



University of Fort Hare
Together in Excellence

Institutional Advancement

This Week

@FORT HARE Vol 1, issue 6



Congratulations to the Reigning

Ms & Mr Fort Hare 2019



Tandile Mangaliso
MS FORT HARE 2019



Lungisa Mbelekwan
MR FORT HARE 2019

“Nokholeji needs you”

– DR JONGI KLAAS

Members of the University of Fort Hare's Gauteng Province (UFH GP) Alumni Support Organ, under the leadership of Dr Jongi Klaas, remain resolute in their mandate to support their alma mater. Driven by their motto: **“We never went to school just to make a living, we went to school to make a difference”**, the Organ has already identified the following five priority areas for funding:

- Scholarships
- IT Equipment to improve academic performance
- Programmes to support university students
- Possibility of establishing a fund for students in distress and;
- To strengthen the university's Alumni office.

Launched in September the support organ consist of 24 influential and esteemed luminaries such as **Adv Dumisa Ntsebeza, Adv Thandi Orleyn, Prof Barney Pityana, Dr Sizwe Nxasana and Dr. Sisa Ngebulana**

Speaking to *This Week @Fort Hare*, Dr Jongi Klaas said the purpose of the organ is to pursue three pillars: **Mobilization; Networking and Fund Raising.**



Dr Jongi Klaas

“We believe we are at a time in our history where we need to do our best within our means to provide support to our alma mater.” According to Dr Klaas, the luminaries viewed themselves as the bees that must go out and get honey for the university.

The ultimate goal is to replicate similar support organs in other provinces across the country and wake up all those sleeping giants and say to them: Nokholeji needs you, what can you offer?”

So far, six scholarships have been secured. One from **Mr Siphon Pityana** to sponsor a PhD Agriculture Student and **Dr Sisa Ngebulana** has funded five scholarships for undergraduate students in various disciplines. “That is the kind of honey I am talking about.”

Dr Klaas spoke fondly about his alma mater as he reminisced about his time at Fort Hare between 1993 and 1996. **“We love Fort Hare. There is something mystical about the university. We want Fort Hare to rise and have a very strong alumni community not only to provide funding, but an alumni community that is present and active.”**

Last week, on 10th October, a delegation from the university including the Administrator, Prof Loyiso Nongxa, Vice-Chancellor Prof Sakhela Buhlungu, the Director of Institutional Advancement, Tandi Mapukata and the newly appointed Fort Hare Foundation Development Director, Nokulunga Mngqeta and the Alumni Relations Officer, Noluvuko Makohliso met with the esteemed luminaries in Johannesburg.

The meeting was to identify the needs of the university and craft a progressive plan of action based on those needs. It is safe to say we can all anticipate great things to come.

Other support organ members include:

Ambassador Sandile Nogxina, Ms Nolitha Fakude, Dr Simphiwe Madikizela, Adv Mkhabela Sibeko, Mr Ayanda Mjekula, Mr Silumko Sokupa, Ms Busi Ngwenya, Judge Justice Moloto, Mr Siphon Pityana, Dr Khotso Mokhele, Dr Percy Mahlathi, Dr Sazi Kunene, Commissioner Tembinkosi Bonakele, Prof Nombeko Mpako, Mr JJ Njeke, Mr Mhleli Sibanyoni, Adv Mzukisi Mgxashe, Ms Nompumelelo Stamper and Adv Nomazotsho Memani.

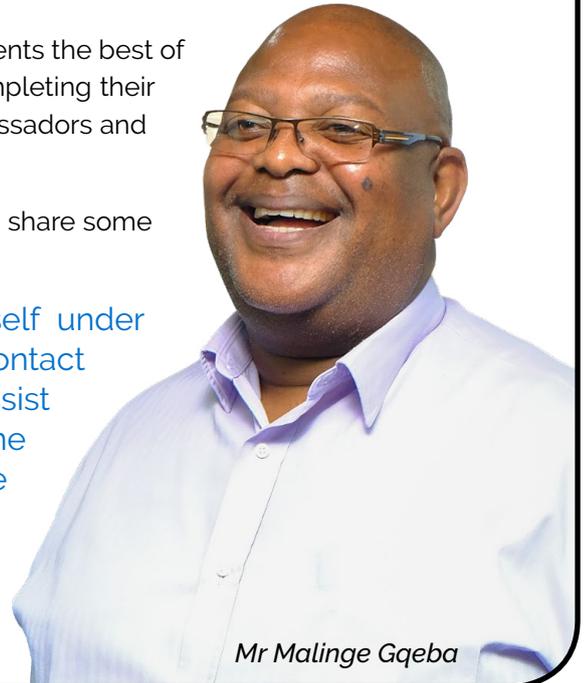
MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN OF STUDENTS

"The office of the Dean of Students would like to wish all our students the best of luck with the upcoming exams. We hope that those who are completing their studies will join the work industry and become worthy UFH ambassadors and leaders in society".

