

MEDICAL SCHOOL CELEBRATES 79 YOUNG DOCTORS

The University of Botswana School of Medicine celebrated the 5th cohort of 79 young doctors who graduated with Bachelor Degrees in Medicine and Surgery (MBBS) with a dinner at the Phakalane Golf Estate Resort in August.

Speaking at the Inaugural Convocation Dinner for the Class of 2018, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, Dr Oatlhokwa Nkomazana, said of the number, 69 graduated from the University of Botswana while the rest were from abroad.

Dr Nkomazana said the young doctors would go for internship in public hospitals. Since its inception in 2009, the Medical School has so far graduated 200 doctors and most of them practise in public hospitals.

Acting Deputy Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Professor David Sebudubudu, encouraged the graduates to work hard for the

country as well as to be kind, respectful and caring to their clients.

Professor Sebudubudu also advised them to always abide by their professional ethical code of conduct and to be part of the solutions instead of the problem. In addition, he urged them to take their internship training seriously and to face challenges in their profession head on.

"Make use of the internship training opportunity and invest in your curriculum vitae," said Professor David Sebudubudu.

He also urged the graduates to further their studies at the University of Botswana Medical School because the University was well endowed with resource and expertise.

Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Health and Wellness, Ms Ruth Maphorisa, also advised the graduates to treat their client, with

respect and to honour work and the profession's ethics.

Ms Maphorisa said their contribution was very essential in assisting government and the ministry to be more progressive. She also advised the young doctors to be cautious when dealing with clients because some of them may not necessarily present clinical deficiencies but social issues that needed to be referred to other professionals.

The Permanent Secretary also advised the graduates to be part of team work and study the environment where they would be engaged as well as to be vigilant with their mental health to avoid conditions such as depression. She also advised the graduates to keep fit and to have a sound mind and stress free life.



Some of the young doctors at the inaugural convocation dinner.

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RESEARCHERS SEEK NEW WAYS OF MANAGING ELEPHANTS



SAF Network representative from the University of Glasgow, Scotland.



Major Tiroyamodimo.

The University of Botswana under the auspices of its Department of Adult Education last month led an interdisciplinary team of researchers from the Sustainable Futures in Africa (SFA) Network to a workshop on human-wildlife interactions at the Mmadinare Main Kgotla.

SFA Network is a collective of researchers, educators and practitioners who work

collectively across global contexts, disciplines and with communities in advancing the goal of ethically and successfully supporting development and sustainability in contexts negatively affected by the consequences of colonialism, globalization and climate change.

Consequently, the Mmadinare workshop brought together different stakeholders to map the way forward in relation to the management

of wildlife especially elephants in the area. The theme of the workshop was: *Creating Sustainable Community Partnerships*.

The workshop was a sequel to a study carried out on the dynamics of human and wildlife interactions in the Mmadinare area. The University of Botswana in partnership with SFA Network ran a trial research to explore possible ways to sustain development through wildlife management.

Therefore, the aim of the workshop was to share the results with all stakeholders in government, non-governmental organisations, private and parastatal organisations to ensure the Mmadinare community, and many other similar communities benefitted from the elephant populations in their areas.

As was the case with the research, the workshop created a space whereby many perspectives were heard, and knowledge shared. Thus, during the workshop the community aired its voice alongside political and economic perspective and ecological findings of the project to date. It was designed in an informative and transformative way.

During discussions, the residents decried the conflict elephants caused and the dangers

ORI TACKLES HUMAN-WILDLIFE CONFLICT



Professor Joseph Mbaiwa.

The Okavango Research Institute (ORI) has launched a project dubbed 'Promoting Sustainable Livelihood (ProSuLi) in Transfrontier Conservation areas' to address human-wildlife conflict through research.

ORI Director, Professor Joseph Mbaiwa, said the three-year project was funded by the European Union at the tune of P2.5 million. He was speaking at the unveiling of the project and a new vehicle to be used for the project in Maun last month.

The project area of scope, he said, was the Okavango Delta as communities around the area experienced extensive human wildlife conflicts. He said incidents of elephants raiding crops and predation on livestock heightened conflict.

The four communities selected for the project Seronga, Eretsha, Beetsha and Gunotsoga. Professor Mbaiwa noted that the project would help with data on how to address human-wildlife conflict. "The whole idea is to have sustainable development which will benefit communities now and in future

hence the need for amicable solutions," he said.

