

# University of Venda

Annual Report

January - December 2005





## Vision

The University of Venda, as a research and innovative comprehensive university will be a leader in offering integrated academic and career-focused programmes at undergraduate and postgraduate levels for regional, national and international development.

## Mission

The University of Venda provides, through a problem-orientated, project-designed curriculum, quality education and training in the academic and vocational programmes. To this the human and social sciences provide a social context and an African perspective for the cultivation and empowerment of humanity regionally, nationally and internationally.

## The University of Venda

### *World class education in a rural ambience*

Everyone at the University of Venda, affectionately known as Univen, has one common goal – to ensure that it retains its stature as the African university. It also has to ensure that it supports students in building a career that will prepare them for the marketplace.

Univen is situated in the fast growing town of Thohoyandou in the Limpopo Province, on the southern side of the Soutpansberg Mountains. It is a semi-rural and semi-urban area with access to the comforts and attractions of urban and rural environments. To the north and south of the main campus are lakes, forests and rivers renowned for their natural beauty. To the east, the Kruger National Park is only 70 kilometres away – thus truly a conducive environment for the development of body, mind and soul.

The university was established in 1982 and has since experienced tremendous growth and change. From its early years, staff members were drawn from various backgrounds in South Africa, but by 1994 they were increasingly recruited from other African countries and from overseas. This campus mix of staff from diverse backgrounds created a unique atmosphere and a fertile environment for new ideas and capacity for change. During this time, the institution remained a traditional university that offered a full-range of courses straddling the humanities, social sciences, natural and applied sciences.

The democratic dispensation in South Africa in 1994 also accelerated transformation at Univen. From 1995, the university shifted its focus to science and technology, introducing new programmes and increasing student enrolment in the natural and applied sciences. In 2002 the Department of Education mandated the institution to transform into a comprehensive university that also offers career-focused programmes.

In 2005 the Univen Council approved a three-phase renewal strategy to fast-track transformation and convert Univen into a comprehensive university. An academic viability audit of faculties, departments and courses is progressing well.

Certainly exciting times. Globalisation is the modern buzzword and on this ever-changing planet people are connected through an intricate web of social, economic and cultural relationships. To be relevant in this competitive universe, Univen constantly needs to be in the fast lane, producing exciting new products, processes and professions.

Univen has to provide world-class tuition against a background of a proudly African institution that nurtures cultural diversity and people-driven principles and that is prepared to face the challenges of the information age head-on. The Univen team offers just that...



University of Venda



# Contents

<b>Corporate governance</b>	<b>2</b>
The Council	2
The Audit Committee	2
The Finance, Budget and Investment Committee	2
The Executive Committee of Council	2
The Staff Affairs Committee	2
The Student Affairs Committee	3
The Tender Committee	3
The Senate	3
Members of Council	3
<b>Report of the vice-chancellor and principal</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Report of the senate on teaching and research</b>	<b>6</b>
Curriculum matters	6
Qualification and programme mix for 2002 - 2006	6
Quality assurance	7
Enrolment and qualifications	7
Research development	7
<b>Overview of faculties and schools</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Faculty of Natural and Applied Sciences</b>	<b>8</b>
School of Environmental Sciences	8
School of Mathematics and Natural Sciences	9
School of Postgraduate and Integrated Studies	10
<b>Faculty of Health, Agriculture and Rural Development</b>	<b>11</b>
School of Agriculture, Rural Development and Forestry	11
School of Health Sciences	12
<b>Faculty of Humanities, Management Sciences and Law</b>	<b>12</b>
School of Human and Social Sciences	12
School of Management Sciences	13
School of Law	14
<b>Support services</b>	<b>15</b>
Centre for Student Counselling, Social and Academic Development	15
Student Affairs	15
Tshivenda Language Research and Development Centre	15
Sports and Recreation	16
Library Services	16
Resource Management and Planning	16
Information Technology Services	17
Public Relations and Development	17
Quality Assurance and Promotion	19
Research and Development	19
<b>Annual financial review</b>	<b>20</b>
Balance sheet	21
Income statement	22
Statement of changes in funds	23
Cash flow statement	24
Key features of the financial results	25
Operating results	25



# Corporate governance

*"The council operates according to principles expressed in the King Report on Corporate Governance."*



*Justice Yvonne Mokgoro  
Chairperson of Council*

The council operates according to the principles of accountability, integrity and openness as expressed in the King Report on Corporate Governance.

It is aware of its responsibilities as required by the Higher Education Act, Act 101 of 1997 for governing the university as a public body committed to becoming a centre of excellence and an African university.

## The Council

The council consists of people elected in accordance to the University of Venda (Private) Act, 1996. The ratio of non-staff and non-student members to that of staff and student members is 60% to 40%, ensuring objectivity as well as stakeholder participation in the university's governance.

To manage, control and execute its duties, the council has seven sub-committees that normally meet four times a year, prior to the council meeting. They submit reports for consideration at each ordinary council meeting and make appropriate recommendations within their spheres of operation.

The Audit, Finance, Budget and Investment and Tender Committees are chaired by outside members of the council.

## The Audit Committee

The committee ensures that the financial procedures as set up by the council and financial controls are adhered to, studies the external auditor's report to make recommendations to the council and studies the internal auditor's report to make sure that internal auditing is met.

## The Finance, Budget and Investment Committee

This committee ensures that the available financial resources are allocated in accordance with the vision and the mission of the university to ensure that the strategic plan is adequately and effectively implemented.

## The Executive Committee of Council

This committee carries out duties as mandated by the council between its meetings. As the Executive

Remuneration Committee it sets the remuneration of the vice-chancellor, the deputy vice-chancellors and the vice-principals, the registrar, the executive directors and the executive deans.

## The Staff Affairs Committee

This committee advises the council and makes recommendations regarding staffing as well as staff conditions of service.





## The Student Affairs Committee

This committee advises the council about the activities of students and student life.

## The Tender Committee

This committee advises the council on the commissioning of building activities and the erection of other infrastructure at the university. It recommends the awarding of tenders in accordance to tendering procedures and attends to other initiatives that require an open tendering process.

## The Senate

The Senate advises the council on all academic activities to enable the control and management of all university activities.

## Members of Council

Justice Y Mokgoro	Chairperson of University Council
Prof SM Nkomo	Deputy Chairperson
Dr J Leatt	Vice-Chancellor and Principal
Prof MM Ramogale	Vice-Principal
Mr KC Nemadzivhanani	Secretary to Council
Dr TE Mdlalose	Ministerial representative
Mrs A Lawless	Ministerial representative
Mr JS Vilakazi	Ministerial representative
Mr KE Mahoai	Premier's representative
Dr DG Thabede	Senate representative
Ms A Lansink	Senate representative
Dr TS Tshivhase-Phendla	Convocation representative
Mr SM Ravhuanzwo	Convocation representative
Mr E Ratshikhopha	Donor representative
Mr LR Kone	Donor representative
Mr JG Nodoba	Academic employee representative
Mr R Ludere	Student representative
Mr JM Mkhathswa	Student representative
Mr TD Tsedu	Service employee representative
Mr NC Muloiwa	Administrative employee representative
Mr TN Makumbane	Municipal representative
Prof PM Makhurane	Association of African Universities representative
Mr KR Madzhie	Further Education and Training College Principal's Organisation representative
Dr TG Tshifularo	Local traditional authorities representative
Dr O Shisana	Human Sciences Research Council representative
Ms E Mabusela	Human Rights Commission representative





# Report of the vice-chancellor and principal

*"The mood and tone of Univen is good."*

## A time of hope and renewal

Hope reflects the mood on the road of recovery that the University of Venda has embarked upon.