Mr Malinge Gqeba, Dean of Students also took the opportunity to share some study tips and remind students of available support services.

"Use the study week wisely. Should you find yourself under pressure during this period please do not hesitate to contact the Student Affairs Department to access services to assist with study skills and mental preparations. We welcome all calls for assistance from students, day and night. We aim to assist students to pass their exams" he said.

The study week has been set aside for the week of 21st -25th October and examinations will commence on 28th October.



Mr Malinge Gqeba

RESEARCH FOCUS

PREMIER MABUYANE HOSTS RESEARCH DIALOGUE



Hon Oscar Mabuyane

On Tuesday 15th October 2019, UFH alumnus and Eastern Cape Premier, Hon Oscar Mabuyane, hosted a **'Research and Evaluation Dialogue'** with all four EC based universities (UFH, WSU, NMU and RU) at Osner Hotel, East London.

The dialogue served as a policy platform for senior researchers from all four EC universities to present research reports of studies commissioned by the EC Office of the Premier early this year.

The University of Fort Hare was represented by two senior researchers, Prof Philani Moyo - Director of the Fort Hare Institute of Social and Economic Research (FHISER) and his team, as well as Dr Namhla Sotuku, Director: Early Childhood Development (ECD). They presented research reports; viz:

Prof Philani Moyo: *An evaluation of the Eastern Cape Agricultural Economic Transformation Strategy*
and **Dr Namhla Sotuku:** *Early Childhood Development.*



Prof Philani Moyo

UFH RESEARCHERS FOCUS ON COUNTRY'S MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS

Two passionate researchers have featured prominently in *This Week @Fort Hare* since its launch a month ago. There's just no stopping Professor Willie Chinyamurindi and Professor Jabulani Kheswa. Their latest feat is a collaboration with authors from around the country in a special research issue which focuses on the country's mental health crisis.

Prof Willie acted as the guest editor and Prof Kheswa contributed to the special issue titled: *Mental Health Research in African Organisations: Advancing Theory and Practice*. The issue was published in the South African Journal of Industrial Psychology (SAJIP) on World Mental Health Day, 10 October.

According to Prof Willie, the project was borne out three necessities and experiences:

"Firstly, having personally experienced mental health challenges at key stages of my career, provided some resonance with the challenge before us".

"Secondly, as a researcher within the Industrial and Organisational Psychology stream, I am always inundated with requests from my participants for help concerning interventions geared towards addressing mental health issues, especially within the South African public service, upon which my research has been focused over the last 3 years."

"Thirdly, in 2018 I received funding for a self-initiated grant by the South African Medical Research Council to explore the issues of mental and physical health

issues within the South African public service. I thought, there's no better way to inform my current research than working through this funding opportunity by guest-editing a special issue"

The issue consists of seven articles linked to the proposed theme. These have been contributed by 10 authors from various SA universities who share their research on mental health - confined to the workplace. All articles can be accessed and downloaded from the SAJIP website.

Prof Kheswa's research focuses on, and illustrates the challenges around organisational resourcing and how this potentially contributes towards stress amongst health welfare professionals.

In his abstract, ascribes his motivation behind the article as the alarming number of social workers who show no compassion towards clients, due to burnout. His study results confirmed that social workers attributed their work-related stress to lack of resources.

Prof Willie says he believes these papers will ignite further research interest in an important topic that affects organisations. **"I am optimistic that this special issue will help us to make collaborations in addressing a universal challenge that affects all of us, whatever our locality."**

According to the SA government, an estimated 400 million people worldwide suffer from mental or neurological disorders or psychosocial problems.



Professor Willie Chinyamurindi



Professor Jabulani Kheswa

A LAW SCHOOL WITH A CONSCIENCE



Mr Actor Katurura

The Nelson R Mandela School of Law is not just about being technically competent in order to be comparable with the best. Ours is a law school with a conscience. These are the passionate words of Mr Actor Katurura, Deputy Dean and Senior Lecturer at the Faculty of Law, which is part of the Nelson R Mandela School of Law.

