Vendile

NEWSLETTER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF VENDA



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Promise Nyalungu wins big prizes during EDHE Studentpreneurship **Intervarsity Competition**

On Thursday, 26 November 2020, two University of Venda (UNIVEN) students, Mr Promise Nyalungu and Mr Ndamulelo Nelwamondo represented UNIVEN during the National Finals of the Entrepreneurship Development in Higher Education (EDHE) Studentpreneurship Intervarsity Competition. They participated in the categories of Existing Social Impact Business and Existing Business Tech respectively. On Friday, 27 November 2020, Mr Promise Nyalungu emerged as the Best 2020 Existing Social Impact Business and the 2020 National Student Entrepreneur, Mr. Nyalungu also won the 2020 Entrepreneurial University of the Year Award for his University (UNIVEN)

He walked away with a cheque of R120 000 and a R10 000 Branding voucher.

Mr Nyalungu thanked the support he received from UNIVEN staff who always open doors when he needs their assistance regarding his entrepreneurship skills. He further thanked the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Operations, Dr Robert Martin who always put a lot of effort into making sure that everything regarding entrepreneurship is on par. He said Dr Martin has witnessed UNIVEN receiving an award for

being the Fastest Growing Entrepreneurial University in South Africa during the 2019 EDHE Intervarsity competition.

"Dr Martin has always supported us and is passionate about UNIVEN producing the best entrepreneurs who are able to think outside the box, who are able to create jobs for themselves and for other graduates." Mr Nyalungu is the Founder of Struu Artzz Edutainment. He is registered for Honours in International Relations at UNIVEN.

The competition is funded through the University Capacity Development Programme of the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET) and is supported by Universities South Africa (USAf) and its other partners. It aims to identify top student entrepreneurs at the South African public universities. The competition also provides the opportunity for aspiring entrepreneurs in the inception phase to pitch their innovative business ideas. In the process, universities are given the opportunity to showcase their entrepreneurial talent and demonstrate the ways in which they support and grow future generations of business leaders.



Promise Nyalungu (middle front row) posing for a group photo with other winners from other participatina universitie

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UNIVEN Students show case their social entrepreneurship initiative at a Collaborative Exhibition

On Friday, 28 November 2020, the University of Venda (UNIVEN) students showcased their Social entrepreneurship initiative at a collaborative Exhibition held at Thohoyandou Stadium. The exhibition brought social entrepreneurs in Thohoyandou together to network and encourage a culture of collaboration, support system and sharing of knowledge and innovation skills with local communities. It gave student entrepreneurs a chance to gauge their competition and observe their flaws and the plus points. The aim was also to raise awareness about social entrepreneurship development initiatives and networks and to encourage community involvement, especially the involvement of youth who came in numbers.

Social Entrepreneurship is an approach in which a group of entrepreneurs and/or individuals develop, fund and implement solutions to social, cultural as well as environmental. A social entrepreneur, therefore, is someone working for his/her account while primarily pursuing social surpluses – goals that stand to benefit people in society. The exhibition comprised of nine (09) stalls, namely:

- Bright Young Leaders Initiative (BYLI)-an organisation aiming at bringing together innovation and social responsibility;
- Mukapu-a healthy, organic breakfast brand that encourages a healthy lifestyle amongst the youth;
- Mutoli wa vhurendi ha namusi-poetry book narrating the state of morden day poetry;
- Dande Tande-a novel that tells the story of young professionals struggles in the workplace;
- Yikes- fresh, young and hippy clothing brand which is 100% youth owned;
- Aphrodite Global-an NPO that aims to alleviate GBV through awareness and empowering girls through engagement;
- AIME-an organisational programme that gives indigenous high school learners the skills, opportunities and confidence to make things happen by matching high school learners with university mentor to successfully finish high school;
- Eternity Cosmetics- a self-care cosmetic line and range. It is an organic black youth owned and suitable for all skin types;
- Univen Student SE programme that encourages student collaboration and networking. Led by Professor Netshandama, the programme provides exposure to educative platforms and resources to capacitate students on Social Entrepreneurship.