Much has happened since the Government approved the university's three-stage recovery plan. The plan entails identifying urgent requirements to ensure a better environment for students, a situational analysis of Univen and determining how to make the transition to a comprehensive university.

After the council agreed that the vice-chancellor and the deputy vice-chancellor academic affairs and research be placed on twelve months' leave from July 2005, an interim management committee was set up under my leadership and that of Mr Mandla Sibeko as financial consultant and Mr Khuliso Nemadzivhanani as chief operating officer.

The interim management team was mandated to, among others, get consensus on the academic direction of the institution, ensure that a successor to the vice-chancellor is appointed without delay and redraft the university's business plan.

Meetings were held with all the university stakeholders, including students, to discuss the redrafting of the institutional operating and business plans. The senate approved this process. There were also meetings between the university's council, management and the Department of Education to discuss funding for the recovery plan.

In 2005 the university worked on the Department of Education's rules and the policies on the qualifications framework of higher education. Institutions were encouraged to

ensure that new programmes for 2006 meet the requirements of this policy. Qualifications and programmes currently offered by institutions of higher learning must conform with the requirements of this policy over time.

The university also started with preparations for the Higher Education Quality Committee audits. Workshops on the interpretation of audit criteria were held.

In October and November resource specialists from the Department of Education visited the campus. This resulted in reports covering the areas of finance, human resources, higher education management information



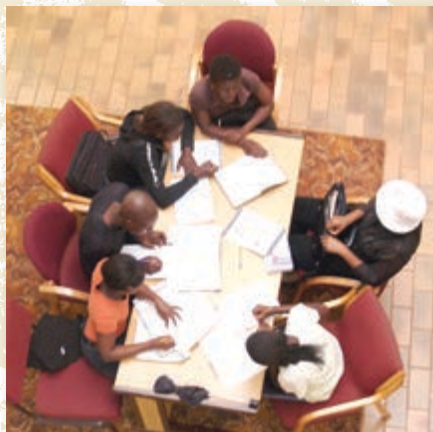
*Dr Jim Leatt, Acting Vice-Chancellor and Principal*

services, student administration, information communication technology and properties and services. The reports led to the development of a management plan. Furthermore, a budgeting process enabling Univen to live within its means in 2006, followed.

According to the Department of Education, the university's subsidy income for 2006, minus the repayment of an historical overclaim on subsidy, would be of the same order as the 2005 subsidy income.







An enrolment plan for 2006 was introduced to enable the university to achieve, but not exceed, 2 700 first-time undergraduate students enrolling. Univen was built for 5 000 students but at times 10 600 were registered. The infrastructure, already low on maintenance, was no longer able to support the load and academic activities.

Furthermore, the university must develop short and longer term cost cutting plans that will cover operating costs such as telephones and cellphones, newspapers, travel and subsistence as well as a review of systemic expenditures such as electricity, fuel and water.

All of this is being done to obtain clarity about the academic direction of the university, to heal the divisions arising from the leadership conflict of the past to ensure the smooth day-to-day operations and to put in place the necessary processes for recruiting a new vice-chancellor.

The profile of female staff at senior academic management has increased with two of the three executive deans being female.

University staff continued to engage in research by themselves, or in collaboration with colleagues elsewhere. Postgraduate students also engaged in commissioned research and in research activities funded by external research agencies.

The Minister of Education has directed that higher education institutions should produce annual reports. According to the format, annual reports should present a review and assessment of the activities of the institution during the preceding year. They should also include the audited financial statements, present some strategic statistics and highlights

of institutional life in areas like research and academic excellence.

The University of Venda is delighted about this development. It marks yet another aspect of developing accountability of our institution. It ensures that all the significant publics that the university engages with - staff and students, donors and the community it serves, parents and guardians of students, schools and prospective students - all have sufficient and reliable information to make informed decisions about the university.

The intention is to enhance accountability and transparency. This principle is critical for good governance and to engender trustworthy and responsible relations among all the sectors of the institution. The university is delighted to be part of this exercise.

Finally, the report is a valuable public relations and marketing tool. It provides prospective students and donors with information to evaluate and make

informed decisions on study possibilities and resource allocation. We believe that we stand to benefit from this exercise.

This work does not come without the hard work of staff in the institution. Council is delighted that after many years, the audited accounts have no qualifications.

Graduates' output is rising and our research output is continuously improving. The university is also beginning to increase its research profile by registering more postgraduate research students. Our international linkages are complementing our strategic direction.

The term of office of the previous council expired on 27 November 2005 and a new council was constituted.

Despite the upheavals of the year, the mood and tone of Univen is good.

***Dr Jim Leatt, Acting Vice-Chancellor and Principal***





# Report of the senate on teaching and research

***"The year 2005 showed a strong upward trend of graduates which indicates that the university is capable of successfully educating students from diverse backgrounds."***



The senate is responsible for the academic enterprise of the university, including research development and management and examinations. It undertakes this through its committees, such as the Boards of Schools, the Academic Planning Committee, the Research and Publications Committee, the Quality Assurance Board and the Executive Committee of Senate.

On 31 December 2005 the senate consisted of 109 members of whom 39 were professors. The senate draws its members from council, the vice-chancellor and the deputy vice-chancellors, the executive and deputy deans, the executive directors and directors of academic centres,

heads of academic departments, professors, senior lecturers, lecturers, resource people, observers and student representatives, in accordance with a proportion determined by the statutes.

## Curriculum matters

The university has adopted problem orientated, project designed curriculum offerings. Students, assisted by their instructors, identify problems in society and develop solutions. The curriculum accentuates the integration of theory and practice. The philosophy is to empower the students with the requisite skills to face present day as well as future challenges.



In 2005 the emphasis was on buttressing and consolidating the current academic programmes and on ensuring careful planning with regard to the envisaged new academic programmes. Once more, focus was on the programmes in the science and applied sciences in pursuit of the strategic direction of the institution.

The role of the Centre for Youth Studies, the Centre for Gender Studies, the Centre for Entrepreneurial Studies and the Centre for African Studies as vehicles for interdisciplinary studies was enhanced.

In the review year focus was again placed on the recruitment of postgraduate students. Senate strengthened the work study programme that enables postgraduate students to do work related to their areas of study, thereby affording them an opportunity to integrate theory with practice. They in turn had part or all of their fees covered by the programme, depending on the extent of their involvement and commitment.

## Qualification and programme mix for 2002 - 2006

In 2005 the university continued to review the response of the ministry to the qualification and programme mix submission, identified problem areas and pointed these out to the Department of Education. The senate submitted the qualifications and programmes to the Department of Education for its approval and for registration and accreditation.





## Research development

Although the university, by comparison still lacks advanced technology and adequate resources, its research output has been steadily improving. Some research projects and articles have been published in accredited journals. Apart from this there are budding authors who have begun co-authoring and publishing.

The university is actively enhancing quality participation at conferences with even junior staff members eager and confident participants at conferences, workshops and seminars.

Univen also has partnerships with the local communities as it regularly initiates and conducts research projects and has formed partnerships with international universities and organisations.

In 2005 senate operated very well. It was geared towards fulfilling the challenge to become a comprehensive university by aligning its programmes to career-focused courses.

