



NUST BRIEF

NUST-NSA partner in managing agricultural data

With the aim to coordinate the collection, processing and dissemination of agriculture statistics, NUST and the Namibia Statistic's Agency (NSA) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) recently. At the University, the MoU will be managed by the University's newly established Agricultural Trade Policy Institute (ATPI).

This initiative further aims to manage big data in a cost-effective manner. Three primary areas of cooperative activities were identified under the agreement, namely: the collection, processing and dissemination of agricultural statistics; the collaboration of joint lectures and socio-economic research; and the facilitation of student in-service training.

"All the University's Faculties, Centres and Institutes are expected to benefit from this MoU, based on the principle of cross-sectorial inter-disciplinary cooperation. For example, NUST has a high performance super computer housed by the India-Namibia Centre of

Excellence in Information and Communication Technology. This can be harnessed to support this initiative," remarked Dr Eroid Naomab, NUST Vice-Chancellor.

Alex Shimuafeni, the NSA Statistician-General and CEO, commended the timing of the MoU. He emphasised that it is well aligned with the recent implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Agreement, which aims to give the continent a common voice and policy space in global trade negotiations. He further underscored the importance of the Agriculture sector in the country, highlighting that it contributed 9% to Namibia's 2020 Gross Domestic Product.



From left to right: Zuvve Kahitu, Senior Statistician: Agriculture at NSA; Abel Sindano, Executive: Economics at NSA; Alex Shimuafeni, Statistician-General & CEO of NSA; Dr Eroid Naomab, NUST Vice-Chancellor; Prof Pramanathan Govender, NUST Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Research and Innovation; Dr Erling Kavita, NUST Acting Special Advisor to the Vice-Chancellor; Dr Colin Stanley, NUST Acting Dean of Computing and Informatics.

First Tech Day held on campus

...as VC marks 100 days in office

As a forward-thinking Institution that continuously thrives to be at the forefront of technology advancements, the first NUST Tech Day was launched on 31 May 2021. The event gave faculties and external stakeholders the opportunity to showcase their innovative tech projects and services.

The day officially marked Dr Naomab's 100 days in office, hence it was deemed fit to celebrate it with the launch of the exhibitions.

Prizes



The Tech Star Award was presented to Pulsar Electronics Solutions for their invention of a smart metering platform that enables household and enterprise electricity users to control their electricity usage remotely through their mobile devices.



The Faculty of Computing and Informatics walked away with the Tech Gamer Award for entertaining the most staff and students at their stand, by offering a variety of tech-savvy games.



The Vice-Chancellor (right), inspecting an energy-efficient prototype vehicle, which was assembled by Mechanical and Marine Engineering, and the Electrical and Computer Engineering students at NUST. It was assembled using locally manufactured materials. The vehicle has two levers for steering and acceleration, mirrors, a hooter, a display monitor and an emergency safety button.

FHS Dean appointed as Extraordinary Professor at the NWU

Prof Alinah Segobye, the Dean of the Faculty of Human Sciences, was recently appointed as an extraordinary Professor at the North West University (NWU), South Africa. The position is a two-year, non-remunerated appointment at the Indigenous Knowledge Systems Centre (IKSC), that will further strengthen the standing Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between NUST and NWU.



Prof Alinah Segobye

"The appointment focuses on the support towards supervision of undergraduate and postgraduate research, including the

mentoring of emerging scholars as well as the promotion of research in IKSC," Prof Segobye said.

Currently, Prof Segobye is supervising Masters and Doctoral students in collaboration with academics at NWU and partner institutions.

Overall, she has participated in four grant application initiatives led by NWU and NUST. Indigenous Knowledge Systems is one of the pillars of FHS's research niche areas. Several academics within the Faculty have initiated research in different areas of IKSC, including the study of languages, heritage and the cultural and creative industries.

Prof Segobye will attend to her new duties, in tandem with her responsibilities at NUST.