Mr Mudinda Nemutanzhela, BYLI Content Curator said BYLI provides programs that equip young people with skills and strategies to help them invent, innovate and inspire other young people to bring about sustainable development in Africa. Mr Nemutanzhela stated that in an effort to improve the quality of education in African Schools, they have created programs that expose high school students and young people beyond that to different areas in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics- STEM. He said their projects do not only allow students to excel academically but empower them to become innovative problem solvers within their communities. "BYLI aims to improve the quality of education in Africa, particularly in marginalised rural areas and townships.



Mr Ronewa Mugivhi is a Self-Publishing Author, editor, proof-reader. He exhibited his book titled Dandetande translating to a complicated situation. "I felt that as a person who is always spending time watching TV and listening to the radio, I must write stories and post them on Facebook. People used to read my short stories on Facebook and WhatsApp and told me that I can write a good book as they were seeing potential in me." His dream is to register his publishing company, to promote the culture of reading and to help other upcoming writers. Mr Mugivhi appreciated that he was able to network with other businesses at the exhibition.



Miss Muneiwa Mabade exhibited a Tshivenda book titled Mutoli wa vhurendi ha namusi translating to 'The sweetness of contemporary poetry'. The book comprised of different poetries from different authors including herself. Miss Mabade indicated that what prompted her to be a poet is the fact that young people are considering foreign languages at the expense of their home languages. She wants to work hard at promoting Tshivenda language as an important tool to preserve the culture for Vhavenda people. "Reading Poetry helps one to develop critical thinking skills", she said.



Netshivhongweni, Mutshidziwa founder of Eternity Cosmetics said her company is an organic cosmetics manufacturing company that manufactures body lotion, serum, shower gel, aloe vera face moisturizer, and beauty bar from a variety of oils, essential oils, baobab fruit and aloe vera. "The company manufactures the products at Tshivhongweni village. Eternity Cosmetics was founded in 2020 with an objective to manufacture safe, organic, non-allergic, non-invasive, and ensure that consumers get real nutritional benefits from natural ingredients."



"BYLI aims to improve the quality of education in Africa, particularly in marginalised rural areas and townships."

Mr Midalo Mulaudzi (third standing at the back row in a black mask), BA in Criminal Justice student represented Mamokgadi Pottery which is a black owned art producing project situated at Mamokgadi village. It is operated by five elderly women and one man. It was adopted by UNIVEN Enactus in 2019 because it had met one of the biggest sponsor criteria, the Nedbank Triple Bottomline Sustainability which is economic, social, and environmental. They produce potteries such as traditional clay pots, ceramic utensils, and porcelain products for offices as well as households.

Dr Rachel Makungo Joins UNIVEN Cadre of NRF Rated Researchers



Dr Rachel Makungo of the School of Environmental Sciences applied early this year to become National Research Foundation (NRF) rated researcher. After thorough evaluation, her application was

successful, and she has been awarded an NRF Y2 rating with effect from 1st January 2021. She is currently the fourth female UNIVEN staff holding an NRF rating; others being Professor Natasha Potgieter of the School of Mathematical and Natural Sciences (NRF C2), Professor Sonto Maputle of the School of Health Sciences (NRF C3), and Dr Marizvikuru Manjoro of the School of Agriculture (NRF Y2)

In expressing their congratulatory remarks to Dr Makungo, both the Vice-Chancellor, Dr Bernard Nthambeleni and Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic, Professor Jan Crafford recognised the fact that she is a complete academic product of UNIVEN. The Director Research and Innovation, Senior Professor Georges Ekosse is pleased to have the upcoming female scholar rated. Dr Makungo is a highly intelligent female upcoming researcher who has allowed herself to be

mentored by Senior Colleagues. She is now reaping the fruits of proper mentorship. He however expressed deep concern on the low numbers of females who are rated. It should be noted that UNIVEN currently has 29 NRF rated Researchers