## Quality assurance

The establishment of the Directorate of Quality Assurance Programmes allowed the university to give focused attention to the promotion and monitoring of quality. Quality assurance and promotion is a requirement that will remain with all higher education institutions. Because of the new mandate and the pending higher education quality council audits, it will remain critical in Univen's operations in the next five years. The quality assurance programmes at the university passed the four main phases of planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

The programme's primary objective is to engage quality assurance and promotion to raise the standards of academic and administrative performance in line with national and international standards. Quality assurance strategies are implemented at all levels and strategies developed to prepare the university for the higher education quality committee and other audits. Added to these are the improvement of monitoring and evaluation systems, promotion of national and international benchmarking and the development and implementation of performance

management systems, employment contracts and rewards and penalties systems.

## Enrolment and qualifications

A total of 10 712 students enrolled for the 2005 academic year. Of these 5 390 were male and 5 322 were female. The racial composition was 10 694 black, 12 white, 5 Indian and 1 coloured.

The year 2005 showed a strong upward trend of graduates which indicates that the university is capable of successfully educating students from diverse backgrounds.

A total of 1 646 students graduated in 2005.





# Overview of faculties and schools

Tuition at the university is provided via three faculties – Natural and Applied Sciences, Health, Agriculture and Rural Development and Humanities, Management Sciences and Law – comprising of eight schools.

## Faculty of Natural and Applied Sciences

The faculty operates three schools – the School of Environmental Sciences, the School of Mathematics and Natural Sciences and the School of Postgraduate and Integrated Studies.

### School of Environmental Sciences

The school provides solutions to address the widespread environmental problems within the region. These include declining productivity of agricultural land, soil erosion, declining biodiversity, encroachment into marginal and sensitive environments and the impact of mining activities.

Furthermore, it helps to alleviate poverty and other socio-economic woes within the region through the dissemination of knowledge and skills on sustainable resource allocation, development and management.

Currently the school offers a range of pre and postgraduate qualifications in the departments of Ecology and Resource Management, Geography and Geo-Information Sciences, Hydrology and Water Resources, Mining and Environmental Geology and Urban and Regional Planning.

It also serves as an environmental advisory and assessment unit for income generation as well as providing community services. The geo information service resource centre for analysis and map production is part of the school and offers a certificate course in this operational sphere.

In the review year the school had a total of 1 371 undergraduate and 40 postgraduate students. It offered block teaching in the diploma programmes for mining and postmining rehabilitation to

24 students and for natural resource management to 12 students.

It developed environmental science training to access the natural resource potential and the vulnerability of the natural environment. It also developed strategies to harmonise the resource demand and resource potential. Furthermore, it assessed the impact of the development process and strategies to ease the environmental impact and ensure sustainable environmental quality.

The school undertook no less than 24 research and community projects in the year under review. These varied from investigations of the types and levels of metal ions in the Siloam mudflow, to biodiversity conservation problems in the Nzhelele Nature Reserve, to an assessment of the sustainability of vegetation resource use in the area.

Other research projects included rainwater harvesting to meet domestic and agricultural water demand in the Siloam village, extreme rainfall events in the Vhembe district and the sustainability of groundwater supplies through accelerated re-charge in the Mukula and Tshaulu villages.

Womens' economic development strategies in the Limpopo Province were developed. Evaluations of rural small, micro and medium enterprises, local economic development and the land tenure systems in the Vhembe district were also undertaken.

Furthermore, the school contributed to the preparation of town planning schemes for the Thulamela Municipality.

Publications and papers by members of the school included studies of tract and platinum group metals in Thohoyandou, flood risks on human settlements and







agriculture along the Luvuvhu River basin and mechanisms of propagation of the rift in Southern Ethiopia.

The school continued its collaborations and linkages with the likes of the European Union, the School of Geosciences at the University of the Witwatersrand, Environmentek at the Council for Science and Industrial Research, AngloPlatinum, the Water Research Commission and UNESCO.

During the review year the German Academic Exchange Service awarded bursaries to five masters degree students, the Lesedi Trust Fund offered bursaries to three students and the Mellon Foundation Fellowship supported the project to model the consequences of elephant damage to the vegetation in the Kruger National Park.

### **School of Mathematics and Natural Sciences**

The Department of Biological Sciences contributes to the social upliftment of the local community and biological conservation of the area through its expertise in appropriate fields of Biotechnology, Conservation Biology, Ethnobiology and Limnology by training biological sciences graduates and technologists. Producing competent and committed professionals in the

biological field enhances undergraduate and postgraduate training and national and international linkages.

As part of a quality assurance and promotion exercise the department reviewed all its modules during the year under review.

Research projects partly funded by the National Research Foundation included learning techniques employed in root collection of spiders in habitats in the Soutpansberg and Blouberg.

Linkages were made with the natural resources division of the Paul Smith College in New York, USA for a joint research programme on sediment coring and analysis of sediments of Lake Fundudzi.

Other projects included ecological reserve determination in the Letaba River, funded by the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry, and determining the sustainability of some indigenous medicinal plants traded in the Venda region.

During the review year the department undertook community projects like teaching Biology, Mathematics and Physical Science to learners of the Denga, Thwalima and Vhaluvhu Secondary Schools, coaching at the Vuwani Science Centre, surveying the tree diversity on the Bergvliet farm

and determining fish mortalities and system overloading in Makhado.

Contract research of more than R73 000 was undertaken into the biological control of the Lantana intruder plant for Work for Water and the monitoring of the efficiency of the Xikundu and Rabali fishways for Pulles, Howard and de Lange – part of a national research programme for fishway design in South Africa.

No less than 27 publications, reports and conference papers were produced in the year under review. These included reports on the further screening of Venda medicinal plants for activity against HIV, spiders in avocado orchards in the Mpumalanga lowveld, monitoring and managing the ecological state of rivers in the Crocodile Marico water management area and the development of criteria for the design of South African rivers and estuaries.

The department was represented at national and international conferences like the International Botanical Congress in Austria, the Methods in Population Ecology course at the University of Bergen in Norway, the 33rd Annual Biocontrol of Weeds Workshop at Rhodes University, the Photosynthesis workshop at the University of the Free State and the Limpopo Tourism and Wildlife forum in Polokwane.

The Department of Chemistry provides in the chemical training needs of the community by promoting scholarships at all levels, teaching formal courses and rendering community, consultancy and research services fundamental to the solution of environmental, human or chemical problems.

More than 1 700 students were enrolled in the department during the year under review and the pass rate increased by more than 14 % to over 74% compared to the previous year.

Research activities included collaboration in water quality programmes and natural products research, while in the postgraduate programme, two MSc students met the requirements for the degree and graduated.



The department's Professor Van Ree is a member of the chemistry division committee of the SA Akademie vir Wetenskap en Kuns and a member of the editorial board of the SA Tydskrif vir Natuurwetenskap en Tegnologie. He was also appointed to the international advisory board of the 8th International Symposium on Biotechnology, Metal Complexes and Catalysis, to be held in Haikou, China, in November, 2006.

The department was represented at national and international conferences and seminars, like the 15th International Symposium on Fine Chemicals and Functional Polymers in Shanghai in China and the Congress for Plant and Soil at the North West University.

In respect of community outreach programmes, the department was involved in the expo for young scientists, the national rivers health programme, science students' outreach, teachers upgrade courses and at the Vuwani Science Resource Centre.

At the Department of Mathematics the pass rate increased substantially to nearly 70 percent, compared to the previous year. The programmes were reviewed to conform to present trends and these are expected to be applied in the 2007 academic year.