During an interview with *This Week @Fort Hare*, Mr Katurura shared the Nelson R Mandela School of Law's mission: "to produce law graduates that are not only technically competent but are also passionate about social justice and service to humanity. This is driven by our recognition of the importance of the social security net in a country where the three scourges of poverty, unemployment and inequality are very central and endemic - especially in the Eastern Cape".

"We are one of few law schools to include Social Security Law as a core module," he said

One of the projects that is aligned with the school's mission is the legal clinic that has been providing free legal services to indigent people since 1995. The clinic is based in East London and plans are afoot to convert the satellite office in Alice into a fully-fledged law clinic.

Mr Katurura, a proud recipient of the Vice-Chancellor Teaching Excellence Awards in 2010 and 2017, says his teaching philosophy is to humanize pedagogy to make a difference in society.

"In my practice, working with regular undergraduates and particularly when working with adult learners drawn from various municipalities in our local government capacity building programmes, I endeavour to work along the principles espoused by the University's Humanising Pedagogy paradigm and its charter of ethical principles and values."

The university's Law students have also proven to be compatible with their counterparts through moot competitions in the country, continent and the world. Every year the university sends a team of Law students that goes to the All African Human Rights Moot Court competition. One team went as far as the World Moot competition in Switzerland. This year the university was crowned the winners of the Kate O'Regan Interschool Moot Competition, for the second year running.

We have no doubt that our Law Graduates are comparable with the best and have the inclination to make a difference in society.

Mr Actor Katurura has a B. Juris, LLB and Postgraduate Diploma in Higher Education and Training (PGDHET) (cum laude) from the University of Fort Hare. He obtained his LLM - Environmental Law from the University of Natal (now UKZN). In 2016 he successfully completed the requirements of the Teaching Advancement at Universities (TAU) Fellowship.

PROSPECTS AND LIMITATIONS OF AQUACULTURE PRODUCTION IN THE EASTERN CAPE



Prof Niall Vine

On 14th October, the Department of Zoology and Entomology hosted a seminar where Professor Niall Vine gave a presentation titled: Aquaculture Potential in the Eastern Cape: *Prospects and Limitations*.

The presentation gave an explanation of what drives success and development of aquaculture in South Africa and the Eastern Cape.

"More than 90% of South African aquaculture production is dominated by shellfish such as mussels and oysters as well as trout and abalone", stated Prof Vine, Associate Professor in the Department of Zoology and Entomology.

South Africa produces 1682 tons of mussels, 1306 tons of abalone, while the freshwater sector is predominated by the production of trout. "These species are high value items, typically destined for white-tablecloth restaurants or, in the case of abalone, exported to China," he said.

The country's temperate climate, lack of suitable coastal sites and cultural preferences for alternative sources of protein have limited the growth of the finfish aquaculture sector. "There have been attempts at farming species such as tilapia and catfish for both food security and as commercial ventures. However, success has been scarce and variable"

In 2014, government launched Operation Phakisa: Unlocking the Ocean's Economy. This programme focuses on unlocking the economic potential of South Africa's oceans. According to Prof Vine: "While the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries has made headway into providing opportunities through the development of Aquaculture Development Zones, the response from potential investors has been slow."

Explaining the use of aquaponics and small-scale aquaculture for food security, Prof Vine said: "while small aquaponics systems can produce enough fish and vegetables for a family or supplement a school's needs, operating it no longer becomes economically viable at a large-scale."

He also suggested that in areas where there are large bodies of water suitable for fish, initiatives such as stock enhancement using mullet or Small Fisheries Species should be investigated as possible opportunities to improve food security in the Eastern Cape.



CORPORATE GIANT and UFH ALUMNUS NOLITHA FAKUDE SHARES HER JOURNEY IN A BOOK

Another UFH alumna has launched a book!

Nolitha Fakude, a corporate executive and business woman has captured her life experiences in the corporate industry in a memoir titled, *Boardroom Dancing*.