Head of the project, Dr Richard Fyn, said the four villages experienced a lot of conflict, especially elephants raiding crops and cattle killed by wildlife. He noted that some farmers had resorted to using poison to kill lions. Such also affected vultures who fed on poisoned carcasses.

Dr Fyn explained that the project was intended to help affected communities find solutions and improve their livelihoods. He said one way was through stakeholder meetings in affected communities. Furthermore, he said the fusion of old and modern practices in cattle herding may be a solution.

Dr Fyn added that full time professional herders trained on ecology and herding may also be a solution. Another feasible solution, he said, was assisting communities to find markets for their cattle and mobile abattoirs to ensure cattle were slaughtered in their areas under strict regulations.



Mmadinare local authorities listen attentively to the proceedings.

they posed to people. They called for different ways to mitigate the situation and to achieve a harmonious co-existence between the jumbos and people. Botswana has an estimated population of 130 000 elephants and people in areas such as Mmadinare have to constantly deal with property damages and human injury.

To mitigate the situation, some residents suggested culling to control the numbers which they complained were way too high for the area, while others called for the setting up of an elephant abattoir in Selebi Phikwe as a way of revitalizing the economic fortunes of the mining town. In addition, there was a

suggestion that government should set up an educational park where residents could learn about various subjects on elephants to promote co-existence between the elephants and people.

Job creation could also be enhanced through means such as hiring of escort guides, establishment of game reserves and wildlife camps to help control and monitor movement of the jumbos.

In his keynote address, Acting Deputy Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Professor David Sebudubudu, reiterated UB's quest to create partnerships and collaborations with

communities and industry for shared solutions in dealing with a myriad of challenges that the country faced.

Professor Sebudubudu said knowledge and science had no boundaries, noting that UB believed communities must own solutions instead of imposing such on them. He advised the Mmadinare community to use the elephants for economic benefit instead of wantonly killing them.

SFA Network representative, Professor Daniel Haydon, also underscored the importance of communities owning methodologies and the need to diversify stakeholders in addressing challenges. Professor Haydon also highlighted the lack of research methods that were all inclusive hence the challenge of bringing such differences together.

Meanwhile, other dignitaries who attended the workshop included Director of the Department of Wildlife and National Parks, Major General Otisitswe Tiroyamodimo, World Health Organisation representative in Botswana, Dr. Martins Ovberedjo, Nigerian High Commissioner, Mr Moses Adeoye, and other captains of industry.

ENHANCING ENGINEERING EDUCATION PROGRAMME ENDS WITH HIGH HOPES



The Botswana team from the EEEP Symposium on a guided tour of Kazungula bridge.

Delegates to the joint symposium marking the end of a two-year programme aimed at enhancing the standard of engineering education in southern Africa left Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe on August 30, 2018 with high hopes

of having achieved what they set out to do when the programme kicked off in October 2016.

Among the dignitaries who attended the two-day symposium was the Zimbabwe Minister

of Higher and Tertiary Education, Science and Technology Development, Professor Amon Murirwa, who delivered a keynote address.

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UNIVERSITY REQUIRES THOUGHT, ACTION – ZIM MINISTER



Professor Amon Murirwa.

A university is a place where people think and do things and not where they look nice and use big words to appear educated, says Zimbabwe's Minister of Higher and Tertiary Education, Science and Technology Development, Professor Amon Murirwa.

Professor Murirwa was delivering a keynote address at a joint symposium which marked the end of a two-year programme aimed at enhancing the standard of engineering education in southern Africa in Victoria Falls on August 30, 2018.

The project known as the Enhancing Engineering Education Programme (EEEP) was sponsored by the British Royal Academy of Engineering (RAE) to the tune of 140 000 Pounds (P1 964 807) for two years with the desire to improve the standard of engineering education at the University of Botswana and regionally.

About 12 universities in the region were involved, among them, University of Botswana and its spoke institutions: Botswana University

and Technology, National University of Science and Technology (Namibia), University of eSwatini (formerly Swaziland) and National University of Lesotho.

The project known as the Enhancing Engineering Education Programme (EEEP) was sponsored by the British Royal Academy of Engineering (RAE) to the tune of 140 000 Pounds (P1 964 807) for two years.

Professor Sebudubudu said at the core of the project was a desire to improve the standard of engineering education at the University of Botswana and regionally through the achievement of four specific objectives.

