



UNIVERSITY OF  
ZULULAND

# ONGOYE

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## Top Achieving Lecturers Honoured AT INAUGURAL AWARDS



**Two University of Zululand academics, Dr Neil Evans and Dr Maria Mabusela, were the big winners at the inaugural Vice Chancellor's Excellence Awards held in Richards Bay on Friday, March 17.**

Dr Evans, the acting HOD in the Department of Information Studies, walked away as the winner in the Emerging Academic Category, while Dr Mabusela, a senior lecturer in the Department of Curriculum and Instructional Studies, was crowned the winner in the Developed Academic Category. They each walked away with R50 000, of which R45 000 will be used for research purposes as it has been allocated into a research account linked to a scholarship of teaching and learning. The remaining R5000 is a cash incentive for each winner. The other awardees were Dr Berrington Ntombela from the Department of English who was a second runner up in the Developed Academic category. He received R13 000 allocated to a research account and a R2 000 cash incentive. Dr Mike Megrove Reddy from the Department of Communication Science received a certificate of participation and a R500 voucher.

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### UPCOMING EVENTS

**Open Day** – 25 April 2017

**Postgraduate Induction** – 5 April 2017



#### FROM THE MANAGING EDITOR

Year 2017 and beyond has been earmarked for performance acceleration, therefore the University has reintroduced the performance management system. Performance Management is now a reality let's buckle up and showcase our skills and potential as we move towards a performance driven culture. By now you should have read the roll-out process in detail, as well as each Individual Performance Agreement which must be completed and be returned on or before the due date stipulated in the communique. The Human Resources department is available to assist. Any queries must be directed to Mrs Lwazi Kleinbooi – Manager: Organisational Development on 035 902 6964 or KleinbooiL@unizulu.ac.za. The University has started the

year in focus on a positive note, in February we launched the First things Campaign and we were graced by the presence of the Deputy Minister for Higher Education, Mr Mduduzi Manana and in March history was made when the relevant VC Teaching and Learning Excellence awards were launched and due recognition extended to our hardworking and deserving academic nominees who were ultimate stars for the event. There is an evident international long-standing tradition of teaching awards, both within institutions and at national levels. Despite the long-standing tradition of these systems, there remains a great variety of schemes and an even greater variety of types of criteria used. These depend partly on definitions of good teaching, and partly on approaches to quality measurement as a science. This signals the need for greater discussion in South Africa on what is meant by 'quality teaching', what is meant by 'teaching excellence' and how lecturers are supported to become quality teachers. You will read about these positive stories and more in this issue of Ongoye Online. They have also appeared in Tertiary Times which is a Mercury page insert showcasing credible stories about the University. This page is published every last Tuesday of the month.

On a heavy note it is with sadness that we bid farewell to a hard-working and diligent colleague Mr Bheki Mbanjwa – Publications Officer, he is the silent voice behind the award winning University publications. He was the instrumental figure in forming and writing Ongoye Online, Hashtag Student Magazine and Tertiary Times feature. He follows in the footsteps of the late Sol Plaatje, Aggrey Klaaste, Percy Qoboza and others who shaped opinions through the power of the written word and inspired generations and through unwavering passion, brought respect that resulted in the formalisation of Journalism qualifications and setting community of practice standards. Bheki is going back to the newsroom and it is evident that he has mastered his craft and is a rare gem. We wish him the best of luck in his new role.

***Until the next edition keep on being motivated, engaged and be inspired!***



### UNIZULU hosts international workshop

The University of Zululand recently hosted an international workshop which aims to combine expertise for practical mechanisms to enhance the postgraduate environment in higher education spaces. Titled the "Enhancing the Postgraduate Environment (EPE)" project, this is a

collaborative initiative between UNIZULU and 11 other universities. Six of the universities which are part of the project are from the EU countries, while the other six are South African institutions.

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### UNIZULU bridging a leadership gap

UNIZULU have identified a gap in the development of staff at managerial levels, and as a result it has launched the University of Zululand Leadership Development programme at Umfolozi Casino recently. One of the ways of addressing these developmental areas was to introduce

leadership programmes aimed at enhancing leadership excellence. Executive Director for Human Resources Ray Ngcobo thanked University of Stellenbosch Business School for having partnered with UNIZULU to deliver this programme. "May this relationship grow stronger as we travel into the future and realise the benefits of running these programmes," he said.

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- [UNIZULU takes part in history colloquium](#)

The NIHSS, Universities of Venda, Limpopo and South Africa co-hosted the “Colloquium on Liberation History, Memory and Contestation” at the University of Venda from the 15<sup>th</sup> to the 17<sup>th</sup> March 2017. This multi-disciplinary colloquium brought together academics, business people, civil society and postgraduate students to share their research work and expertise with the intention of contributing to national dialogue on complicated national issues. UNIZULU academics from the Department of History, i.e. Dr M.Z. Shamase, Dr H.S. Ntuli and Mr DHD Ngobese read papers at the colloquium.

- [UNIZULU makes the cut for Varsity Sing](#)

The University of Zululand Choir has been selected to compete in the in the prestigious Varsity Sing competition. Choirmaster Bhekani Buthelezi said the members of the choir were all excited to be taking part in the competition that is now in its second season and were equally mindful that the stakes are high. “At that competition we will not only be representing our University but we will be representing KZN as a whole because we are the only choir from this province”.

- [Lecturers explore indigenous knowledge in modern food systems](#)

Lecturers from the Department of Consumer Sciences represented the University of Zululand with distinction at the IKS Conference held in December last year. Thembekile Kheswa and Kate Ndwandwe who are both lecturers from the Consumer Sciences department made a presentation at the conference. Titled: “Integrating the IKS and modern food systems for better employment opportunities”, the presentation focused on integrating the indigenous and modern art in food innovation for enterprise development. The conference was attended by various other presenters and included academics from India, social entrepreneurs, government representatives, the NRF, Research Council (ARC) and business consultants. Themes covered ranged from education in IKS, improving enterprise development and engaging Western knowledge while maintaining IKS. The presentation was well received by the audience which made suggestions for further improvement.

Dear Colleagues,

**Kindly give us feedback on this new-look Ongoye Online. We would really appreciate your views, suggestions and comments. Email your comments to [cmd@unizulu.ac.za](mailto:cmd@unizulu.ac.za)**



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