Dr Rachel Makungo is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Hydrology and Water Resources in the School of Environmental Sciences. She holds a PhD in Environmental Sciences (Hydrology and Water Resources), Masters of Earth Sciences in Hydrology and Water Resources and Bachelor of Earth Sciences (Hons) in Hydrology and Water Resources from the University of Venda. She has served as an academic from 2005 to date, resulting to 15 years of teaching and research experience. She has contributed to training of 10 Masters and 52 Honours students in the field of Hydrology and Water Resources. She is currently promoting 2 PhD

candidates. Dr Makungo has authored/coauthored 23 peer reviewed publications, 1 book chapter, 24 conference presentations and 11 professional/technical reports. Her research interests are in the areas of surface water and groundwater hydrology including water quality, monitoring, and modelling, and links to climate change adaptation. Dr Makungo has been serving as a departmental coordinator for the Department of Hydrology and Water Resources since July 2018. She has been playing a major role of coordinating the review of the curriculum for Bachelor of Earth Science in Hydrology and Water Resources degree programme. She is actively involved in community engagement activities and community engaged research in Siloam and Mhinga Villages including a community project funded by alumni which involved drilling of 3 boreholes for both communitybased research.

Dr Bernard Nthambeleni talks about the power of forgiveness and reconciliation

"It is about time for the country to move on from the past, we need to forgive those who have wronged us and move on with our lives," said the ViceChancellor and Principal, Dr Bernard Nthambeleni during an interview with SABC that took place on Tuesday, 10 November 2020. This television interview took place in the Vice-Chancellor's office in remembrance of the gallant freedom fighter, the late Dr Tshifhiwa Isaac Muofhe who was an anti-apartheid activist.

"It is only through forgiveness and reconciliation that his family and all South Africans can forgive and move our country forward."

Dr Muofhe's death came as a shock to many as the real cause of his death is still unknown even today. The late Dr Tshifhiwa Muofhe was reported dead at his cell in Matatshe Prison on 12 November 1981, just two days after his arrest on 10 November 1981. He was arrested together with Dr Tshenuwani Farisani on allegations that they bombed the Sibasa Police Station where three police officers died. The two were arrested despite not being within the area of Venda when the incident happened, which left many questions among the local residents



Dr Bernard Nthambeleni during an interview with Ms Nndanganeni Mudau of SABC Zwa Maramani programme

regarding their arrest. The police report on his death said that he died after he jumped from the police van when he was being transported from Sibasa to Matatshe prison.

This gallant freedom fighter was posthumously honoured with a Doctoral Degree by the University of Venda

(UNIVEN) during its 2016 Graduation Ceremonies because of his contributions as a freedom fighter. Dr Nthambeleni further expressed that this Honorary Doctorate is the highest qualification that is only given to someone who has immensely contributed in other people's lives. "Indeed the late Dr Tshifhiwa Muofhe deserves this Honorary Doctoral Degree because he has even paid his contribution with his own life and that means a lot to us as UNIVEN." This interview would be aired on SABC 2 Zwa Maramani programme of Wednesday, 09 December 2020 at 20:30

UNIVEN bids farewell to Twenty-one staff members

On Tuesday, 24 November 2020, the University of Venda (UNIVEN) held its Retirees Farewell Function to thank staff members who have diligently worked for the University for many years. This farewell function took place in the Senate Chambers.



In his Farewell message, the Vice-Chancellor and Principal, Dr Bernard Nthambeleni thanked retirees and told them that the University has benefited immensely from their loyalty and excellent performance over many years of their association with UNIVEN. "The history of this University cannot be written without mentioning your great contributions. Our University today is counted amongst the best managed institutions in the country because of your hard work and dedication." Dr Nthambeleni continued to tell them that UNIVEN's performance as far as teaching, learning, community engagement and research has also increased tremendously over the past years.

"Our University infrastructure-built project has also increased over the past years. You have witnessed UNIVEN growing overtime and stood firm during the best and worst times. It is through your hard work and dedication that this University was able to achieve its goals of contributing to skilled workforce to our country. You are leaving UNIVEN at a very crucial time when the University is about to implement its new Strategic Plan, 2021-2025 which is intended to position the University of Venda for impact and relevance."

He concluded his farewell message by mentioning that despite the challenges posed by COVID-19, this year (2020) has been yet another successful year for UNIVEN.