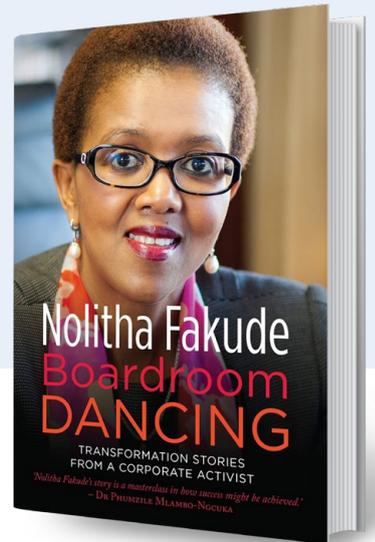
The memoir takes the reader through Ms Fakude's journey of a shopkeeper's daughter who has occupied very senior positions in the boardrooms of some major blue-chip companies including, Nedbank, Sasol and Anglo American.

Fakude, who is originally from the Eastern Cape, has spent her 29-year career focusing on the development of women and marginalised communities in the workplace and society. She has a BA(Hons) degree from the University of Fort Hare in 1989.

After graduating, she worked her way up from a Graduate Trainee at Woolworths to becoming one of the country's most influential business women as Group Director and Chairperson of Anglo American's Management Board – the largest mining company in South Africa. She assumed this role on 1st September 2019.

Among other senior roles, Fakude has previously served as Managing Director and later President of the Black Management Forum as well as Executive Director at Sasol for many years. Currently, she sits on numerous boards including the JSE Limited and Afrox Limited.

According to her publishers, Pan Macmillan, *Boardroom Dancing* is a personal journey, as well as a lesson for South Africans committed to the transformation of boardrooms and the economy.



In a note to her Publishers Ms Fakude states: "After being on this earth for more than five decades, surely I had earned the right to tell 'Our story' of corporate South Africa's transformation from my perspective, for My story is Our story."

According to Ms Fakude, her story is a tale of many shared experiences that so many who grew up in South Africa pre-1994 with affirmative action and post-1994 with employment equity, know very well.

"Against many odds, as black professionals in the 90s and black women professionals in particular, we had everything thrown at us to slow down our career trajectories. It took great tenacity but we thrived and excelled, not least because we knew that anything less would reinforce the negative stereotypes at play at the time."

Ms Fakude hopes her memoir will invoke the reader's urge to want to have a much more open and deeper discussion about how a shared future should look like.

In her review, Dr Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, Secretary-General of the United Nations and Executive Director of UN Women, said the memoir is "a masterclass in how success might be achieved."

KHUSTA JACK BOOK LAUNCH

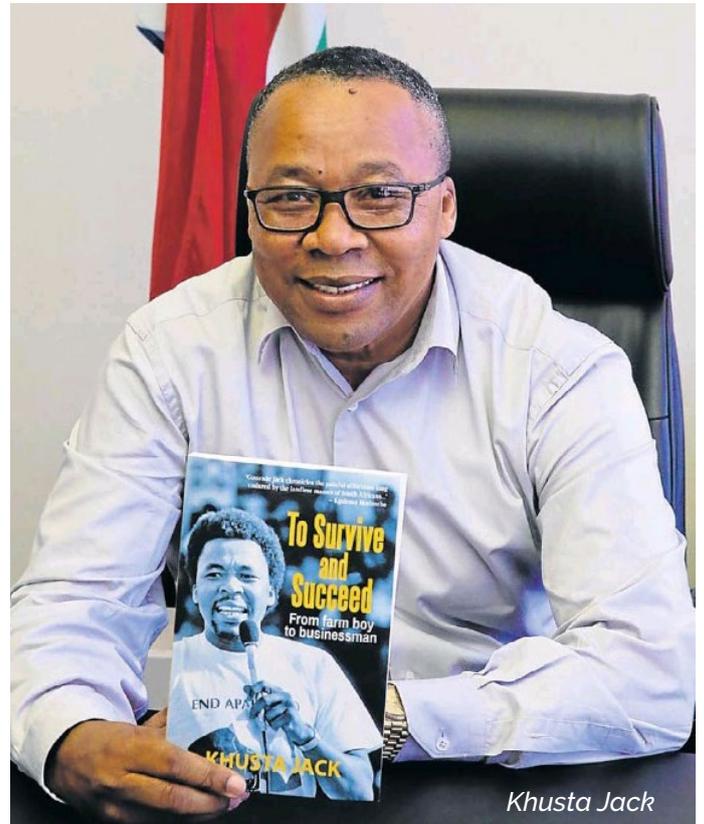
On 16th October Mkhuseleli Khusta Jack, a businessman and former political activist launched his book titled, *To Survive and Succeed* at the University of Fort Hare, Alice campus.

The book is an inspiring story of how he fought against all odds but never lost the desire to study.