The objectives were to forge successful partnerships between industry and academic institutions nationally and regionally through knowledge sharing; securing industry attachment for teaching staff to facilitate skills acquisition; establishing and strengthening departmental advisory boards to impact industry relevant degrees, and engaging industry professionals in providing guest lecturers, seminars, professional development workshops and inspiring students through practical insights into the workplace.

Professor Sebudubudu said the project could only achieve its objectives through a very close partnership with industry and government as well as working with similar institutions in the SADC region. Highlighting the mandate of the

of Agriculture and Natural Resources (BUAN), Botswana International University of Science and Technology (BUIST), National University of Science and Technology (NUST-Namibia), University of eSwatini (formerly Swaziland) and National University of Lesotho (NUL). Zimbabwe's National University of Science and Technology who were the host of the symposium also participated as well as University of Manchester and Stracylde University in the UK.

Professor Murirwa observed that universities must create possibilities where that which was thought could be done and translated into tangible products and services. He said academics must cultivate an inspiring environment for nurturing learners through work-based learning.

"If you are a professor and you cannot produce a student who can think better than you, then you must resign," reckoned the minister who said professors were more of mentors than just experts. He added that the

University of Botswana, Professor Sebudubudu enumerated a number of achievements of the Faculty of Engineering and Technology in working with communities across the country and helping them with professional expertise.

He said the Faculty has helped a women's group in Gabane to process Morula colloid for confectionary while the design team helped brand the products and packaged them for better market access. In addition, the Faculty worked with communities in Mokolodi installing a solar power generation station, besides designing and building a heavy-duty oil expressing machine (oil press) for community groups and small businesses across the country.

On the other hand, Professor Murirwa challenged engineers in Africa that instead of importing ideas, they should be more innovative in coming up with researches tailor-made to solve problems in the continent. "You are always saying according to, what did you do yourself?" asked the Minister.

Professor Murirwa further lamented that in numerous universities across Africa the emphasis was on learning languages especially English more than concepts due to an education system that made language more prime than ideas. Further, he spoke against universities and industry remaining compartments, saying the two must work hand in hand to bridge the gap between them.



Professor Benjamin Bolaane.

Acting Deputy Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Professor David Sebudubudu, led a high-powered delegation from Botswana comprising the Dean of the Faculty of Engineering and Technology, Professor Benjamin Bolaane and representatives from University of Botswana spoke institutions.

The representatives were from Botswana University of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Botswana International University of Science

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN MADISON EAGER TO AID UB TRANSFORMATION

21st Century demanded an advancement in technology for Africa hence it was crucial for universities to set up innovation hubs that could translate good ideas into prototypes that would then be transferred to industrial hubs for production of products.

However, Professor Murirwa decried the low level of research in the southern African region. "We cannot afford to have universities where people just teach and talk endlessly. We have to reconfigure our education system so that there is delivery because everything that we can think of, can be done," said Professor Moruriwa.

The problem, he observed, was that people's minds were more often preoccupied with finding problems than coming up with solutions. Besides, lack of confidence compounded the situation, he said. Nonetheless, he expressed hope that knowledge gained and collaborations forged through EEEP would help alleviate the situation.

Dr Keith Carter, RAE representative, urged universities to hire what he called suitably qualified and experienced staff. Otherwise, he added, they should put in place career development plans to equip each individual staff member with relevant academic qualifications. To augment such, Dr Carter said universities must also get involved in government infrastructural projects to bridge the gap between them and industry.

He noted that universities must make it a practice and culture to develop new courses through research. Dr Keith also said student projects must have a practical element in that they could be, among others, used as a resource, where possible, to upgrade of lab equipment.

Meanwhile, the Botswana delegation that attended the symposium was made up of Acting Deputy Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Professor David Sebudubudu, as leader of the delegation as well as Dean of the Faculty of Engineering and Technology, Professor Benjamin Bolaane and representatives from University of Botswana spoke institutions.

Meanwhile, among the common problems associated with engineering education in southern Africa that the Royal Academy of Engineers representative, Dr Keith Carter, identified, were lack of engineering skills and industry involvement. It was against this background that the EEEP was set in motion to bridge the gap, he said.

A delegation from the University of Wisconsin Madison in the United State of America paid University of Botswana Vice Chancellor, Professor David Norris, a courtesy call on August 28, 2018 to explore opportunities for collaboration and cooperation on research, education and training.

