on **28 November 2020** were **confirmed** as a true reflection of the proceedings.

At this stage of proceedings, time being 11h13, the meeting adjourned for a short break to deal with sound glitches.

Matters arising from the previous minutes.

1. Schedule of Matters Arising

The meeting reviewed the pending matters, and the following updates were received and noted:

- a. The item on the amended Constitution to be approved in the 2021 Convocation AGM was on the agenda as item (1) under matters for approval.
- b. The item on the Alumni Contribution Levy of R200 towards a Convocation Fund was on the agenda addressed within the Chairperson's report under item 3 (a).
- c. The item on the Treasurer's Report on Income and Expenditure was on the agenda as item 3(b).

At this stage of proceedings, the President handed over to the Deputy President of Convocation to chair the session.

Matters for Discussion and Noting

1. State of the University Address

The State of the University address by the Vice-Chancellor was taken as read. The Vice-Chancellor and Principal thanked all members at the meeting and apologised for the glitches that had occurred and caused the meeting to adjourn for a short break.

The following aspects were highlighted in the presentation:

- a. To indicate what was happening at the University in terms of curriculum development; and
- b. The kind of students that the University would want to produce.
- c. His presentation covered the following significant areas:
 - i. Frontiers of the mind series of lectures;
 - ii. The State of the South African mind and how it could be changed;
 - iii. Leverage the mind for success;
 - iv. Wise lessons from Baba Mthethwa;
 - v. Empires of the future;
 - vi. Why are we still poor;
 - vii. Academic miseducation;

- viii. Political miseducation;
- ix. A case for a mindset revolution;
- x. The problem of unemployment;
- xi. The cashflow quadrant by Robert Kiyosaki;
- xii. The one-dollar challenge;
- xiii. Born for greatness; and
- xiv. Food for thought.

He then introduced the donation called the “One-Dollar Challenge” Award/Business Capital to members of the Convocation who were present at the meeting. The entrepreneurship lecturers who were present coordinated the One-Dollar Challenge/Business Capital Award from the Vice-Chancellor. All the 22 winners would receive the awards and be directed to communicate with the Entrepreneurship Coordinator, Mrs Ngubane, for their awards.

The Vice-Chancellor allowed members to express their views on what they had learned from his presentation. Finally, the Vice-Chancellor responded to questions and provided clarity on issues raised to guide alumni on the University mandate during and after their student university life.

Resolutions:

