

# ALUMNI GEMS

**Our living legacy** 



ISSUF 14

## THE NEW CONVOCATION EXECUTIVE TAKES THE BATON



Convocation Executive from left: Sandile Dlamini, Njabulo Cele(back), Thokozani Hadebe, Sandile Mbonambi(back), Thembela Makhoba, Smanga Mathonsi(back), Londiwe Mahlaba and Njabulo Ntshangase

Today, we celebrate a new chapter as a dynamic group of leaders steps into the role of Convex, ready to champion the spirit of MUT. Every great institution has its custodians -those who uphold its values, carry its legacy forward, and ensure its name shines ever brighter.

At the helm of torchbearers stands Mr Sandile Dlamini, our newly-elected President; alongside him, Mr Thokozani Hadebe assumes the role of Deputy President. We believe both will bring innovation and forward-thinking leadership to the table.

Representing Convocation on the University Council are Mr. Sandile Mbonambi and Mr. Njabulo Cele, both seasoned professionals who will advocate for the continued growth and excellence of MUT.

The additional Convex members, Mr Njabulo Nshangase, Mr Smanga Mathonsi and Ms Londiwe Mahlaba, from a dynamo of expertise, each bringing unique perspectives and unwavering commitment to MUT's development. Lastly, Mr.Thembela Makhoba, elected by Convex, will

serve as the Treasurer, bringing financial oversight and forge meaningful partnerships,

This newly elected team is entrusted with an incredible responsibility to be ambassadors of MUT and custodians of its reputation.

They will create opportunities for the upliftment of the alumni community, and uphold the prestige of MUT's qualifications. As the new Convex takes the reins, they do so with one key message: this journey is not theirs alone. Every alumnus is a torchbearer of MUT's legacy.

To the newly elected Convex, we salute you. To our alumni, we invite you to stay connected and engaged. Together, let us elevate MUT to new heights. The journey continues, and the best is yet to come!

## CELEBRATING THE ALUMNI LEGACY OF GIVING



In the grand scheme of MUT's legacy, there are those whose impact shines beyond the walls of academia. They are the mentors, the changemakers, the silent architects of hope. Ms Sithembile Nkosi, a distinguished staff alumnus and academic in the Department of Nature Conservation, is one such beacon.

A woman of unwavering determination, Ms. Nkosi holds a Masters in Nature Conservation (Cum Laude) and is currently pursuing her PhD. She lives by the powerful adage: "The greatest challenge there is, is to live. Race, colour, disability, age, and obstacles - all that does not matter." True to her words, she has dedicated herself to uplifting students, not just through teaching, but by stepping in when it matters most.

For one student, the challenge was not just academic but deeply personal - living with a disability and struggling without proper glasses. Without them, participating in lectures and practicals became a battle, yet the cost of a new pair was beyond reach. Ms. Nkosi stepped in, quietly purchasing the glasses, and ensuring that this student could focus on what truly mattered, namely, pursuing an education at MUT.



# The greatest challenge there is, is to live. Race, colour, disability, age, and obstacles - all that does not matter.

But Ms Nkosi's generosity is not a one-time act; it is a way of life. Since 2019, she has been a steadfast donor to the MUT Alumni Fund, contributing R100 every month. Her unwavering commitment to giving back serves as a powerful reminder that consistent giving, no matter the amount, builds the foundation for students' dreams to become reality.

As part of our appreciation initiative, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to Ms Nkosi for embodying the true spirit of giving. Her kindness and dedication continue to inspire and uplift the MUT community.

Ms Nkosi, thank you for being a lighthouse to those navigating the turbulent waters of higher education. Thank you for proving that giving is not just an act, but a legacy. Your kindness is etched into the future of MUT, and for that, we celebrate you.

And to all our alumni, we send a reminder: Every act of giving, no matter how small, creates ripples of change. Join us in building a future where no student is left behind through #MUTualGain #100Million&Change initiative.



