

ONGOYE ONLINE

FEB 2016 // ISSUE NUMBER 11

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Photo: Spha Gumede

PROF MTOSE CALLS FOR INNOVATION

UNIZULU'S Acting Vice-Chancellor Professor Xoliswa Mtose has called on all external stakeholders, especially the university alumni, to come on board and partner with the university in mobilising resources.

Pictured above: Acting Vice-Chancellor Professor Xoliswa Mtose (foreground) delivered her State of The University Address at the institution's 2016 official opening ceremony. Pictured walking behind her is Professor Neil Garrod, the Deputy Vice Chancellor responsible for Institutional Support.

She said such partnerships were necessary to mitigate against the effects of the moratorium on fee increases announced by the government last year. Speaking during the University's official opening ceremony, Prof Mtose said after engagements with the students body, UNIZULU had not only curbed fee increases but had dropped the upfront payments required from students." The engagements we had with the SRC at the beginning of the year were fruitful and led to the upfront payments decreasing from R3 500 to R3 000 for those students living off-campus and from R5 000 to R4 000 for those students living at our residences. While this is something to celebrate it nonetheless represents a substantial drop in one of the key streams of finance for our university," she said. The Acting Vice-Chancellor emphasised that the University of Zululand remains a beacon of hope for many young people, especially those from poor backgrounds and therefore it was important to think creatively to ensure that the provision of quality education is not compromised by the depreciating resource pool. She said the current environment simply meant that the University has to do more with less adding that this could also be achieved through staff members curtailing any wasteful expenditure.

Opportunities

"Let us all see opportunities in these difficult times. We have no option but to tighten our belts. We expect each department

to implement austerity measures. We need to focus more on curbing unnecessary and wasteful expenditure. I encourage UNIZULU to develop a culture of cost saving." She added: "Increased resources will ensure we can continue to provide for poor students. As a university we remain committed and sensitive to the needs of the populace we serve."

Prof Mtose reported that since the start of the current academic year, the Rector's fund has already funded tuition and accommodation for 17 students. These are needy but academically deserving students. More applications are being processed, she added. "With an even better resource pool we can fund even more students," Prof Mtose concluded. UNIZULU Council member Dr Simon Mbokazi appealed to everyone to manage their time wisely and wished the University community well.

"This is an exciting time to start an academic year for first-year students. You have to find yourself in the system and work your way up. This university has produced people of high calibre and you have to follow in their footsteps," said Mbokazi. Student Representative Council president Wandile Mathebula said students needed to be united despite their different political formation and societies. "When we are united we can do more to deliver and safeguard the interests of students," he said. Mathebula also said that students have not protested because they listen to their elected leadership.

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MESSAGE from the Managing Editor



Terry Stallard
Communications and Marketing Coordinator

UNIZULU launched into 2016 with optimism and fervour successfully registering some 17 000 students of which 3900 are in their first year of study. What a feat for all those involved with registration.

The Official Opening on the 15th of February was an event to be proud of. Many hands contributed to preparing the hall under tight time constraints and the solid display of student support reflects the heart of an institution that is committed to its goals. Unity was a common

message gained from the range of speakers. Unity in the form of partnering with Alumni to assist with the vision of growth and unity in the Student Representative Council in spite of different political or social affiliations.

Another exciting opening was the campus gym (recently refurbished) whereby staff and students celebrated in style with

a Zumba party. The fact that renowned speaker, Professor Tim Noakes was also recently recruited to speak on campus and challenge academics on healthy diet and lifestyles, reflects that much is happening on the sport science side of campus.

Whilst celebrating success of last year's achievements at the World Cup, the entrepreneur society - Enactus, is working hard to retain their position as national champs in 2016.

An upcoming event on the 28th of April, is the UNIZULU Open Day, whereby thousands of school pupils are expected to attend exhibits at the King Bhokuzulu Hall. Representatives from the various academic departments are expected to come together to help prepare prospective students on available courses and the study requirements.

As the various academic departments commit to another full year of study, it is fitting to pay tribute to those members of the UNIZULU family who recently passed on. May we be ever mindful of their contribution and aim to support one another.

All in all, 2016 heralds to be a productive and constructive year.