When acknowledging retirees, Director of Human Resources, Mrs Uanda Ndou said that the number of years that these retires worked for UNIVEN indicates that they have served the University with diligence and dedication. She appreciated the role that the retirees continued to play in mentoring young staff members.

despite the challenges posed by COVID-19, this year (2020) has been yet another successful year for UNIVEN.



Representing Service Staff members was Mrs. Violet Chauke who said that UNIVEN has played a very big role in her personal development. She urged other staff members to continue taking care of the University's assets and infrastructure for sustainability and for future generations.



Mr. Steven Manenzhe who represented Admin Staff thanked previous and current UNIVEN management for effective leadership and management to ensure that there is sustainability and growth over the previous years.



Representing Academic Staff members was Rev JDM Van Der Westhuizen who said when he started working for UNIVEN, there were only seven lecturers and he has witnessed UNIVEN's growth over the past 38 years. Rev Van Der Westhuizen joined UNIVEN in 1983.



In his vote of thanks message, Prof Jan Crafford expressed gratitude to all retirees for their contribution in making sure that UNIVEN grows to what it is today.

Below is a list of 2020 UNIVEN retirees: Prof PK Chauke, Prof PB Bikam. Dr. JLM Dederen. Mr. NW Masiagwala, Dr LV Mathye, Dr NJ Ramakuela, Mrs. ML Sinthumule, Mr. NA Tshifhango, Mr. R Van der Westhuizen, Ms. A J Mutenda, Ms. MN Masia. Mr. AS Manenzhe, Ms LG Masindi. Ms RP Mudzanani, Ms TC Mutele, Ms LG Tshipetane, Mr. MC Dau, Ms VL Chauke, Ms MG Themeli. Mr. NA Dzhivhuwo and Prof.RR Molapo.

Accountancy students give back to the community



In the year 2019, the University of Venda (UNIVEN) Accountancy Department participated in transformation of the profession. Despite the COVID-19 constraints, the Department made it possible to proceed with its mission even in 2020.

In October 2020, the Department started off with its Stationery drive that was initiated and executed by South African Institute of Chartered Accountants (SAICA) Academic Trainees of 2020. SAICA Academic Trainees are the firstyear trainee accountants that opted to obtain some of their competencies in academia as opposed to the audit firms or other companies for one of their three years in the CA training programme.

The academic trainees initiated a "Matric 2020 Stationery Drive" which aimed at collecting stationery donations from the Accountancy Department and from Accountancy students. The proceeds from the drive were used to buy stationery which was then donated to Marude Secondary school's class of 2020 in Thohovandou.

UNIVEN academic trainees (1st Row L-R) Ms Uhone Ndou and Ms Mukondeleli Tshivule and the Thuthuka Project Assistant (R) Ms Thizwilondi Nekhubvi ready for the stationery drive presentations

"The main objective of this initiative was to give our students an opportunity to give back to the community through motivating grade 12 learners as they were due to sit for the final examinations from 05 November," said Ms Mukondeleli Tshivule who is one of the Academic Trainees.

The main objective of this initiative was to give our students an opportunity to give back to the community...



Right: Packed stationery packages ready to be delivered.



Each learner received a stationery and snack pack which included a revision notebook, plastic sleeve, four pens, two pencils, ruler, eraser, two masks, and snacks.

Accountancy students give back to the community continued...



Mr Mutshidzi Raphulu, an accounting sciences second year student addressing learners as he revived the interest and curiosity about the University experience.



Marude Grade 12 learners listening attentively to Ms Uhone Ndou's presentation on the journey of becoming a CA(SA).



L-R: Mr Ambani Tshikovhi CA(SA), Ms Mukondeleli Tshivule, Ms Thizwilondi Nekhubvi and Mr Nditsheni Tshithavhane CA(SA)RA after their presentation at Khwevha Commercial School.

The successful execution of the Stationery drive proved that the transformation mission is possible even during the National Lockdown. The Department took it as a sign to visit other schools, despite being the time when learners were writing their final examinations.

Mr Nditsheni Tshithavhane CA(SA)RA, Senior Lecturer at UNIVEN presented about the available opportunities at the University's Accountancy Department. Ms Thizwilondi Nekhubvi addressed learners on career related matters and making career choices and most importantly the funding opportunities available at UNIVEN, especially in the Accountancy Department. Mr Ambani Tshikovhi CA(SA) stressed out the requirements needed for one to be offered such opportunities.