## **KUDOS TO STAFF ALUMNI WHO** ARE BUILDING MUT'S LEGACY

Behind every great institution are the silent champions who give not for recognition, but for impact. Ms Virginia Machili Mojabeng a dedicated administrative professional and proud staff alumnus in the Marketing Department, is one such gem. Since 2019, she has been contributing R50 every month to the MUT Alumni Fund, proving that generosity is not measured in numbers, but in the heart behind the giving.

Virginia, your unwavering support is a testament to the power of collective giving. Because of alumni like you, students can step a little closer to success. Your kindness extends beyond what the eye can see, and for that, we thank you!



Virginia Machili Mojabeng



**Philile Precious Ngcobo** 

Likewise we recognise Philile Precious Ngcobo from the Financial Aid Office, who, from 2019 to 2023, has also been quietly contributing R50 each month to the MUT Alumni Fund. Phili, being located in Bursaries must surely be a factor for you, as you see the enormity of student need daily. Your continued dedication to supporting our students is truly appreciated.

In a world where every small act of kindness matters, Mrs Zama Hlubi from Cooperative Education offers unwavering support through her monthly contribution of R100 to the Student Trust Fund. This is more than just a donation: it is a lifeline, a promise, and a future secured.

Because of those like Zama, students who once faced the daunting shadow of exclusion due to financial constraints can now walk confidently toward their goals, focusing on their studies without worry. Zama's words say it all: "Sponsoring students promotes academic excellence by allowing students to focus on their studies without financial worries. Donating towards student funds is my way of giving back to our community and is also my social responsibility".



Zama Hlubi

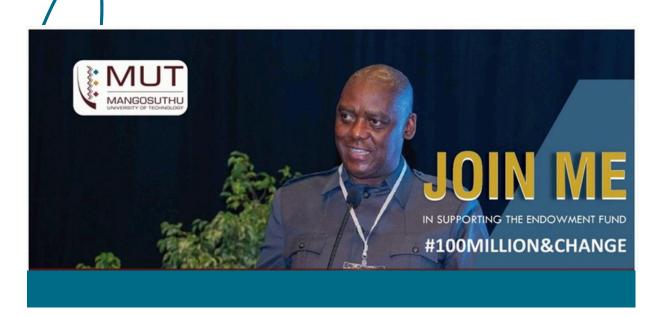
Thank you too for believing in the power of education and for standing as a pillar of support for those in need. The impact of your monthly gift is immeasurable. You are not just giving; you are transforming lives, one student at a time.





Networking events Alumni Mentorships **Guest Speaking** Career development workshops/Masterclasses Social gatherings (e.g., Reunions, virtual happy hours)





Mlamuli Buthelezi, a proud MUT graduate, is turning vision into action with a groundbreaking pledge to support the founding of the MUT Endowment Fund, a first in the university's history.

A seasoned executive leader with a track record of success across multiple organizations, Mlamuli has never lost sight of where it all began.

Despite his professional achievements, his connection to his alma mater remains unshaken, and his commitment to MUT's advancement has been unwavering.

Mlamuli pledged R50 000, and this he says, is just the beginning, In laying the cornerstone of MUT's first-ever endowment

fund, he calling on all fellow alumni to match his contribution and raise an additional R50 000, ensuring that the proceeds of the investment would assist that underprivileged yet high-achieving students never have to choose between academic success and financial hardship

This is a legacy that will continue the vision of MUT's founding father, Prince Mangosuthu Buthelezi. Alumni, will you join Mlamuli? By doing so, you become part of something historic, something that will define the future of our beloved institution!

Let's hear it for those who want to one day be honoured on our Alumni Wall of Fame!



## **Upcoming events**



- 1. Miles for #MutualGain Hike May 2025
- 2. Impact Empowerment Seminar April 2025
- 3. Alumni Reunion July 2025

## Be our next Featured Alumni!



Share your life updates with us at: alumni@mut.ac.za/ 031 907 7510



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