



NUST BRIEF

110 DAAD-funded scholarships and counting...

The German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) has funded more than a hundred Namibians to undergo postgraduate studies and research over the years. Two weeks ago, DAAD held an alumni meeting for all its beneficiaries from NUST, University of Namibia, and other local institutions.

Held under the theme 'Building Sustainable Networks, Tackling Social Responsibilities and Fostering Empowerment,' the meeting is a first step towards the establishment of a DAAD Alumni Association for Namibia. Hon. Dr Becky Ndjoze-Ojo, Deputy Minister of Higher Education, Training and Innovation said: "For Namibia, the DAAD offers many scholarship opportunities at postgraduate level and I commend them for their contribution to the body of knowledge in Namibia." She added that a strong DAAD Alumni network will foster capacity building and progress in all sectors, not just in Namibia but all over the world.

NUST currently has 34 memoranda of understanding with German universities, of which the DAAD has been instrumental in the establishment and funding of many partnerships and projects, such as the Namibian-German Centre for Logistics, one of NUST's centres of excellence.

"Our University has a long and rich history of quality partnerships with the German government. Furthermore, the collaboration with German universities and institutions are mainly in the areas of institutional capacity establishment and development, human capital development, joint curriculum development, research, as well as staff and student exchange," remarked Tjama Tjivikua, NUST



FRONT ROW, THIRD FROM LEFT: Barbara Liebel, DAAD Namibia Country Representative; Prof Andreas Dittmann, Justus-Liebig University: Partnership Coordinator; Hon. Dr Becky Ndjoze-Ojo, Deputy Minister: Higher Education, Training and Innovation; H.E Christian Schlaga, German Ambassador to Namibia; Cay Etzold, DAAD: Head of African Section, and Dr Marius Kudumo, Director: International Relations (NUST).

Vice-Chancellor (Pro Tem). H.E Christian Schlaga, German Ambassador to Namibia, highlighted that the DAAD was established to partner with various countries in efforts to encourage international

academic co-operation, and equip beneficiaries with the skills to contribute to the growth of the economy in their home countries. DAAD supports over 100 000 German and international students and

researchers around the globe each year, making it one of the world's largest funding organisations. Several of these students have also been hosted at NUST through exchange programmes.



Patrick Mushimba, IT General Manager: MTC (far left); Dr Anicia Peters, Dean: FCI (fourth from left); Heike Winschiers-Theophilus, Professor: Computer Science, and Project Supervisor (seventh from left); Joseph Mundjindi, Sponsorships and Promotions Manager: MTC (eighth from left), pictured with San youth.

San youth partake in tech project

Over the past year, the Faculty of Computing and Informatics (FCI) has been working with a group of San youth on a number of technological innovation projects. Mobile telecommunications giant MTC recently showed its support for the Tech Hub project through a donation of smartphones.

The Tech Hub is a project which engages urban and rural San in the production of tech-enhanced accessories, thus supporting the group's production capacity and entrepreneurial skills. An example of a tech-enhanced accessory is mood jewellery that utilises augmented reality. Under the supervision of Prof Heike Winschiers-Theophilus of FCI, Maria Kauhondamwa, a NUST Master's student in Computer Science, co-designed these accessories with members of the San community, namely, Helena Afrikaner, Simson Kapembe, Isay Kamati, Hiskia Costa and Jan Guxab.

The project has demonstrated the potential of inclusive innovation, in line with the newly established Inclusive and Collaborative Local Tech Innovation Hub (ICLTH), an initiative by NUST

in partnership with the Embassy of Finland. ICLTH aims to ensure that products developed by marginalised young people enter the market successfully.

The first production of tech-enhanced souvenirs is expected to be on the market before the end of the year. These projects, where indigenous people have been involved in marketable tech innovation production, are the first of their kind in Namibia.

The products are validated with the newly received smart phones from MTC. The collaboration also resulted in a joint publication which will be presented at the upcoming second African Human Computer Interaction Conference (AfriCHI) on the 5th of December in Windhoek.

INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH WEEK

NUST is hosting its Annual Institutional Research Week 2018 from **21 to 23 November 2018**. The event serves as a platform for academics to present their research findings, exchange ideas and share experiences across disciplines.

Theme: "Building a World-class University through Innovation and Research Excellence"

Date: 21 - 23 November 2018

Venue: Mining Auditorium

Time: 08:00 - 13:00

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This survey will be closed on Monday, 26 November 2018. Thank you in advance!