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Mangosuthu University of Technology Appoints Professor Nokuthula Sibiya as New Vice-Chancellor


Durban, 25 July 2024 – Mangosuthu University of Technology (MUT) is proud to announce the historic appointment of Professor Nokuthula Sibiya as the new Vice-Chancellor, the first woman to hold this esteemed position in the institution's 45-year history.

This groundbreaking appointment comes at a pivotal moment as MUT embarks on a new era of academic excellence, innovation, and community engagement. Professor Sibiya will officially resume her position as Vice-Chancellor on 1 August 2024, marking the beginning of an exciting new chapter for the university.

Since April 2022, MUT has been under the careful guidance of an Administrator, ensuring stability and continuity during a challenging period. The Administrator's role has been vital in maintaining the university's governance and academic standards, setting the stage for a seamless transition to Professor Sibiya's visionary leadership. Professor Sibiya, a distinguished daughter of Umlazi Township, brings a wealth of experience and a profound commitment to academic excellence. As a rated researcher and seasoned executive, her extensive academic and leadership background positions her perfectly to steer MUT towards greater heights. Her academic journey, marked by numerous accolades and leadership roles, showcases her dedication to advancing higher education and fostering an environment of growth and innovation.

MUT takes great pride in the fact that Professor Sibiya is a proud product of Umlazi, having been raised and educated in this vibrant community. Her deep roots in Umlazi underscore her understanding of the local context and her commitment to serving the community through her leadership at MUT.

MUT's 45th anniversary is a testament to its legacy of shaping future leaders and contributing significantly to South Africa's socio-economic development. For nearly



half a century, the university has been a beacon of hope, producing graduates equipped with the skills and knowledge to drive positive change in their communities and beyond.

Professor Sibiya's vision for MUT is centered around academic excellence, financial sustainability, and socio-economic development. She aims to enhance the university's research capabilities, promoting interdisciplinary collaborations and establishing cutting-edge research centers. Her strategic plan includes the introduction of globally competitive academic programs that align with industry needs, ensuring that MUT graduates are well-prepared for the future.

Financial sustainability is a cornerstone of Professor Sibiya's administration. She plans to diversify funding sources, optimize resource management, and forge strategic partnerships with industry and government. Her innovative approach to financial planning will ensure that MUT remains resilient and capable of achieving its long-term goals.

Community engagement is another key focus for Professor Sibiya. She is committed to strengthening MUT's ties with the local community through various outreach programs and initiatives. Her vision includes fostering a culture of innovation that encourages creativity and critical thinking among students and faculty alike. By enhancing MUT's global footprint through strategic partnerships and international collaborations, she aims to position the university as a leader in higher education on a global scale.

Reflecting on her appointment, Professor Sibiya stated, "I am deeply honored to lead Mangosuthu University of Technology as its new Vice-Chancellor. This appointment is a collective victory for all women who aspire to break barriers and lead with purpose. I am committed to building on MUT's proud legacy and working collaboratively with our faculty, staff, and students to drive excellence and innovation. Together, we will create a vibrant and inclusive university that empowers our students and contributes meaningfully to the development of our society."

Professor Sibiya's personal story is one of resilience, faith, and dedication. Her strong relationship with God and her unwavering commitment to her family have been sources of strength throughout her journey. Despite numerous challenges, she has consistently demonstrated an indomitable spirit and a relentless pursuit of excellence. Her leadership style is characterized by empathy, inclusivity, and a focus on empowering others. She believes in the transformative power of education and is dedicated to creating an environment where every student can thrive.

As MUT embraces this new chapter, the university community is filled with optimism and anticipation for the future. Professor Sibiya's leadership promises to bring transformative change, continuing MUT's tradition of excellence and its mission to

shape and own the future. Her strategic vision and personal dedication will undoubtedly leave a lasting impact on the university and the broader community it serves.

For media inquiries, please contact: Mbali Mkhize, Senior Director: Marketing & Communication mbali@mut.ac.za or Zama Sishi on 0640369249, zama@mut.ac.za

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