Research projects in the fields of combinatorics, numerical analysis, computational fluid dynamics, graph theory, financial mathematics and mathematics education were undertaken in the year under review. Conference presentations included a paper delivered at World Heritage Fraser Island, Queensland in Australia on opportunities for success in mathematics.

In respect of community service, staff members taught grade 12 learners at the Lwamondo Secondary School and Vuwani Science Centre.

During the review year student enrolment with the Department of Microbiology increased by more than 7% to over 770 students, compared to the previous year. Postgraduate registration consisted of nine honours,

three masters and three PhD students.

To effectively manage teaching in the department, course coordinators monitored the progress of lectures and practical classes in each module and gave progress reports during departmental meetings. Teaching was evaluated using self-evaluation and student evaluation forms and test and examination questions moderated by internal and external assessors.

The department was involved in research projects like genetic diversity and the drug resistance of HIV, anti-HIV replenishing properties of medicinal plants, sexually transmitted diseases, microbial quality of water sources and viral prevalence.

It maintained its research and student training collaboration linkages with national and international institutions like the University of Limpopo and the AIDS virus research unit of the National Institute for Communicable Diseases in Johannesburg. The same goes for the Center for Global Health and the Myles H. Thaler Center for AIDS and Human Retrovirus Research at the University of Virginia in the USA, the CSIR in Stellenbosch and Pretoria and the University of Johannesburg.

In the year under review the department received research grants from the National Research Foundation, the Water Research Commission, the International Society for Infectious Diseases in the USA, the Department of Science and Technology's Biopad section and the World Health Organization.

A total of 35 research papers, conference presentations and technical reports were produced. These included papers on the characterisation of human immunodeficiency virus type 1 from a previously unexplored region of South Africa with a high HIV prevalence, infections in the tropics, bacterial contamination of mukapu - a local weaning food, and stored drinking water in impoverished households in the Venda region and ethnopharmacology and HIV.

Other titles included the cost and energy

of water collection, the risks of child dysentery and non-bloody diarrhoea in rural South Africa and Zimbabwe and the evaluation of intervention strategies to improve the microbiological quality of stored drinking water in rural communities in South Africa.

As regards community outreach programmes, the department was involved in research activities on infectious diseases and the microbial quality of water sources in rural communities.

## **School of Postgraduate and Integrated Studies**

The school coordinates and supports all postgraduate programmes. It also implements interdisciplinary teaching, research and community outreach through the Es'kia Mphahlele Institute of African Studies, the Institute for Gender Studies, the Institute for Youth Studies, the Institute for Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Poverty Eradication and the Centre for Indigenous Knowledge Systems. A total of 120 students were registered for various postgraduate study disciplines during the year under review.

A flagship project undertaken in the review year was on community development and mobilisation in Southern Africa. The project was funded by the Development Bank of Southern Africa and the Kellogg Foundation to the tune of R836 000. It involved both research and documentation activities, including a community mobilisation booklet and the evaluation of projects in Zimbabwe and KwaZulu-Natal.

Research activities included a survey and the development of materials for microfinance institutions in collaboration with Grameen Bank in India and the International Network for Alternative Finance in Africa. Another project was the spearheading of community development workers programmes for the Foundation South Africa project. The Ford Foundation sponsored a lecturer to attend a two-week international training course in microfinance in



Italy. The training focused on global issues in microfinance and strategies to tackle them.

Community outreach programmes included assistance to 11 business-women from the Vhembe district to attend a business workshop organised by the Department of Trade and Industry. A total of 45 participants attended a bookkeeping training course.

The Es'kia Mphahlele Institute for African Studies organised various events like the national conference on the social dimensions of NEPAD and the youth and elderly dialogue workshop on cultural matters.

The Institute for Youth Studies, through the R836 000 sponsorship from The Kellogg Foundation and the Development Bank of Southern Africa, was mostly involved with the financial resource mobilisation project.

The Institute for Gender Studies undertook research projects on topics like poverty in female-headed households, integrating gender into the curriculum and mothers and paid work.

Conferences and workshops attended included the Freedom Park Trust workshop to assess collaboration

with the trust and the Men's Summit Conference where men and gender transformation was debated.

## **Faculty of Health, Agriculture and Rural Development**

The faculty manages two schools – the School of Agriculture, Rural Development and Forestry and the School of Health Sciences.

### **School of Agriculture, Rural Development and Forestry**

The school provides professional training and appropriate knowledge and skills to under and postgraduate students to meet the needs of government, the private sector and the farming community.

The school's nine academic departments are Animal Science, Agricultural and Rural Engineering, Agricultural Economics and Extension, Family Ecology and Consumer Sciences, Food Science and Technology, Forestry, Horticultural Sciences, Plant Production and Soil Science. It also operates a Centre for Rural Development.

In the year under review the number of students totalled 403, including 49 postgraduates, 14% more than in the previous year.

Four new career programmes - certificates in catering, clothing production and forestry and a diploma in forestry - were developed.

Some 60 research projects were undertaken in the year under review. These ranged from the evaluation of agricultural by-products and their nutritional values, to the effect of limited time feeding during the starter and grower periods on the growth performance of broiler chickens, to household food security and women's economic development strategies in the Limpopo Province, to a baseline study on the Communal Land Rights Act.

In respect of community outreach programmes, the school was involved in projects like the training of local agricultural technicians on soil fertility management strategies, collaboration with the Hans Merensky Foundation on economic, technical and scientific support, emerging commercial mango growers in the Venda region, the development of community-based approaches for water catchment areas and a rural development programme for women in the Gingirukani area.

During the financial year the school continued to establish and foster linkages and collaboration with international, national and regional institutions, industry, government departments, nongovernmental organisations, local communities and private sector organisations to ensure that the curriculum reflects the regional and international needs, issues and concerns.

Staff from the school's various departments published no less than 17 journals, chapters in books and proceedings from workshops and conferences. These included a paper on the dietary replacement of soyabean oil cake meal with macadamia oil cake and its effect on broiler performance and a paper on the effect of management and feeding





regimes on carcass quality between indigenous and exotic pigs, delivered at the 4th All African Conference on Animal Agriculture in Tanzania. Others were on the productivity and income generating ability of land redistribution for agricultural development projects in Limpopo, delivered at the Agricultural Economics Association of South Africa conference and an article on the water use of maize crops in response to planting density and irrigation in the South African Journal of Plant and Soil.

## School of Health Sciences

The school's Department of Advanced Nursing Science was chosen as a pilot site for the Netherlands Funding Organization's project to enhance teaching methodology, incorporating principles of problem based learning.

Funding from SANPAD assisted with research for the doctoral studies of a lecturer. The department was represented at the Quality Health Conference in Vancouver, Canada, the International Qualitative Research Conference in Utrecht in the Netherlands, the International Council of Nurses Congress in Taiwan and the Research Collaborative Network in Nigeria.

In the review year the school's Centre for Biokinetics, Recreation and Sport Science presented a public lecture on 'Biokinetics, the evolution of the health profession - from physical education, condemnation to admiration' as well as a sports symposium on 'Hosting the 2010 World Cup - the impact on the lives of ordinary people in the Limpopo Province', addressed by Danny Jordaan, Chief Executive Officer of the 2010 Local Organising Committee.

The centre was represented at the 1st International Conference on Sport Science at the University of Botswana, the 6th Biennial Conference of the Africa Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, Sport and Dance at the Kenyatta University in Nairobi, Kenya and the 2nd Magglingen Conference on Sport and Development at Magglingen in Switzerland.



