

NEWS @ NUST

A newsletter of the National University of Science and Technology

January 2019



NUST and WFP join hands in the fight for poverty alleviation.



Vice-Chancellor Prof. Eng. Mqhele Dlodlo(right) exchanging MOU papers with WFP Country Director Mr. Eddie Rowe (left)

HE National University and Science Technology (Nust) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on research and food security with the World Food Programme (WFP) in a bid to lessen hunger and vulnerability in rural communities.

The Institute of Development Studies' (IDS-NUST) partnership with WFP will ensure that the university takes the lead in looking at ways that work to achieve its objective through identifying companies and universities that will foster joint resilience programming with a view to sustainably enhance the skills base of rural communities.

During the signing ceremony, the Nust Vice-Chancellor, Professor Eng. Mqhele Dlodlo, explained that the MoU would go a long way

in uplifting the living standards of people both in the urban and rural setups.

"This signing ceremony marks the beginning of a long road of a partnership between the WFP and Nust. Urban and rural vulnerability reduction can't be achieved without vibrant partnerships between institutions of higher learning and other developmental players such as WFP. It's on this basis that universities are challenged to be relevant and responsive to local and national development needs. Thus, universities have a significant role to play in community development by continuously being a site of knowledge production," said Prof Dlodlo.

He said the collaboration between Nust and WFP will strengthen the university's objective as a center of research based solutions. This would help to reduce deficiencies existing between academic and development organisations.

"Nust, through this partnership will conduct applied research on the 3- pronged approach (3PA) to confirm and strengthen programming underpinned by the Integrated Context Analysis (ICA), Seasonal Livelihood Programming (SLP) and Community Based Participatory Planning (CBPP) information.

"The process will also enable evaluation of the successes and weaknesses to reinforce hazard and vulnerable mapping. The university will also develop short courses on resilience building, risk reduction and institutional development," said Prof Dlodlo.

He added that in the partnership, Nust is expected to contribute to resilience building through initiatives that fortify Food for Asset (FFA) programming and enhance capacity building of extension personnel.

"Using IDS-Nust expertise and that of other departments within the broader Nust, FFA shall be evaluated to edify the mode of delivery and some of its key tenets to support household food access.

"IDS-Nust with the support of other relevant university departments shall further impart innovativeness and promote risk reduction strategies to lessen vulnerability in rural communities," said Prof Dlodlo.

This partnership will also unveil graduate candidates the opportunity to do research for their thesis on the current issues to build resilience among communities.

WFP representative and Country Director Mr Eddie Rowe said the partnership would go a long way in ensuring that the university takes the lead in looking at the analytical work needed to foster joint resilience programming.

He said in Zimbabwe, the 3PA methodology was successfully pioneered in 2012 with Government leadership and participation at all stages and levels.

"Districts like Matobo, Hwange, Binga, Tsholotsho, Kariba, Rushinga, Mbire, Mwenezi, Masvingo and Chiredzi have benefitted from the 3PA processes.

"It's important to note that this partnership is not just about working together, but to also empower all parties to do better," said Mr Rowe.

He said the partnership would ensure that WFP provides technical, programmatic design and operational support to Nust, to use the innovative tools, while also allowing Nust to conduct applied research on the tools and methodologies to strengthen programming.

The signing ceremony was attended by provincial leaders from Matabeleland region, officials from crops and livestock and social welfare departments as well as officials from Nust and WFP.



Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between NUST and WFP - In Pictures







Nust realigns academic calendar

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HE National University of Science and Technology (Nust) has realigned its academic calendar bringing forward its August intake to March.

In an interview yesterday, Nust's acting Communication and Marketing director, Mrs Lindiwe Nyoni, said the university changed its academic year as part of its restructuring exercise.

She said the shift in the academic year does not mean that Nust is introducing double semester as it is resource constrained to do so at the moment.

She said prospective students should start applying as soon as they have requisite qualifications for the March intake. "Nust is happy to announce to the students awaiting their Advanced Level results that we will be having a March intake beginning this year 2019. This is mainly a decision by the university to restructure the academic year to align it to a normal financial year among other issues," said Mrs Nyoni.