Quoting from his book, "My future was thrown off-balance, in the face of my shock Mr Thonjeni was calm and consoled me with the words: you can always turn the tide, and he felt genuinely sorry for me and tried to be positive. My plans of being the first child in my community of Oyster Bay to walk ...at the University of Fort Hare... singing the anthem of Gaudeamus... was in tatters. I had even been imitating the students about how I would carry my books, and had dreams of being capped by the Vice Chancellor in my flowing academic gown. I now saw myself failing in those battered overalls and cow dunged gumboots. How embarrassing it was."

From a young age, Khusta had always wanted to study at the University of Fort Hare. No one in his family had progressed beyond high school education but he told himself he would study and achieve all his goals. Because of political circumstances he was arrested five times by police who told him he would never set foot at the University of Fort Hare. However, despite such setbacks, at the age of 35, Khusta enrolled for BA Hons – Economics degree at Sussex University.

He describes himself as a proud African who loves and has sacrificed a lot for his country. He encouraged students to read as much as they can about what they are passionate about. His motto is that "no one has a reason not to succeed. Anyone can achieve no matter what background they come from".



Khusta Jack



CENTRE FOR TRANSDISCIPLINARY STUDIES PREPARES TO LAUNCH POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMMES



Prof Joyce E. King

On Thursday 16th October, the Centre for Transdisciplinary Studies hosted its last monthly seminar for the year.

The seminar was presented by Professor Joyce E. King from the United States. As part of the on-going discussions on the conceptualization of the envisaged Masters and Doctorate degree in Transdisciplinary Studies, the centre invited people from the university and other institutions such as UNISA, Stellenbosch University, Rhodes University, etc.

Prof King, an outstanding scholar and Sociology of Education Professor at Georgia State University in Atlanta shared her knowledge on a topic titled: *Decoloniality, Afrocentricity and Black Studies in the Praxis of Curriculum Transformation*.

Transdisciplinary Studies Director, Dr Luvuyo Dondolo, said the Centre is in a process of conceptualising the MA/PhD Transdisciplinary Studies Programme to be implemented in 2021. "The broader theme of the envisaged programme is Spatial Planning, Inequality and Heritage Studies, with a range of sub themes."

During her week-long visit at the university, Prof King was involved in a number of activities including the Transdisciplinary Studies Forum, a Seminar and also launched her book titled, *Heritage Knowledge in the Curriculum*, that she co-authored with Ellen E. Swartz.

Prof Joyce E. King holds the Benjamin E. Mays Endowed Chair for Urban Teaching, Learning and Leadership at Georgia State University (GSU) in the Department of Educational Policy Studies. She holds affiliated faculty status in the Department of African American Studies, the Women's and Gender Studies Institute, the Partnership for Urban Health Research and the Urban Studies Institute. Prof King previously has served as Provost (Spelman College); Associate Provost, Medgar Evers College (City University of New York); Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Diversity Programs (University of New Orleans); Director of Teacher Education (Santa Clara University) and she was the founding Head of the Department of Ethnic Studies (Mills College).



Dr Luvuyo Dondolo

STUDENT ENTREPRENEURSHIP WEEK: AN EXPLOSIVE ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION FORUM

The 2019 Student Entrepreneurship Week was held between 30th September and 5th October on the Alice campus.

Themed *Entrepreneurship Is A Career*, the week-long lunchtime sessions were hosted by the Faculty of Management and Commerce, following a mandate by the Department of Higher Education and Training to universities to enhance student entrepreneurship across all faculties. Every year, universities are expected to hold a student entrepreneurship week where participants are given knowledge and skills on how to start a sustainable business.

The programme was coordinated by Dr Tendai Chimucheka, Senior Lecturer In Business Management and the sessions were open to all students and student clubs, including Enactus and FIFCO. Throughout the week a number of UFH staff gave presentations which equipped students with entrepreneurial skills.

Dr Ellen Rungani, Senior Lecturer and Head of Business Management Department was the Guest Speaker on days 2 and 5 of the programme. Speaking to *This Week @Fort Hare*, she said the purpose of the workshop was to give information and inspire those who aspire to own their businesses in future. "[Student Entrepreneurship Week prides itself as an alternative education forum where students and budding entrepreneurs can access actionable, experiential knowledge and tools for building sustainable businesses](#)", she said.