The Department of Nutrition was represented at the World Yes forum in Kenya, while representatives of the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich, Switzerland and the South African Medical Research Council agreed to collaborate in research projects.

The school's Department of Psychology attended an international conference in Minnesota in the USA, while the Department of Public Health presented 'The Vhavenda girls initiation' to the South African Parliament in Cape Town and attended an international conference on Mapping African Sexualities.

## Faculty of Humanities, Management Sciences and Law

The faculty operates three schools – the School of Human and Social Sciences, the School of Management Sciences and the School of Law.

### School of Human and Social Sciences

In its endeavour to meet the demands of the job market the school complies with the dictates of the university's new national mandate, as well as to comply with national imperatives, the school

revised its programmes and offerings to ensure its continued relevance.

In the year under review it provided tuition to the departments of English, Music, the MER Mathivha Centre, Teacher Education, Communication and Applied Languages, Development Studies, Social Work and the Institute of Maths and Science Education.

The school designed new programmes for a BA in Development Studies, Advanced Certificates in Educational Management, Education in Life Orientation, Education in Arts and Culture and a BA in Media Studies.

No less than ten members of the school undertook research and publication projects in the review year. These varied from research into the community and the individual in Western and African thought, articles on a millennium of trading in Africa and why folklore studies are almost a nonexistent discipline.

Other publications included a multilingual natural science and technology dictionary for grades 4 to 6 in English, Afrikaans, Tshivenda and Xitsonga and a multilingual glossary of commercial terminology in English, Afrikaans, Xitsonga, Sepedi and Tshivenda.

The school was involved in community outreach projects and research





## School of Management Sciences

The school's Professor Gyekye presented a paper on a strategy for achieving the millennium development goals in South Africa by 2015 at the World Federation of the United Nations Associations Conference in September 2005 in Stellenbosch.

Third year Accounting and Auditing student Percy Ravhudzulo was awarded the prestigious Abe Bailey Travel bursary to tour the United Kingdom.

A number of organisations made presentations to Accounting and Auditing students in 2005. Among these were Deloitte, the Public Accountants and Auditors Board, the Department of the Auditor General and the South African Institute of Chartered Accountants.

The school attended a number of seminars like the tax minimisation for property investors seminar, the seminar on how emerging companies can list on the JSE and the update on international financial reporting standards seminar.

The Department of Human Resource Management and Labour Relations organised a workshop on occupational health and safety, attracting 21 trainers from various organisations, including the Limpopo premier's office and the Kutama Sinthumule Prison.

In the review year the Department of Hospitality Management was involved in tourist guide training at the Welgevonden private game reserve in the Waterberg region of Limpopo. The training included elementary skills training and development for cooks, chefs and housekeepers.

The Oliver Tambo Institute of Governance and Policy Studies participated in the training of Vhembe District Municipality officials and councillors in the areas of finance, communication, strategic planning and leadership.

activities like the indigenous music and oral history project. The project was again funded by the national Department of Arts and Culture to the value of R 1,3 million. Furthermore, inservice training for arts and culture teachers and the training of district officials and artists in schools were funded to the tune of R1 million. The Nelson Mandela Children's Fund commissioned a study on the needs of vulnerable children in the Malamulele area.

Staff members of the MER Mathivha Centre were involved in the weekly Phalaphala FM Radio programme 'Riguda Tshivenda', in the weekly book review programme for Phalaphala FM Radio and were volunteer resident terminology developers for Munghana Lonene FM Radio and the Xitsonga national lexicography unit.

The Department of Teacher Education runs Saturday and winter schools for matric learners and presents upgrading

programmes for underqualified teachers in the province.

The anthropology and archaeology section of the Department of Social Work met with the University of Virginia in the United States of America to promote further cooperation of the existing Savannah consortium, while a cultural resources management plan for the Dzata Heritage Reserve was developed. This will ensure proper conservation of the natural, cultural and intangible heritage and enable proper planning and monitoring of tourism activities.

Academic staff members attended national and international conferences and presented papers and lectures at, among others, the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan, Poland, the Institute for African and Oriental Studies at the Humboldt University in Berlin, Germany and at the Association of South African Social Work Education Institutions Conference.



## School of Law

The school educates and trains students to acquire legal and paralegal knowledge as well as professional skills to promote and protect the constitutional enterprise of an engineering and democratic society.

Student enrolment continued to increase and 1 154 students were registered for various programmes and qualifications during the year under review.

Altogether five undergraduate and postgraduate qualifications were offered - Baccalaureus Artium (Juris Criminalis), Baccalaureus Artium (Legum), Baccalaureus Legum Undergraduate, Baccalaureus Artium Honoribus (Juris Criminalis) and Magister Legum.

The school comprises of six academic departments - Public and International Law, Criminal Justice, Criminal, Adjectival and Clinical Legal Studies, Jurisprudence, History of Law and Comparative Law, Mercantile Law and Private Law.

Besides these academic departments, the school also houses two community outfits that complement its academic departments. These are the Ismail Mahomed Centre for Human and People's Rights and the Legal Aid Clinic.

The Department of Mercantile Law attended the annual Banking Law Update seminar, knowledge of which is essential for the school's teaching mandate. It also attended the millennium development goals country stakeholder engagement workshop and presented its assessment of Lesotho's 2002 elections at the gender and elections workshop.

In the year under review final year law students attended sessions at the High Court in Thohoyandou, including briefings by the National Prosecuting Authority. They also received practical training in skills pertaining to consulting, drafting of court processes and research.

The Univen Law Clinic renders legal representation on civil and criminal matters to needy clients, free of charge.



During the reporting year 212 new civil and 68 new criminal matters were handled of which 77 and 67 were finalised respectively.

Students studying Street Law made presentations at the Miluwani village at Sibasa, the Tshakhuma village, the Lwamondo High School and the Matatshe and Makhado prisons.

The clinic received funding of nearly R504 000 from, among others, the AULAI Trust, the Attorneys Fidelity Fund, the Limpopo Access to Justice Super cluster and Oxfam Australia.

During the reporting year the clinic entered into partnerships with the Centre for Positive Care and the Victim Empowerment Unit. These two local nongovernmental organisations have a well-structured referral system that refers clients to the clinic for free legal representation.

The Ismail Mahomed Centre for Human and Peoples' Rights participated in no less than seven congresses and seminars during the year under review. These included the Congress of the Society of Law Teachers of Southern Africa, the South African Human Rights Commission's briefing session on the right of access to information and the Thetha Forum's World Summit on the Information Society. It also participated in celebrations on Human Rights Day.

Two students participated in the 14th African Human Rights Moot Court Competition held at the Johannesburg University. The team came 27th out of 49 teams – a huge improvement on the previous year.



# Support services

## Centre for Student Counselling, Social and Academic Development

With a donation of R15 000 ABSA became a sound partner of the centre, enhancing peer helper training in particular.

The Univen Disabled Student Unit assisted 121 students with different impairments.

Student counselling, rendered by registered psychologists and counsellors, involved a wide range of services to promote mental health, social, academic and emotional growth of students. Nearly 450 clients received counselling and therapy while various courses were presented in the year under review.

The courses included foundation programmes whereby some 380 first-year students were assisted and 23 senior students registered for the study skills course.

The HIV/AIDS peer education course was again presented and 25 students attended the stress management course aimed at alleviating stress associated with exams. The job search skills course – a short course to prepare students for employment – was popular once again. It includes writing of a winning CV, a covering letter and interviewing skills.

