

Hotel School celebrates infrastructure upgrades

The NUST Hotel School recently unveiled a plaque to honour the Spanish government for contributing to the construction of the second phase of the Hotel.

The collaboration between the University and the Spanish government dates back to 2008, when a proposal by the Olof Palme International Foundation (FIOP), and the Hotel School was presented to the Joint Equipment Aid Fund Commission (JEAF).

The proposal intended to achieve the extension of the Hotel School buildings and foster research and exchange programmes, amongst others.

The proposal received a favourable response and an implementation agreement was signed in Spain, in 2008.

The cooperation agreement encouraged the development of Namibia's tourism sector skills through the upgrading of the hotel training facilities.

Her Excellency Figuerola Santos, the Ambassador of Spain to Namibia, commended the state-of-the-art infrastructure and the manner in which students are benefiting from the facilities.

"We are now developing a strong cooperation programme between NUST and several Spanish universities focusing on areas like tourism, of course, but also energy, cybersecurity, geo-spatial sciences and technology, entrepreneurship and education," she added.

Dr Tjama Tjivikua, the NUST Vice-Chancellor, highlighted some of the tangible achievements that were attained through the collaboration. These include the increase of the hotel rooms from six to 20, the traveling of more than six students to Spain and of which two completed their Master's degrees in Tourism at the University of Barcelona.

The event was concluded with a handover of a collection of Spanish literature from the Embassy which will be displayed in the Library. Spanish language courses are offered at the University's Department of Education and Languages, in the Faculty of Human Sciences.



Dr Tjama Tjivikua, Vice-Chancellor: NUST, and Her Excellency Figuerola Santos, Ambassador of Spain to Namibia, unveiling the plaque.

Marketing Society's act of goodwill



Bianca Tjizumaue, junior lecturer: Faculty of Management Sciences (left), pictured with Erickson Amweya (in wheelchair) and students in the Havana Informal Settlement.

As part of their social responsibilities, the NUST Marketing Society donated books, clothes and food items to Erickson Amweya, a physically-challenged 18 year-old young man, who lives in the Havana Informal Settlement with his mother. Erickson has a physical condition that compromises his mobility, and after his ordeal was publicised in the media, the students decided to offer their help.

Erickson expressed his gratitude for the kind gesture and specifically for the books he received, as he says reading is his favourite hobby.

The Society hosts events such as career guidance workshops and has a membership of 50 students. "Apart from being members of a teaching and learning institution, we take pride in being responsive to the social needs in our community. Erickson's birthday is in a few days, so this small celebration is our way of letting him know that we care," said Bianca Tjizumaue, a junior lecturer in the Faculty of Management Sciences who is also the coordinator of the Society's activities.

CENTRE FOR ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT (CED) AutoCAD Training for 2017

	DATE	COST
AutoCAD Essential (Level 1)	3 - 6 July	N\$4 800
AutoCAD Advanced (Level 2)	10 - 13 July	N\$4 800
AutoCAD 3D Drawing and Modelling (Level 3)	17- 20 July	N\$4 800

Time for all courses: 08:00 - 17:00

Who should attend: Individuals interested in Technical Drawing, Design and/or engineering principles.

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Investment towards demand-driven research

The Southern African Research and Innovation Management Association (SARIMA) conference was held recently and more than 350 delegates from across the world attended. The purpose of SARIMA is to promote research and innovation management for the benefit of southern Africa.

The importance of innovation and entrepreneurship was highlighted by Dr Tjama Tjivikua, the NUST Vice-Chancellor, when he delivered an address at the plenary session of the Conference.

Dr Tjivikua addressed the need to introduce innovative policies and systems, and increase investment in research and development.

"We need a global innovation mind-set with fresh governance frameworks that are inclusive locally," he said.

The former president of SARIMA, Dr Jose Jackson-Maete, was pleased with the outcome of the Conference and expressed her appreciation for the local teams from the National Commission on Research Science and Technology (NCRST), NUST and the University of Namibia that assisted with the programme and logistical planning.

Furthermore, in an effort to strengthen research and innovation at NUST, the Project Services Unit (PSU) organised two events for NUST staff, before and after the Conference.

The first event was a partner-consortium meeting regarding the the Strengthening of Collaboration, Leadership and Professionalisation in Research Management (StoRM) project. The second meeting focused on Research Resource Mobilization training maximising the usage of a research resource mobilization tool known as Research Africa.

Various participants were pleased with the training saying they have acquired desired skills. Pio Barone Lumaga, the Director of the Innovation Design Lab said that Research Africa is an excellent tool to find funding for multi-disciplinary applied research.

The PSU team also deliberated on the curriculum of a Research Management and Administration Certificate, and a Master's degree in Research Management, which are major components of this Stellenbosch University led-project. At national level, NUST and the University of Namibia are partners in this transformational project.



Dr Anna Matros-Goreses, Director: Project Services Unit (sixth from right, standing) and Dr Therina Theron, Senior Director, Research and Innovation: Stellenbosch University (left, kneeling), pictured with other attendants at the partner-consortium meeting on campus.