Within a week, the team reached out to Bababa Secondary School at HaLuvhimbi village and presented to the grade 10 to 12 learners majoring in Mathematics. Over and above marketing the Accountancy Departmental programmes, this visit was also used as an opportunity for learners to receive career guidance as well as assistance on how to apply at UNIVEN.

Ms Mukondeleli Tshivule's presentation focused on the importance of studying and enduring Mathematics through to grade 12. She then took the chance to motivate learners through questioning and reminding them about the reason why they should work hard and pass with good marks.

Secondary Schools that were visited showed their appreciation and requested the Accountancy Department to visit again. The Accountancy Department is positive that the outcome of these engagements will assist in refining the work and commits to continue partaking in such engagements.





Dr Freddy Munzhelele (Standing), also a senior lecturer and a Thuthuka Project Manager presented on the funding opportunities available for students enrolled for the Accounting Sciences degree.



MEN, ASK YOUR DOCTOR THESE QUESTIONS



You can empower yourself by asking your doctor the right questions about your health. Here's a guide to what you should ask during your next check-up.

From <u>medication dosage</u> to your diet and maintaining a healthy weight, it's important to keep a constant dialogue between you and your doctor. Ask these questions in your 20s, 30s, 40s and beyond.

In your 20s

1. Question: Should I be screened for mental health conditions?

Why: If you have a family history of mental health conditions, then you may be at risk of developing a mental health disorder. And if you experience any symptoms of a particular condition, your doctor may be able to use screening tools and questions to assess you. They can also refer you to a mental-health professional

such as a counsellor or psychologist for an official diagnosis.

2. Question: Should I be screened for any STIs?

Why: Your sex drive is at its peak during your 20s, so it's important to ensure optimal sexual health. If you're sexually active, your doctor may recommend you get tested for common sexually transmitted infections (STIs), such as chlamydia, syphilis and gonorrhoea, and in some cases HIV.

3. Question: Is my blood pressure, blood sugar and cholesterol in a healthy range?

Why: It's important for your blood pressure, blood-sugar level and cholesterol to be within a healthy range at any age, but in your 20s, these numbers can indicate if you are at an increased risk of certain serious conditions. If you have a family history of diabetes or you are

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overweight or obese, your doctor may recommend you get screened for type 2 diabetes.

In your 30s

1. Question: How's my heart health?

Why: Serious heart conditions such as hypertension
begin to surface in your 30s, so it's important to ask your doctor about your overall heart health. Pay attention to advice on matters of cardiovascular health, such as blood pressure readings, your weight and your exercise routine.

2. Question: What can I do to maintain a healthy weight?

Why: It becomes more challenging to lose weight in your 30s, as your metabolism begins to slow down. Being overweight or obese increases your risk of serious health conditions such as hypertension, stroke and type 2 diabetes. Your doctor will be able to assess your weight. If you need to lose some kilos or maintain your weight, they can advise you or refer you to a dietitian.

3. Question: How can I manage stress?

Why: While a little stress is normal, too much could impact your physical and mental health. As you age and your responsibilities grow, juggling a job and your personal life could make managing your stress levels difficult. Your doctor can help you with healthy coping strategies and refer you to a mental health expert if necessary.

In your 40s and 50s

1. Question: Should I be screened for cancer?

Why: The most common cancers in men include <u>prostate</u> and <u>colorectal cancer</u> and the risk of these types increases with age. It's particularly important to talk to your doctor once you're older than 45 or if you have a <u>family history</u> of cancer. If your doctor suggests any tests, ask about the risks.

2. Question: Do I need to adjust my eating habits?

Why: All your lifestyle choices, particularly your diet and exercise routine, significantly affect your health in your 40s and 50s. It's important to maintain a healthy weight, with good eating habits because your metabolism slows down with age. Being slim doesn't mean that your diet is healthy – ask your doctor to assess your eating habits and advise you on any changes.

3. Question: Do I need all this medication?

Why: If you've been taking certain medications for a long time, or medication has adverse side effects, ask your doctor if you need to reassess your treatment or look into alternatives.