The centre entered into various partnerships. In terms of an agreement with the Vhembe Further Education and Training College the centre provided mentorship to life skills facilitators. The centre offered internship supervision to B Psych fourth-year students for the university's Psychology Department.

The centre took a lead with nominations for the Mandela Rhodes Foundation scholarships with eight students taking part in the competition and two being nominated.

In total 104 students received career

counselling, 57 students underwent psychometric testing, 127 students received financial aid, 123 students were assisted with various job search skills and 20 students were counselled for various learning problems.

In respect of community outreach programmes, career guidance presentations were made at the Frans Rasimphi Secondary School.

The Liberty Life and Standard Bank graduate recruitment programmes were successful with more than 330 students involved.

More than 220 students were also involved with the Magnet Communications graduate survey on career development. The global survey among final year students determines their perceptions of future employers, their ideal companies and what they associate the companies with. The results are then made available to universities to better understand the goals and expectations of students and improve career guidance services.

The centre attended the South African Graduate Recruiter's Association seminar in Johannesburg with the goal to meet with various employers. It also attended the NASDEV Women in Leadership Conference in Cape Town. As Univen is one of the member organisations affiliated with the South African National Council for the Blind, the centre attended its 37th Biennial Conference in Gauteng.

## Student Affairs

Student activities are funded from the Students Representative Assembly (SRA) budget, under the direct control of Student Affairs.

The department held a student conference to examine issues that are relevant to students like the challenges and successes of institutions of higher



learning, sports and recreation and student health and welfare.

A professional company, Mfana ka Ndlovu Consulting, conducted the SRA elections, and the election results were declared procedurally and substantively free and fair. A SRA cabinet was formed which aligned its programmes and policies with the mission and vision of the university. The level of student representation improved substantially because of the adopted broad-based parliamentary model that enabled the majority to express their views in a parliamentary forum.

Residences were made available to secondary school learners and church organisations during recess. Funds generated were used for maintenance.

## Tshivenda Language Research and Development Centre

In promoting Tshivenda, the centre lectured, taught, researched and published in various spheres.

Projects included the Department of Arts and Culture funded project on Tshivenda authors and their titles, participation in the radio programme 'Ri guda Tshivenda' on Phalaphala FM that teaches the community about the Tshivenda language and culture and compiling books on poetry, folktales and short stories.

In the review year the centre attended the PANSALB literature workshop to consolidate rules and criteria for the screening and prescription of books in Limpopo. It also attended the workshop for boards of directors of the Tshivenda National Lexicography Unit and forged links with the Herberts-Abo University Academy.



## Sports and Recreation

The department provides, promotes, develops and coordinates sports and recreation programmes on and outside the campus, including community outreach programmes.

In the year under review the National Lottery donated nearly R1 million to the university to upgrade sports facilities.

The existing sports facilities were refurbished, while the grant allowed for the initial construction work of the swimming pool and the groundwork for a multi purposed grassed surface sports facility, including a softball and cricket pitch and most of the repairs to the tennis courts. The refurbishment of the soccer field was completed, including a security fence for improved crowd management.

As there is no public swimming pool or any cricket facilities within a 70 km radius of the university, local schools as well as organisations like the South African National Defence Force and the South African Police Services make use of the university's facilities.



Students participated in several sports codes at both the South African Student Sport Union (SASSU) and the Disabled Sports South Africa (DISA) tournaments.

At the SASSU games Univen entered teams for the soccer, netball, volley ball, table tennis, tennis, softball, karate and dance items, with Emmanuel Dzhivhuwo winning the chess championships. Matodzi Maduvha and Khorommbi Nkhangweleni were chosen for the SASSU World Student Games soccer team that participated in Izmir, Turkey.

The disabled sports team participated in goal ball, wheelchair basketball, soccer and athletics and participated at the South African Disabled Championships in Bloemfontein. George Lefading represented South Africa at the International Wheel Chair Tennis Tournament in Europe.

Students also took part in several outreach programmes at various communities, including several friendly games and one-day regional tournaments.

The department held several meetings with the rugby and cricket federations where, among others, sports development and the role that they can play in the acquisition of facilities and equipment, were debated.

## Library Services

The circulation of library resources increased by four percent with searches run on full text databases almost doubling during the period under review. On the other hand, the use of bibliographic databases declined at almost the same rate.

The number of books circulated totalled more than 103 000 with the biggest circulation – over 94 300 or 91% - among undergraduate students.

A total of 1 780 books were ordered in the year under review.

The number of workstations to access the library's electronic information resources were increased by 25,



significantly improving student access to electronic resources.

To correct problems with the migration of the library's information technology system, three professional librarians were contracted to clear the cataloguing backlog.

In the year under review the university switched from transactional copyright to blanked copyright licensing which is more cost efficient.

A new, more user-friendly webbased server and faster PC's for staff that use INNOPAC were installed. It also enabled the university to benefit from the mutual support the system offers GAELIC members.

## Resource Management and Planning

During the year under review, the Department of Resource Management and Planning managed a diverse staff contingent of highly qualified and competent people comprising of 250 academics, 256 administrative and 196 service staff members. The staff contingent consisted of people within and beyond the borders of South Africa.

The technical division completed phase two of the Vuwani Science Research Centre at a cost of R1 500 000, consisting of a lecture hall, an internal display section, a workshop, kitchen and ablution facilities. It also completed facilities for the Univen Foundation programmes and the Tshivenda Language Research and Development Centre at a cost of R28 million. This consisted of two lecture halls, two laboratories, two consulting rooms, 12 offices and a seminar room.





During the review year the staff training and development unit conducted a variety of training programmes to 76 staff members at a cost of more than R185 000. This included assessor training, skills enhancement and the improvement of academic and professional qualifications.

## Information Technology Services

To increase the speed and reliability of the Department of Information Technology Services' network, a redundant backbone fiber optic cable was replaced during the year under review. The installation reduced the amount of network downtime and increased the availability of network resources to the entire university community. Over 200 network points were installed to meet the cabling requirements in new offices and student laboratories, while the central switch was upgraded to increase communications to the central servers to 1 000mbps.

As an upgrade solution to the webbased information technology system (ITS) server, an application and database server were acquired. This will meet the constantly changing technology and growing user demands. The project involved replacing 96% of the ITS users' PC's with higher specification models.

Two Fortigates firewalls were installed which offer real-time protection against external threats to both the staff and the student network.

The virus server was replaced and the Symantec antivirus software upgraded. This system continually keeps all computers current with critical antivirus

updates for protection against viruses and malicious activities.

The Dell Foundation donated 200 computers and an old student residence was converted to a computer laboratory to house these computers. This facility is used as a 24/7 walk-in student computer centre.

The department provided experiential training to four students, from the university's own student cadre as well as from the Durban Institute of Technology and the Tshwane University of Technology. They underwent training in the network support and information management areas.

Two staff members attended a European Commission and International Telecommunications Union funded course, 'How to design and set up an e-secure webbased service' in New Delhi, India. Univen participants represented South Africa as one of seven developing countries.

## Public Relations and Development

The department involved more than 21 000 learners in over 360 schools in its career exhibition, winter school projects and recruitment activities in the year under review. Of these, the career exhibition staged in partnership with the Department of Education in the Vhembe district was the most comprehensive with more than 20 institutions participating. Secondary schools in the districts of Thohoyandou, Malamulele, Mutale, Vuwani, Soutpansberg, Hlanganani and Sekgosese were involved.

