



NUST BRIEF

Exploring the highlands and wetlands of Lesotho

A group of NUST students studying Wetland Ecology visited Lesotho recently, with the aim to gain more knowledge about the headwaters of the Orange River. The students were escorted by Shirley Bethune, a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources Sciences.

Guided by experts from the Department of Water Affairs in Lesotho, the students investigated the rehabilitation of the Motete, Khubelu and Sani wetlands.

"In that area, the spongy peaty soils within the Afro-alpine grasslands are essential to the steady supply of water that keeps the Orange River flowing all year, yet this essential ecological service is threatened by soil erosion, overgrazing, an invasive fynbos, *Cryscocoma* and burrowing by *Otomys sloggetti* (a species of rats)," said Bethune. "We were able to visit different wetland sites at various stages of rehabilitation and to visually compare grazed and ungrazed areas, as well as protected and unprotected areas," Bethune added.

Furthermore, specialists from the Lesotho

Highlands Water Authority, gave the students a tour of the Lesotho Highland Water Scheme.

This included the Katse Dam, the Mohale Dam, as well as the Muela Hydropower Station that produces 72 megawatts of electricity.

As future Natural Resource Managers and Nature Conservationists, the students were impressed with the country's determination to conserve, restore and rehabilitate its grasslands, wetlands and fauna. Additionally, they were fascinated to learn more about the rich history of this mountain kingdom.

The NUST team concluded their tour at the National University of Lesotho, where Professor Nqosa Mahoa, the Vice-Chancellor, welcomed them.

Photo credit: Absalom Shigwedha



Dr Tjama Tjivikua, NUST Vice-Chancellor (back row, sixth from left); and Shirley Bethune, Senior Lecturer: Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources Sciences (back row, eighth from left), pictured with students in Windhoek.



Bernice Karuhumba, Entrepreneurship and Incubation Manager: Namibia Business Innovation Institute (NBII), pictured with students who took part in the competition.

Business Competition grooms entrepreneurs

The Namibia Business Innovation Institute (NBII) recently held its annual Business Plan Competition. Since the NBII's inception in 2009, the Institute has striven to create a platform for aspiring entrepreneurs to realise their dreams of becoming experts in the business sector.

This year, the NBII Business Plan Competition was open to current NUST students, who sought to further their entrepreneurial skills as well as develop their business ideas into viable plans.

"We are determined to stimulate innovativeness and competitiveness among the students by encouraging them to build businesses from their academic training" said Bernice Karuhumba, the Entrepreneurship and Incubation Manager at NBII.

This year, Annemarie Saunderson walked away with the coveted top prize of seed funding worth N\$25 000, a laptop, and mentorship from NBII's Entrepreneurship and Incubation pillar. Saunderson owns a start-up called Namibianart.

net, which is an online portal that sells art from Namibia and by Namibians.

"Our business provides clients with a one-stop-shop, that mainly aims to attract tourists," Saunderson explained. Saunderson is a post-graduate student pursuing a Master of Leadership and Change management.

All business plans that met the criteria were subjected to internal as well as external assessment. The plans were judged on quality, the business concept, innovativeness, usefulness, viability, growth potential and sustainability.

Welcome to NUST!



Dr Donovan Zealand

Dr Donovan Zealand recently joined NUST as the Director of the Department of Student Services. He replaces Dr Frieda Shimbuli, who has since retired. Before becoming Director, Zealand was the CEO of Cricket Namibia, a position he held for three years.

Prior to this, he was employed by the University of Namibia (UNAM) in various capacities, first in the Office of the Dean of Students, followed by the Faculty of Education. Dr Zealand was promoted to the position of Deputy Dean of Education at UNAM.

He earned his B.Ed and M.Ed in Education from UNAM, and his Doctorate in Specialised Education (Sport Science and Educational Psychology), from the University of Stellenbosch.

Additionally, he has more than 20 years of experience in Sport Administration and extensive experience in the NGO sector.

Adobe PhotoShop and Illustrator (Part 1 and 2)

Included in Training: Adobe Certified Trainer, Adobe Official Courseware, Certificate.

Time: 08:00 - 17:00

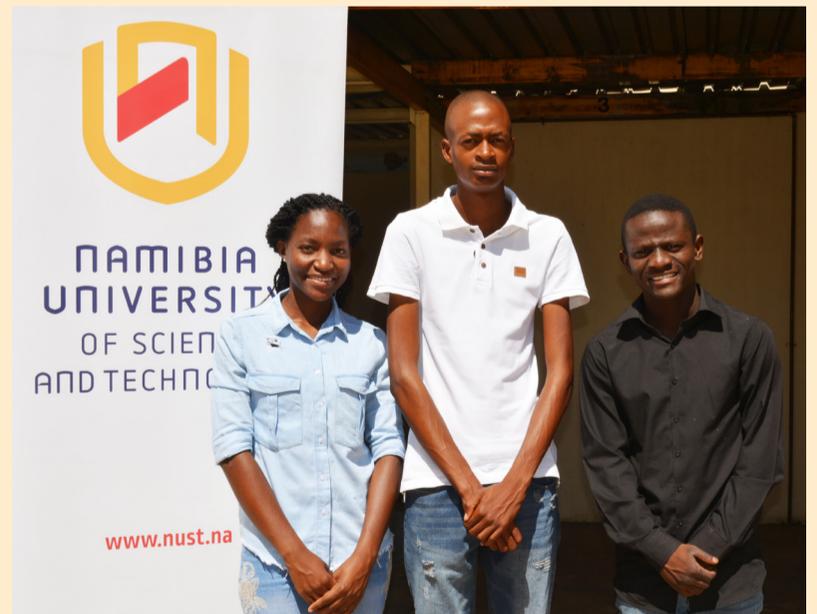
Dates: 20 - 24 November 2017

Registration Deadline: 15 November 2017

Cost: N\$6 000

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Ready for the Swiss Bank



FROM LEFT: Laina Shivolo, Israel Uuyuni, and Sylvester Malcolm Tsuseb.

Three students from the Department of Accounting, Economics and Finance have been selected for internships at the Credit Suisse, Switzerland in 2018. The B360 Education Partnerships Internship Programme offers 3-month training opportunities for students in southern Africa at European institutions/companies. This arrangement offers a stimulating learning experience for both the interns and their hosts. To date, the B360 programme has sent 35 students to Switzerland.

Wishing all students the best with their examinations!