For more men's health advice, read these helpful articles:

- Prostate cancer: Your need-to-know
- 3 cancer types men need to know about







The information is shared on condition that readers will make their own determination, including seeking advice from a healthcare professional. E&OE.

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UNIVEN conducts Strategic Planning and Governance of Risk and Internal Audit Workshop

From 30 November to 02 December 2020, the University of Venda (UNIVEN) held a Strategic Planning and Governance of Risk and Internal Audit Workshop. This workshop took place at Kruger National Park (Skukuza Safari Lodge) and was attended by the Chairperson of Council, Chairpersons of Committees of Council, Audit and Risk Committee Members as well as Resource Persons. Facilitators of the workshop were Mr Christopher Whittle and Dr Gerhard De Coning from Universum Strategy and Risk Advisory, assisted by Ms Mbali Mtshali.

In his opening and welcome message, Vice-Chancellor and Principal, Dr Bernard Nthambeleni presented the University's new Strategic Planning Framework and the context of the 2021-2025 Strategic Plan. Dr Nthambeleni further said that, every five years, the University develops a new strategic plan to help guide the University's growth and shape its future. He indicated that the strategic plan is developed in consultation with staff, structures and student body and is informed by an evaluation of the University's performance on the previous term's strategic goals.



Vice-Chancellor and Principal, Dr Bernard Nthambeleni



...every five years, the University develops a new strategic plan to help guide the University's growth and shape its future.

The Chairperson of Council, Mr Juneas Lekgetha said this was a very progressive and fruitful workshop and it will assist all participants to steer UNIVEN in the right direction bearing in mind the risks that they might come across and how to mitigate them. He advised participants to make use of what they have learned from this workshop and to always strive to make a positive impact at UNIVEN.



Concluding remarks on the last day of the workshop were expressed by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic, Prof Jan Crafford who told participants of the workshop that this workshop was very fruitful and is extremely important because participants now have a clear understanding of risks that the University might come across and they have learned how to mitigate those risks. Prof Crafford further mentioned that all staff members need to be made aware of these risks that they might come across and how to mitigate them.



Mrs Diana Makwarela (Above) presented the 2021-2025 Strategic Risk Register while Dr Oscar Van Heerden (Right), the Chairperson of the Audit and Risk Committee presented the overview and outcomes expected from the workshop.



...this workshop was very fruitful and is extremely important because participants now have a clear understanding of risks that the University might come across and they have learned how to mitigate those risks





Ir Christopher Whittle (left) and Dr Gerhard De Coning (right) facilitating the workshop

UNIVEN conducts Strategic Planning and Governance of Risk and Internal Audit Workshop continued



Workshop participants listening to the facilitator during the workshop

Advocate Edward Lambani is the newly appointed University Registrar

On Thursday 26 November 2020, the University of Venda (UNIVEN) Council appointed Advocate Edward Lambani has acted as the University Registrar. Adv Lambani has acted as the University Registrar for a period of over a year at UNIVEN. He holds

LL.M in Administrative and Municipal Law (graduated Cum Laude) from Rand Afrikaans University (RAU); LL.M in Property Law from the University of the Witwatersrand; LLB from UNIVEN and B. PROC from University of Zululand.

Advocate Edward Lambani

He said that this appointment takes place when the University is in a state of transition but because he has already acted in this position, he knows exactly what is expected from him regarding performance and aligning himself with the University's 2021-2025 strategic plan.

Vice-Chancellor and Principal, Dr Bernard Nthambeleni congratulated him and described Advocate Lambani as a very dedicated staff member with clear vision. "Advocate Lambani has a clear understanding of the University's Mission and Vision and that is what we all need, to actively work as a team in achieving our goal."

Other professional qualifications that Advocate Lambani holds include Advanced Diploma in Company Law (RAU); Advanced Diploma in Close Corporations Law (RAU);

Risk Management and Corporate Governance (Lwelaphanda Business Intelligence); Diploma in Church Ministry (Kingdom School of Ministry) and Bachelor of Practical Theology (Kingdom Tabernacle Bible College).