On the other hand, the department participated in more than 20 career exhibitions, ranging from the Rand Show and the SABC Career Show staged at NASREC to various exhibitions throughout the province. These ranged from exhibitions at the University of North West in Mafikeng, the Central University of Technology in Bloemfontein, the Tshwane University of Technology in Soshanguve and in Polokwane, Elukwatini, Giyani, Sekhukhune, Nelspruit, Nkomazi and Vryheid.

Various secondary schools visited the university. These included the Phiripiri, Freddy Sithole, Mokope and the Kufakweze Secondary Schools.





In the review year community outreach programmes involved institutions like the New Covenant Church in Tshivhulani, the Harry Oppenheimer Agricultural School, the St Joseph Community Centre in Muromani and the Lwandani Secondary School at the Ben Lavin Nature Reserve.

The department was also responsible for organising various other activities like the official opening of the academic year, the orientation programme and the two graduation ceremonies. During the September graduation honorary doctorates were conferred to Judge President Bernard Ngoepe and Joel Netshitenzhe, then Government spokesperson. Other activities included the conference on NEPAD's social dimensions, the official opening of the Vuwani Science Centre by the Minister of Science and Technology Mosibudi Mangena, the visit of Zimbabwe's Minister of Higher Education Dr Stan Mudenge and Youth Day and Arbour Day celebrations.

Univen Radio, on 99.8 MHZ, broadcasts direct from the university's campus in Thohoyandou, boast more than 165 000 listeners and broadcasts in four languages – Tshivenda, Xitsonga, English and Sepedi.

In the year under review the station upgraded its computer system with the



installation of recording software for advertisements in the offering.

A partnership with Mirror, a local community newspaper, will ensure the station's participation in more roadshows, a licensing prerequisite of the Independent Communications Authority of South Africa for community radio stations. The possibility of publishing a youth newspaper is being investigated. Currently regular roadshows are presented at the Tusk Venda Casino Hotel, generating about R 2 000 per month.

Outreach programmes in cooperation with Coca-Cola and Love Life have been finalised which will create a platform for youth expression.

## Art gallery and cultural centre

The National Lottery donated R6 million to the university for an art gallery, cultural centre and music bursaries.

More than R1 million went towards 60 full-time music bursaries. In total 26 bursaries were granted in 2005 with 34 allocated for 2006. The remaining R5 million will be used to establish an art gallery and cultural centre. The aim of the centre is to develop, preserve, promote and encourage public awareness of the artworks and artefacts of the Vhavenda, Bapedi and Tsonga cultures.

A permanent collection of artworks will be established and maintained and will be professionally catalogued. The centre will also offer artistic and cultural education to encourage public awareness and ignite interest and knowledge of the arts and culture of the region.

The art gallery will offer services like guided tours, workshops about the permanent collection and host cultural activities like traditional dances and training workshops for artists. Organising commercial exhibitions will entail the selling of art, crafts, mementos and memorabilia for artists at a commissioned fee. The art gallery and cultural centre is expected to be operational by 2007.







## Quality Assurance and Promotion

Univen fully subscribes to this and issues of quality assurance and promotion continue with the directorate undertaking relevant projects.

In the review year the South African Quality Institute (SAQI) focused on the verification of process maps of different sections and schools of the university, the installation of an electronic quality management system for information technology and an evaluation of the level of compliance with the International Standards Organisation's and the Council on Higher Education's quality requirements.

To enhance the awareness of quality assurance tools and requirements among academics, a four-month project to introduce and supply such tools was designed.

To ensure that students are aware of quality assurance procedures, processes, tools and principles and also have access to information on quality assurance practices and systems, a workshop on quality literacy was organised for the Students Representative Assembly.

Staff attended various workshops which included the Quality Promotion and Capacity Development in South Africa's Higher Education workshop, the Monitoring and Improving Teaching and Learning and the Implementation and Evaluation of Quality Systems ISO 9001:2000 workshops.

## Research and Development

External funding boosted research and development at the university during the review year.

Funding was received from, among others, the National Research Foundation, the Medical Research Council, the South African Sugar Association, the Development Bank of Southern Africa, the Landbank, the Agricultural Research Council, the National Lottery, the Nelson Mandela Foundation and various departments of the Limpopo Province. Other donors were the Local Economic Development Agency, the Limpopo Economic

Development Enterprise, the United Nations Children's Fund, the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research, Indigenous Knowledge Systems, the International Foundation for Science, Pulles and Howard, the National Lottery Development Trust Fund, the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research and the Netherlands Organisation for International Cooperation in Higher Education.

Whilst fourteen people attended various international conferences, three postgraduate students attended an international youth conference in Kenya. A total of 55 articles were published in accredited journals of the Department of Education.





# Annual financial review

for the year ended 31 December 2005

## Report of the independent auditors

We have audited the annual financial statements of the University of Venda for the year ended 31 December 2005. These financial statements are the responsibility of the university's council. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with statements of international standards on auditing. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements fairly present, in all material respects, the financial position of the University of Venda at 31 December 2005 and the results of its operations and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with South African Statements of Generally Accepted Accounting Practice and in the manner required by the Minister of Education in terms of section 41 of the Higher Education Act, 1997 (Act No. 101 of 1997), as amended.

CH van der Walt

KPMG Inc

Chartered Accountants (SA)

Registered Accountants and Auditors

Polokwane



# Annual financial statements

## Balance Sheet for the year ended 31 December 2005

	2005 R ' 000	2005 R ' 000	2004 R ' 000	2004 R ' 000
<b>Assets</b>		<b>407,779</b>		<b>207,652</b>
Non-current assets		372,125		176,757
Property, plant and equipment	330,986		142,321	
Non-current investments	40,316		33,117	
Other non-current receivables	823		1,319	
<b>Current assets</b>		35,654		30,895
Inventories	1,002		626	
Accounts receivable	16,333		14,329	
Students for fees	15,003		14,018	
Other amounts	1,330		311	
Deposits	152		152	
Cash and cash equivalents	18,167		15,788	
<b>Equity and liabilities</b>		<b>407,779</b>		<b>207,652</b>
<b>Funds utilised / available</b>		272,749		74,769
Property, plant and equipment	256,548		76,914	
Restricted use funds	7,888		3,441	
Unrestricted use funds - education and general	8,313		(5,586)	
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>		95,303		79,549
Borrowings - Interest bearing	77,261		63,635	
Employee benefits	18,042		15,914	
<b>Current liabilities</b>		39,727		53,334
Accounts payable	32,389		49,097	
Current portion of borrowings	7,338		4,237	
Short term borrowing - bank overdraft	-		-	