UPCOMING EVENTS

28 April – UNIZULU Open Day

CAMPUS NEWS

Campus gym re-opens in style

Staff members and students at the KwaDlangezwa Campus participated enthusiastically in a Zumba Party to mark the official opening of the Marius Coetsee campus gym. The gym was closed for several months last year to allow for the completion of upgrades which included the installation of new equipment. Lecturer Musa Mathunjwa, who also runs the gym, said highly-experienced trainers from the Department of Biokinetics and Sport Science are always at hand to help members get the most of their gym experience. Services offered include personal training and group fitness exercises which include aerobics, Zumba, spinning and abs workouts.

The gym is open to staff members, students and people from the neighbouring communities. Staff and students qualify for reduced rates...

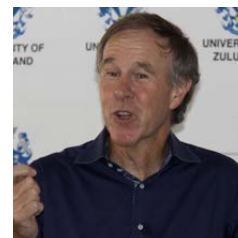
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Challenging scientific beliefs

The renowned South African professor of exercise and sports science Tim Noakes recently visited the University of Zululand to speak about the low carbohydrate high fat diet. Prof Noakes said academics have been "hijacked by industry" and this is a tragedy to the profession. He warned that obesity is going to destroy this country. "It is no longer HIV ... this is because industry does not want us to change because they care about the profits," said Noakes. He warned that obesity is going to destroy this country. "It is no longer HIV ... this is because industry does not want us to change because they care about the profits," said Noakes. He further cautioned the gathering that people should not be eating more than 200g of carbohydrates even when exercising. Noakes, a professor at the University of Cape Town, has run more than 70 marathons and ultramarathons, and is the author of several books on exercise and diet...

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CAMPUS NEWS

Enactus gears up for another successful year

The UNIZULU chapter of Enactus has embarked on a major recruitment drive as the group seeks to retain its position as the national champs. Sanele Dlamini, the team's head of recruitment, explained that this was done in a bid to ensure that the team attracts dedicated members who will help it retain its status as the best in the country. Enactus is an international non-profit organization which encourages students to use entrepreneurial action to implement community empowerment projects. The organization operates in more than 1 600 universities across 38 countries.

Enactus UNIZULU is looking to repeat the success it enjoyed last year when it was crowned the national champs. Success at national level led to the group representing South Africa at the 2015 Enactus World Cup held in Johannesburg. This year's World Cup will be held in Canada. At the 2015 World Cup, Enactus UNIZULU showcased some of the projects it has been involved in and how its interventions had helped to turn struggling small businesses into sustainable business ventures...

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Over 17 000 students choose UNIZULU

The Registrar's Office has hailed the 2016 registration process as a "huge success". The registration process came to a close last week with over 17 000 students having been registered since the beginning of the year. Of these registered students, close to 4 000 are first-time entering students while the number of returning students was sitting at 13 138.

Acting Vice-Chancellor Professor Xoliswa Mtose also echoed the sentiments of the Registrar's Office saying the registration process was a success and that any of the glitches experienced were normal for a process of that the 2016 academic year the magnitude. University had received 81 636 She also revealed that for applications. Initially the registration process for all students was supposed to end on the 5th of February but this had to be extended until last week...

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Constitutional Court representatives visit campus

Representatives of the Constitutional Court visited the University recently to speak to law students about the various careers available at the highest court in the land.

This visit is part of an ongoing recruitment drive which will see representatives from the Constitutional Court visit various Universities to speak to law students.

"This is done either at any career day each university may have, or at a separately arranged address," read a communique from the court.

The presentation was said to be useful to students who are in their third and fourth year of study as well as those who are completing their Master in Law.

Students got a chance to interact and ask questions from the two Clerks of the Constitutional Court...

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Thousands expected at Open Day event



The University of Zululand is calling on schools to attend the 2016 Open Day event which will be held on 28 April 2016. Each year the popular event is attended by thousands of High School learners, especially matriculants who are seeking information on the various programmes offered at the University. Representatives of the various Departments and faculties will be there to offer career guidance and advice to the pupils. Other information that is provided relates to the application process and available study bursaries. The event will be held at the King Bhekuzulu Hall at the KwaDlangezwa Campus.

Schools interested in attending the Open Day are requested to make a booking by emailing S Gumede on GumedeS@unizulu.ac.za or by calling 035 902 6619/6313.

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