His recent employment history among others include the following: Director of Legal Services (UNIVEN) from January 2014 until his appointment as the University Registrar; Practicing Attorney (Own Practice) from May 2012 to Jan 2014, Secretary to the Limpopo Legislature from May 2002 – April 2011, Senior Manager, HR and Corporate Services (IEC) National Office 2001 April – 2002 April and Chief Executive Officer (Randfontein Transitional Local Council), Randfontein, Aug 1996 – June 1998

Some of his notable positions of office include: Member and Chairperson of the Audit Committees of Vhembe District Municipality, Thulamela Municipality and Musina Municipality from 2015 to date; Member of the Advisory Board for Arts and Culture Department (RSA) from 2014 to 2017; Member and Chairperson of Technikon Northern Gauteng Council from 2000 to 2004: Director of the Agriculture and Rural Development Corporation RDC) Limpopo Province from 1999 to 2000; Member of the Executive Committee of the Johannesburg Attorneys Association. Convener of the Companies and Justice Sub-committees; Member of Gauteng Economic and Development Forum (Representing Gauteng Chamber of Commerce and Industry), Member of NAFCOC (Head of Gauteng Chamber of Commerce and Industry Legal and Tax Committee) and Member of the Commission on Pensions Investigations for Government of Venda. He also served as President of UNIVEN Convocation and a member of Council in the nineties and early two thousand. His wealth of experience and knowledge in the higher education sector will certainly enable him to take the University Registrar Division to another level. The Vice-Chancellor and Principal, Dr Bernard Nthambeleni urges the University Community to give Advocate Lambani the necessary support in his new role as the University Registrar.

Tshepiso Mphidi paves her way to the top in the modeling industry



Photos of Ms Tshepiso Mphidi: supplied





Photo of Ms Tshepiso Mphidi supplied

Ms Tshepiso Mphidi, a first-year University of Venda (UNIVEN) Bachelor of Social Work student has ambitions and potential of scoring big accolades in the modeling industry. She has so far won most if not all competitions that she has competed for.

The 17-year-old from Golgotha, in Thohoyandou has among other crowns won the following crowns: Miss Face of Savanah Mall 2016, Miss Teen Capricorn District 2018, Miss Junior Teen Limpopo Mzantsi 2018, Miss Glaxy Super Supreme 2018, Miss Blossom Savanah 2018, Princes and Princesses Miss Teen 2020 and Miss Teen Limpopo 2020.

When asked about what has encouraged her to go in to the modeling industry, Tshepiso explained that, when she was in high school she was a victim of bullying. That is when she developed insecurities about herself where she lost confidence in herself. Due to those experiences, she then decided to join modeling which boosted her self-esteem. "My confidence level increased and I later accepted myself just the way I am. Why try to fit in if you can stand out."

She continued to express that modeling and school work has so far assisted her to learn more about other people and at the same time know more about herself and the world around her. Tshepiso keeps competing because according to her, duties and prizes that come with the crown are overwhelming and exciting since she gets the opportunity to expand her charity organization participation where she gets to help those in need.

"As for next year (2021), I already have three bigger competitions to participate in, the first one being Miss teen RSA, then Miss Elite 2020 which was supposed to be held this year in June (2020) but due to COVID-19 National Lockdown, it was postponed to next year and lastly Miss Galaxy World international which is going to be held in Spain hopefully by then I would have collected enough data about Galaxy World international."

Tshepiso said in the next five years, she would like to see herself having obtained a masters degree in Psychology and holding a title of Miss South Africa.

We would like to hear from you!

Nendila is your communication channel.

Nendila editorial committee:

Dr Takalani Dzaga Chief editor

Ms Welheminah Mabogo Coordinator

Mr Peter Mashishi Contributor

Ms Mushoni Mulaudzi Preservation (Library)

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If you spot anything out of the ordinary on campus - contact the University Hotline by calling toll free number 0800 212 755 or email: univenhotline@tip-offs.com

Improper conduct includes the following...

- 1. Financial misconduct,
- 2. Misuse or misappropriation of University assets,
- 3. Health and safety risks,
- 4. Plagiarism,
- 5. Fraud and corruption.