# Annual financial statements

## Income statement for the year ended 31 December 2005

	2005				2004
	Council Controlled Unrestricted	Specifically funded activities Restricted	Sub-total	Student and staff accommodation Restricted	Total
	R ' 000	R ' 000	R ' 000	R ' 000	R ' 000
<b>Total income</b>	251,271	14,889	266,160	8,858	275,018
<b>Recurrent items</b>	251,271	14,889	266,160	8,858	275,018
State appropriations - Subsidies and grants	140,136	-	140,136	-	140,136
Tuition and other fee income	95,113	653	95,766	8,858	104,624
Income from contracts					
For research	-	11,950	11,950	-	11,950
For other activities	-	399	399	-	399
Sales of goods and services	6,927	-	6,927	-	6,927
Private gifts and grants	379	1,523	1,902	-	1,902
<b>Sub-total</b>	242,555	14,525	257,080	8,858	265,938
Interest and dividends	1,677	204	1,881	-	1,881
Fair value adjustments on financial instruments	7,039	160	7,199	-	7,199
<b>Non-recurrent items</b>	-	-	-	-	-
Profit on disposal of property, plant and equipment	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total expenditure</b>	239,172	14,528	253,700	2,972	256,672
<b>Recurrent items</b>	239,172	14,528	253,700	2,972	256,672
Personnel	135,726	5,116	140,842	2,535	143,377
Academic professional	76,746	5,116	81,862	-	81,862
Other personnel	62,345	-	62,345	2,535	64,880
PAYE Accrual	(11,873)	-	(11,873)	-	(11,873)
Leave pay expenditure	8,508	-	8,508	-	8,508
Other current operating expenses	66,448	9,412	75,860	437	76,297
Overpayment of subsidies	21,152	-	21,152	-	21,152
Depreciation provision	6,647	-	6,647	-	6,647
<b>Sub-total</b>	94,247	9,412	103,659	437	104,096
Finance costs	9,199	-	9,199	-	9,199
<b>Net Surplus/ Deficit before transfers</b>	12,099	361	12,460	5,886	18,346
Amounts received not expended	-	(4,447)	(4,447)	-	(4,447)
<b>Net surplus/(deficit)</b>	12,099	(4,086)	8,013	5,886	13,899



# Annual financial statements

## Statement of changes in funds for the year ended 31 December 2005

		Balance as at 31 December 2004	Profit/(Loss) for the year	Transfer from Asset Fund	Foundation movement	Balance as at 31 December 2005
<b>Accumulated fund</b>						
<b>Unrestricted Use</b>	<b>R ' 000</b>	(5,696)	13,899	-	-	7,930
<b>Research Contents</b>						
<b>Unrestricted Use</b>	<b>R ' 000</b>	340	-	-	-	340
<b>Student Bursary Fund</b>						
<b>Unrestricted Use</b>	<b>R ' 000</b>	43	-	-	-	43
<b>Sub-total A</b>	<b>R ' 000</b>	(5,586)	13,899	-	-	8,313
<b>Foundation</b>						
<b>Restricted Use</b>	<b>R ' 000</b>	3,262	-	-	-	3,262
<b>Student Bursary Fund</b>						
<b>Restricted Use</b>	<b>R ' 000</b>	39	-	-	-	39
<b>Research Fund</b>						
<b>Restricted Use</b>	<b>R ' 000</b>	140	4,447	-	-	4,587
<b>Sub- total B</b>	<b>R ' 000</b>	3,441	4,447	-	-	7,888
<b>Replacement Fund</b>	<b>R ' 000</b>	4,091	-	-	-	4,091
<b>Fixed asset revaluation</b>	<b>R ' 000</b>	-	-	179,634	-	179,634
<b>Fixed Asset Fund PPE</b>	<b>R ' 000</b>	72,823	-	-	-	72,823
<b>Total C</b>	<b>R ' 000</b>	74,769	18,346	179,634	-	272,749



# Key features of the financial results

- The positive development about the year under review is a significant operating profit of R13,899 million which is an increase from an operating loss of R7,439 million in 2004. This represents an increase of 187% from the previous year's situation, which can particularly be attributed to the reversal in PAYE accruals and as well as a decrease in finance costs.
- The recurrent income has increased by 15,11% from R239 million in 2004 to R275 million. The increase can be attributed to state subsidies, grants and tuition fees.
- The introduction of AC 133 requires disclosure of fair value of financial instruments. As a result the two investments held with SAGE realised additional value of R7,2 million to R26,2 million.
- The overall expenditure for council controlled recurrent expenditure has increased by 4,2%, with the provision for the Department of Education subsidy overpayment underpinning the increase.
- Financial support of R50,1 million was provided to financially needy and academically deserving students as opposed to R35 million in 2004. The increase in support can be attributed to the increased National Students Financial Aid Scheme amounting to R38,3 million in 2005 which is a more than 100% increase from the 2004 allocation.
- A recorded improvement in the university's net cash position from R15,8 million to R18,2 million, after investing a further R15,7 million in fixed assets, is an indication that cash management has continued to be our priority after some difficult situations in the past.

## Operating results

- Total borrowings increased to R84,599 million in 2005 from R67,872 million in 2004 mainly due to an overclaimed subsidy from the Department of Education.
- Overall current liabilities decreased by 25,5% from R53,3 to R39,7, with the significant change being the provision for leave pay and trade accounts.
- A provision for doubtful debts of R0,937 million was made in 2005, compared to R1,78 million in 2004.
- In complying with international accounting standards relating to property, plant and equipment, a revaluation surplus of R179,634 million was realised thereby strengthening the balance sheet by more than 100%.

The financial management activities are focused on supporting the key strategic thrusts identified by the university's leadership and endorsed by council, while ensuring appropriate levels of controls and discipline in the various financial processes. To this end, the university's Finance, Budget and Investment Committee will continue its focus on these key issues:

- Identifying effective strategies and maintain some existing control measures that appropriately respond to and mitigate the incidence and impact of major risks,
- Considering the cost of controls relative to the benefits obtained in managing the related risks.
- Building awareness among the university community of the importance and relevance of effective financial management, via broad involvement in the budgeting process, the provision of effective management information and ensuring proper reporting of results.
- Developing and formulating investment policies that will:
  - reflect an appropriate risk-return profile as well as needs for liquidity and income generation
  - determine the proportion of the total investment fund allocated to risky as opposed to safe assets (cash equivalents or simply cash), which is the most fundamental means of controlling investment risk.
- Enabling the university to deal with the impact of currency weakness on costs that are denominated in stronger currencies, including library materials and the ability of our staff to remain abreast of international trends through conference attendance
- Creating the capacity for proper planned renewal and maintenance of campus facilities, and, in particular, the ongoing development of the academic and residence infrastructure.
- Enhancing the university's ability to attract and retain the quality of staff needed to improve the teaching and research capability and to provide a suitable infrastructure.
- Considering giving responsibility and accountability for strategies and control activities and required improvements.
- Instituting internal controls systems that preserve confidentiality, integrity and accessibility of university information.
- Strengthening the Internal Debt Collection Unit to effectively and efficiently recover optimum student debts within a reasonable time.

The results for the year were made possible by council's adoption of rigorous budget control and the support this received from management and the broader university community. This is the fifth subsequent unqualified annual report in the university's history. While these results are pleasing and encouraging, the need to build a sustainable balance between income and expenditure still exists and academics are always encouraged to attract funds from external sources.





## **University of Venda**

Private Bag X5050  
Thohoyandou 0950  
Limpopo Province of South Africa

Tel: (015) 962 8000

Fax: (015) 962 4749

[www.univen.ac.za](http://www.univen.ac.za)



# Annual financial statements

## Cash flow statement for the year ended 31 December 2005

	2005 R ' 000	2004 R ' 000
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>		
Cash retained from operations	8,152	40,013
Investment income less cost of finance		
Finance income	1,881	1,345
Finance cost	(9,199)	(13,115)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Net cash flow from operating activities</b>	834	28,243
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>		
Acquisition of property plant and equipment	(15,679)	(7,009)
Proceeds on disposals of property plant and equipment		109
Disposal of non-current investments	-	-
Decrease in non-current receivables	497	757
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Net cash flow from investing activities</b>	(15,182)	(6,143)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>		
Increase in long term liabilities	16,727	(1,534)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Net cash flow from financing activities</b>	16,727	(1,534)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Increase / (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents</b>	2,379	20,566
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year</b>	15,788	(4,778)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of year</b>	18,167	15,788
	<hr/>	<hr/>