On the first day, Mr Simphiwe Soga, Eastern Cape Provincial Manager of Small Enterprise Development Agency (SEDA) gave an in-depth presentation about SEDA - an agency that supports entrepreneurship and small business development both at national and provincial level. He urged students to become entrepreneurial and pursue opportunities available in the province.



Dr Ellen Rungani

On one of the days, students were taught how to pitch a business plan to a potential investor within the shortest possible time - a concept known as an Elevator Business Pitch. They were given a minute each to present a business idea.

On the last day, student entrepreneurs on campus were invited to share their stories, highlighting successes and challenges. This was intended to serve as motivation to budding student entrepreneurs. Mr Thandikaya Matokazi, a former member of the Student Representative Council and now a professional photographer, shared his journey with participants. "[When you are serious and passionate about the business you want to build, it becomes easy to achieve and sustain your goals](#)", said Matokazi. He used his SRC stipend to buy a camera and other equipments which he needed to start his business. He advised students to ignore the noise and negative comments around them and focus on hard work and achieving their goals.

During her presentation, Dr Rungani encouraged students to hone their elevator pitch skills in preparation for the upcoming annual Entrepreneurship Development in Higher Education (EDHE) Interschool competition.



Mr Thandikaya Matokazi

UFH CAREER EXPO ATTRACTS OVER 500 LEARNERS



On Friday 11th October, the Centre for Transdisciplinary Studies hosted a successful career expo at the Alice campus.

Attended by approximately 500 grade 11 and 12 learners from various schools around Raymond Mhlaba District, the event created a platform for learners to access to information about the University of Fort Hare. In the main, the learners wanted information about the academic offerings, as well as minimum requirements for gaining access into programmes offered by the various faculties.

Excitement in the packed Sports Complex was palpable.

The programme began with a Spelling Bee completion, a singing completion and motivational talk by Ms Yolokazi Mfuto, a Youth Advisor. She encouraged learners to work on their goals and not to let their past

determine their future. She shared aspects about her challenging upbringing and how those did not deter her from focusing and achieving her goals.

The second session consisted of stalls where different faculties where faculty staff shared information and interacted with the learners. Prospective applicants gained valuable information about their areas of interest.

The students walked away with a better understanding and expectations of their potential study fields. A student from Jabavu High School expressed her appreciation for the exposure. **" I really enjoyed myself. I am clear about the minimum requirements for the programme I would like to pursue at Fort Hare. I trust this will be an annual event in order to benefit other learners who are interested in studying at the University of Fort Hare".**





UFH and NMU BRING CEIA TO EAST LONDON

On 16th - 17th October members of the Careers Exhibitions and Information Association (CEIA) – mostly Higher Education institutions, converged at the East London International Convention Centre for the association's 26th annual general meeting. The event was jointly hosted by the University of Fort Hare and Nelson Mandela University.

The UFH was represented by Student Recruitment Officer, Ms Nomi Kema who has been based in the Registrar's Office since August 2019. Previously the Student Recruitment programme operated from within the Institutional Advancement department's marketing unit.

Membership of CEIA includes all SA universities, TVET colleges, private Colleges, Education Departments nationally and provincially, as well the SADC region (Swaziland and Lesotho).

This *Week @Fort Hare* spoke to CEIA President Mr Takalani Nyelisani. According to him, "the CEIA plays an important and strategic role in enhancing coordinated efforts in higher education institutions with regards to student recruitment. The AGM is a time to reflect on the reasons for the existence of the association", he said.

The highlight of the engagement for UFH is that Nomi Kema elected as Deputy President of the Association.

We wish Nomi well for her tenure as Deputy President.



Upcoming Events

SANBS Blood Donation Drive

When: 21 October 2019

Time: 10am to 4pm

Venue: Health Care Centre, East London Campus
Marquee Outside Staff Centre, Alice Campus

Department of Industrial Psychology Public Lecture: “Impact of Industry 4.0 on Strategic Human Resource Management”

When: 22 October 2019

Time: 1pm to 2pm

Venue: Senate Chambers, Alice Campus

Indigenous Knowledge Workshop hosted by the Innovation Office

When: 31 October 2019

Time: 10am to 3:30pm

Venue: Senate Chambers, Alice Campus

FHISER Seminar: “Debating deagrarianisation in the Eastern Cape”

When: 4 November 2019

Time: 11am

Venue: Ground Floor Training Room, Collaborative Library



University of Fort Hare
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THIS WEEK @ FORT HARE

your weekly newsletter

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