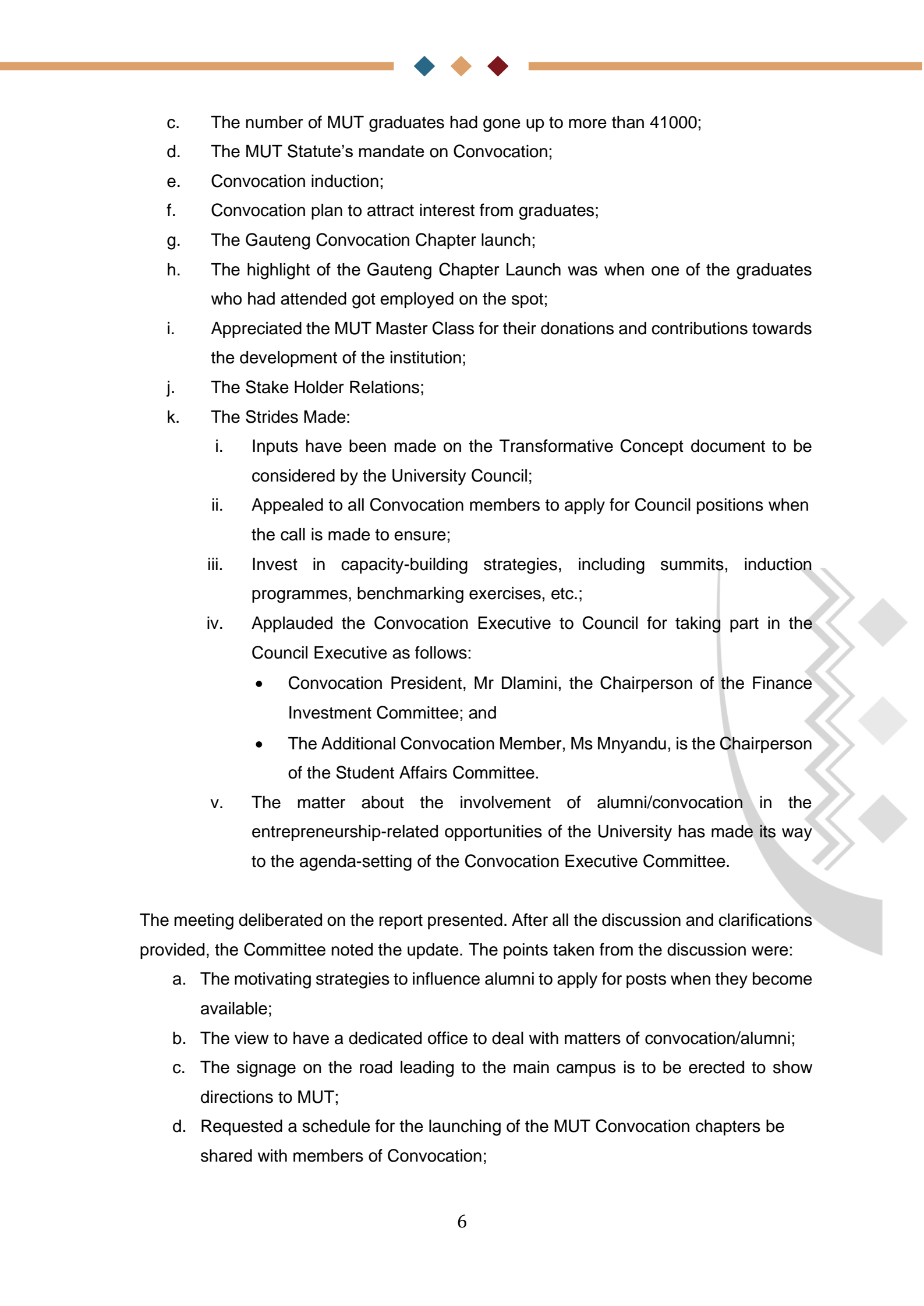
- 1.1. The State of the University update and the presentation made on the frontiers of the mind series of lectures were noted.
- 1.2. The meeting expressed gratitude to the Vice-Chancellor for his “One-Dollar” Business Capital/Seed Fund awarded to the members of Convocation.
- 1.3. The meeting resolved that the winners would communicate with the Entrepreneurship Coordinator to claim their rewards.

2. The Report by the Executive Committee:

2.1 The Chairperson of Convocation Report:

The meeting received the Chairperson’s report as presented by the Convocation’s President. His presentation covered the following areas:

- a. Concerns around the acting appointments at the University;
- b. Thanked the former Registrar, Mr Naidoo, for his service to the University and welcomed the Acting Registrar, Mr Masala;

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- c. The number of MUT graduates had gone up to more than 41000;
 - d. The MUT Statute's mandate on Convocation;
 - e. Convocation induction;
 - f. Convocation plan to attract interest from graduates;
 - g. The Gauteng Convocation Chapter launch;
 - h. The highlight of the Gauteng Chapter Launch was when one of the graduates who had attended got employed on the spot;
 - i. Appreciated the MUT Master Class for their donations and contributions towards the development of the institution;
 - j. The Stake Holder Relations;
 - k. The Strides Made:
 - i. Inputs have been made on the Transformative Concept document to be considered by the University Council;
 - ii. Appealed to all Convocation members to apply for Council positions when the call is made to ensure;
 - iii. Invest in capacity-building strategies, including summits, induction programmes, benchmarking exercises, etc.;
 - iv. Applauded the Convocation Executive to Council for taking part in the Council Executive as follows:
 - Convocation President, Mr Dlamini, the Chairperson of the Finance Investment Committee; and
 - The Additional Convocation Member, Ms Mnyandu, is the Chairperson of the Student Affairs Committee.
 - v. The matter about the involvement of alumni/convocation in the entrepreneurship-related opportunities of the University has made its way to the agenda-setting of the Convocation Executive Committee.