The team comprised head of delegation, Mr Nathan Schulfer, Professor Tim Van Deelen, Dr.Tery Allendorf (Forest and Wildlife Ecology), Professor Rick Keller, Mr Tony Carol (International Division), Professor Don Waller (Botany Department) and Ms Justyn Huckleberry (doctoral student).

Speaking at the meeting, Mr Schulfer said as the University of Wisconsin Madison, they were eager to transfer their experiences to UB and harvest its full potential in a way that would benefit Batswana, the southern African region and ultimately the world.

"UW has long been a global university with enrolment of over 6 500 international students every year. We send 2000 students for programmes in other countries every year, with most of those students participating in semester or year-long programmes which deliver a truly immersive experience. This

includes a programme through which we will send 15 students to Botswana next summer," said Mr Schulfer.

With regard to research promotion, Mr Schulfer pointed out that UW's research budgets was one of the top five at over US\$ one billion per year, and largest contiguous campus in the US. He further stated that they hosted a programme, the King-Morgridge Scholarship, which brought six new exceptional students from developing countries to the campus each year. The students receive a fully funded four-year scholarship, including a budget for travel, computer expenses, and winter clothing.

"We house seven federally funded National Resource Centres which foster study of every region in the world in our Institute for Regional and International Studies, including the largest and oldest African Studies programme in the United States if not the world. And we house an International Projects Office, which fosters collaboration with governments, universities, and institutions around the world," said Mr Schulfer.

In response, Professor Norris said it was important for UB to foster collaborations on research with external stakeholders and international universities such as Wisconsin

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Mr Nathan Schulfer, Dr. Tery Allendorf , Mr Tony Carol and Professor Rick Keller.



Dr. Tery Allendorf, Mr Tony Carol, Professor Rick Keller and Mr Nathan Schulfer.



Professor Don Waller, Ms Justyn Huckleberry and Mr Nathan Schulfer.

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UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN AID UB

Madison to close research gaps and address societal needs and challenges. Professor Norris also noted that collaboration between the two institutions would enhance sharing of knowledge, skills and eventually uplift UB research initiatives to be impactful on the lives of Batswana and southern Africa as well.

He also advised UW to consider partnering with the Okavango Research Institute (ORI) which was dedicated to the study of wetland and water management in the Okavango River Basin, SADC region and beyond.

Professor Norris further decried the low level of research output at UB, saying it was mainly due to the University's low economic development in the early years of its inception in that it was mainly focused on boosting human capital to work in government and private sector.

"UB has grown and fully matured, it is time to intensify research work through partnering with the best institutions such as Wisconsin Madison to tap into their knowledge and skills and ensure that whatever we do is in line with the development of the country. And it is part of our mandate and vision to have the University of Botswana leading research into

problems bedevilling our society and come up with innovative ways of solving them," said Professor Norris.

In addition, Professor Norris highlighted some challenges the university was grappling with in its quest to be research intensive such as lack of research funds. Meanwhile, UB Deans and Heads of Department also buttressed the Vice Chancellor's sentiments, enumerating a number of environmental science research projects, community projects and industry collaborations that their faculties and departments were engaged in.

At the end of the presentations, the UW delegation was taken on a guided tour of some facilities at the University, among them Sir Ketumile Masire University Hospital, Campus Indoor Sports Centre, Faculty of Engineering and Technology, Faculty of Health Sciences and UB Conference Centre. The delegation was later treated to a sumptuous lunch.

NIGERIA TAPS INTO UB'S ANTI-GRAFT STRATEGIES

A Delegation from Nigerian's Presidential Advisory Committee Against Corruption paid a courtesy call on then Acting Vice Chancellor, Professor Martin Mokgwathi, on August 14, 2018, to learn first-hand efforts by the University of Botswana to combat corruption.

The delegation comprised seven members among them the Chairman, Professor Itse Sagay, Executive Secretary, Professor Bolaji Owasanoye, Program Officer/Consultant, Kelechi Amadi, Project Accountant, Musa Alhamdu and three members, Professor Femi Odekunle, Professor Etannibi Alemika and Professor Sadiq Isa Radda.

Responding to questions on the contribution of the University of Botswana in the fight against corruption, Professor Mokgwathi stated that the University was doing fairly well in terms of managing corruption.