"Lectures will also commence earlier than it has been over the years. Previously students had to wait to begin their lectures in August and for some this was unfavourable. This is also a move in response to the concerns raised in the past by some prospective students."

Mrs Nyoni said only the Faculty of Medicine would resume its

lectures in August 2019.

She said Nust was also in the process of finalising accommodation and learning space for prospective students.

"Nust has identified places which will accommodate our students for the March intake. We are finalising with several institutions on building to rent in case we need extra lecturing space. The academic year is designed in such a way that our current students will complete their academic year probably at the end of April," said Mrs Nyoni.

She said the shift in academic year entails that the university will not be enrolling First Year students in August except for Faculty of Medicine students.

Mrs Nyoni said the university has lined up programmes to sensitise the public about changes in the academic year.

"The Nust Marketing team will be going out to the community to raise awareness on this development so that students are fully aware of this and are able to make informed decisions. The team will be assisting in the application process and thus offering a one-stop convenience for all the applicants," said Mrs Nyoni.

Source: Chronicle

Social media pages:



National University of Science and Technology



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Nust dispels fees hike rumours

HE National University of Science and Technology (Nust) has dispelled speculation that it wants to increase its fees by more than 100 percent.

This comes following a proposed fees structure that is circulating on social media alleging that the university intends to hike its fees.

Nust acting director of communication and marketing Mrs Lindiwe Nyoni yesterday disowned the proposed university's fee structure circulating on social media saying it had nothing to do with the institution.

She said the university has not increased its fees. "I've seen the proposed fees structure that is circulating on social media. The university has nothing to do with the proposed fees," said Mrs Nyoni.

"Even if we have an intention of increasing fees, we would first apply to the parent ministry which is expected to approve or disapprove the fees hike."

She urged the Nust community to seek the university's position through its official communication channels and avoid peddling misinformation through social media platforms.

However, a reliable source said a fees revision committee met recently to deliberate on fees increase.

"The committee resolved that the fees being paid by the students had been eroded by inflation. Therefore, the university should revise upwards the fees structure subject to approvalW by the Ministry," said the source.

In the proposed fees structure which the university disowned, the lowest paying undergraduate student would pay \$1 695 from \$465 while the highest paying student would pay \$1 815 from \$605 for conventional students.

The proposal also states that the least paying undergraduate student in parallel class should pay \$1 695 from \$565 while proposing \$2 250 for the highest paying student from \$750.

The new fees proposal document shows that the university intends to increase its levies while tuition remained unchanged.

The fees proposal document states that students who might be having difficulties adjusting to its new fees should be encouraged to apply for edu-loans.

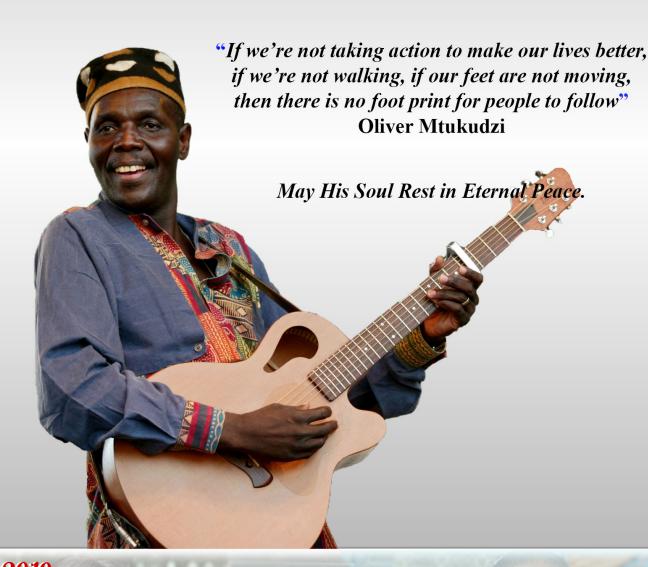
Higher and Tertiary Education, Science and Technology Development Minister Professor Amon Murwira recently said Government would not allow higher and tertiary institutions to increase fees without its approval.

Source: Chronicle



NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

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2019 March

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Late application close - 15 February 2019 #NUSTisAMust!

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