The meeting deliberated on the report presented. After all the discussion and clarifications provided, the Committee noted the update. The points taken from the discussion were:

- a. The motivating strategies to influence alumni to apply for posts when they become available;
- b. The view to have a dedicated office to deal with matters of convocation/alumni;
- c. The signage on the road leading to the main campus is to be erected to show directions to MUT;
- d. Requested a schedule for the launching of the MUT Convocation chapters be shared with members of Convocation;

- e. Concerns were noted and addressed to limit the cross-province benchmarking exercises due to COVID-19;
- f. To improve on communication platforms for the members of Convocation besides interaction in the AGM;
- g. The Convocation plans were found silent on the matter related to People Living with Disabilities, and the approach should be inclusive;
- h. The University to have systems to protect students involved in entrepreneurship activities as a control measure;
- i. The Convocation Executive would communicate the way forward concerning the R200 contributions by convocation members.


The meeting adopted the Chairperson's report. The adoption was proposed by Mr Mthimkhulu and seconded by Mr Manana.

3.1. The Treasurer's Report:

The meeting received the Treasurer's update indicating that the Convocation Finance/Treasury Portfolio could not achieve much in 2021. In addition, the meeting noted the unfortunate spread of the Covid-19 pandemic since March 2020. The restricted government measures imposed to prevent the spread of the virus caused challenges for any progress aimed at fundraising avenues planned for 2021.

The report indicated that after robust and intense deliberations at the ConvEXCO meetings held, the Convocation Executive succeeded:

- a. To reach an agreement with the University to be allocated a budget for the year 2021;
- b. The allocation was in accordance with section 9.1 of the Constitution;
- c. The budget would assist in implementing its programmes, such as fundraising for the University and the Convocation programmes;
- d. The budget allocation subsequently gained support from all committees of the Council and had waited for the Council's approval;
- e. The Council then approved the budget as the University had allocated an expenditure allowance of R137 500.00 to run Convocation Executive programmes;
- f. At the time of reporting, the Budget expenditure was at R197 526.43;

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- g. The programmes held were:
 - i. Constitutional Summit and Induction Workshop R20 226.41;
 - ii. MUT Radio Orientation Lunch for CONVEXCO R1 828.50;
 - iii. Gauteng Chapter Launch R102 287.59; and
 - iv. Benchmarking Exercise at the Central University of Free State was undertaken to establish inter-institutional partnerships cost R91 183.90.
 - h. Other planned activities were:
 - i. Benchmarking visit to the University of Fort Hare planned for 20 November 2021;
 - ii. Fundraising Gala Dinner scheduled for December 2021;
 - iii. Further engagements were held to secure MOUs to benefit the University students and the means to acquire the Convocation Executive tools of the trade.

After all discussions and clarifications had been provided to members of the convocation, then the meeting noted and adopted the update. The adoption of the Treasurer's report was proposed by Mr Cele and supported by Mr Khumalo.

Resolutions:

- 3.1 The meeting noted the Chairperson's report with the adoption of the report proposed by Mr Mthimkhulu and seconded by Mr Manana.
- 3.2 The meeting noted the update on the Treasurer's report with the adoption of the report proposed by Mr Cele and supported by Mr Khumalo.

3. Motions

The Registrar confirmed that there were no motions received for consideration.

Matters for Recommendation/ Approval

4. The Revision of the Convocation Constitutional

The Convocation President presented the request for the meeting to consider and approve the Revised Constitution of Convocation to be forwarded to the Council for final approval as per the MUT Statute. He indicated that the Convocation Constitution was developed and approved by Council in 2019. However, the Convocation had

identified several clauses in its Constitution that were not in line with best practices and needed to be revised.

The Convocation Executive Committee effected the revision under the guidance of the Office of the Registrar, and the Constitution was then presented to Convocation for approval. It would be forwarded to Council for final approval.

The record of amendments made to the Constitution was presented, and the following was noted:

- a. The entire constitution had certain sections that were amended by including omissions of a word or a phrase as indicated in “Red” in amendments;
- b. Sections 3 to 26 were amended and explained in the record of changes presented.
- c. The completely revised Convocation Constitution was submitted for consideration and approval.

Resolutions:

- 5.1. The meeting approved the Convocation Constitution for final approval by the University Council at its next sitting.
- 5.2 The Convocation Constitution should be forwarded to the Council for consideration and approval.
- 5.3. The proposal for adoption was made by Mr Mthimkhulu and seconded by Mr Cele.

SECTION C: CLOSING AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING

1. The date of the next meeting: To be announced
2. There being no further items to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 16h02.

Signed: **Date:**
Chairperson