Ten (10) members of the Central University of Technology (CUT) Students’ Representative Council (SRC), visited Namibia last week to engage the SRC at NUST. The group was led by Steven Leepa, a CUT Student Development Officer.

The purpose of the visit was for the two student bodies to discuss challenges faced by students, such as the available support structures, safety on campus, and funding models, amongst others. Student funding is one of the most common challenges faced by the youth across the continent therefore, this was discussed at length.

“As student leaders it is up to you to be at the forefront of shaping funding models, because at the end of the day, it is about your education and that of future generations,” remarked Dr Donovan Zealand, Director of Student Services at NUST.

Sabelo Ngwenya, SRC President at CUT, highlighted that it was a great privilege for the two universities to come together and engage in various discussions.

“If we really want to move towards positive outcomes, we need to work closely,” Ngwenya said.

“This visit opened doors of opportunity for our two universities to collaborate in future, in various projects that are beneficial to current and prospective students,” said Juno Angula, NUST SRC President.

The two technological universities, which have approximately the same student populations of about 11 000 each, have various ongoing collaborations such as staff and student exchanges, and joint research initiatives. Consequently, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed recently, to formalise the partnership and facilitate further collaboration in a wide range of areas such as electrical engineering and sustainable energy.

Students visit Farm Krumhuk

A class of 32 second-year Rangeland Management students of the Faculty of Natural Resources and Spatial Sciences, had an insightful experience at Farm Krumhuk, south of Windhoek. The group examined the rangeland restoration efforts of previous students. When asked what he liked most about the excursion, one of the students, Linus Silvanus, said: “I enjoyed learning how to slow down the movement of water by building suspension filters with branches from encroached bushes.” Although the bush filter will decompose over the coming years, it is expected that with good grazing management, dense grass will establish under the filters, to eventually take over the sieving function. It will then become self-reinforcing, as more rainwater soaks in and the soil underneath puffs up from the activity of soil organisms.

Students sowing grass seed along a contour at Farm Krumhuk, south of Windhoek.