Professor Mokgwathi said UB was committed to "zero tolerance" of corruption, given the high level of honesty and transparency in most transaction across different departments and faculties. He also said the student admission system was tight and broad and the staff strictly adhered to rules and regulations notwithstanding occasional incidents of some who tried to beat the system.

"University of Botswana has a well-developed set of anti-corruption laws that work in harmony with one another and create a good framework to combat corruption crimes ranging from corrupt recruitment and admission procedures, illegal procurement of goods and services. And other corruption crimes such as financial fraud, professional misconduct (such as nepotism and plagiarism), academic fraud (such as soft marking, graduation, biased grading, falsifying academic records and paying for grades)," said Professor Mokgwathi.

With regard to promoting access to higher education, Professor Mokgwathi said most students were government funded through loans, grants or partial grants, which were

determined by the priority of the field of study administered by Department of Student Placement and Welfare in the Ministry of Tertiary Education, Research, Sciences and Technology.

Head of the Department of Business Management, Mr Rebana Mmreki, said the Directorate on Corruption and Economic Crime (DCEC) took lead in investigations, corruption prevention and public education. However, the decision whether to prosecute rested with the attorney general. Mr Mmreki also said they were conducting a research on corruption to influence policies in the fight against crime and to integrate such in their academic programmes.

On the other hand, UB Deputy Vice Chancellor Finance, Mr Mendel Nlanda, said historically, Botswana's good governance and democracy bequeathed by previous leaders contributed towards low levels of corruption and laid the foundation for current leaders to carry along the values and the rule of Law.

Mr Nlanda further stated that Botswana's small population also contributed to low levels of corruption. Executive Assistant to the Vice Chancellor, Mr Shathiso Nlebgwa also shared the same sentiments and alluded to the fact that UB had statute provision for conflict of interest. Mr Nlebgwa said the University was implementing a policy on the protection of whistle-blowers in the fight against crime.



Professor Martin Mokgwathi receives a picture depicting Nigeria's public transport system.



Professor Martin Mokgwathi having a light moment with the delegation.



Part of the delegation from Nigerian's Presidential Advisory Committee Against Corruption.

DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN PERSISTS GLOBALLY, HAMPERS DEVELOPMENT - MOGOENG

Despite promising progress in some countries, social and legal discrimination against women remains a major obstacle to economic development in emerging and developing countries around the globe, South African Chief Justice, Justice Mogoeng Mogoeng, has observed.

Justice Mogoeng was speaking at the Nelson Mandela Centenary Lecture held at the University of Botswana Conference Centre last month. He anchored his lecture on Mandela's ideals of a just society quoting profusely from the global icon that overcoming poverty was not a gesture of charity but an act of justice.

Justice Mogoeng decried the level of poverty in Africa, arguing that such derived from an unjust society which was further compounded by entrenched discrimination of women. He said despite successes in raising awareness and setting standards, very little had changed in the actual lives of most women. Only a few women, he noted, had benefited from such changes. However, for the vast majority, violence against women remained a taboo issue, invisible in society and a shameful fact of life, lamented the Chief Justice.

Justice Mogoeng wondered why male violence against women still existed in 2018.

"Why is the most dangerous place for a woman her own home?" he asked. Justice Mogoeng further asked why society was still unequal. He said oppression and discrimination of women by men still prevailed while men were seen as superior to women.

"Such inequalities lead to domestic violence, trafficking and exploitation," warned Justice Mogoeng.

Incidentally, Justice Mogoeng noted some progress in reducing discrimination against women in Rwanda and South Africa and attributed such to the introduction of political quotas that led to a greater representation of women in politics. South Africa and Germany are among countries where the social and legal status of women improved considerably over the past years because they introduced landmark reforms.

Nonetheless, Justice Mogoeng said countries with higher levels of discrimination against women performed poorly on a range of development indicators, including employment, female labour force participation, education for girls and child and maternal mortality rates.

"One important area where women constantly face massive inequalities is in the labour market. In working life, women all over



Chief Justice, Justice Mogoeng Mogoeng.

the world are confronted with higher rates of unemployment, fewer possibilities for a career, and lower wages," said Justice Mogoeng

To achieve equality and justice for all, Justice Mogoeng advised leaders to investment in women's empowerment, as well as a cultural change in mind-sets so that women's equality was a given in all societies as well as ending poverty and ensuring a life of dignity for all.

He also advised leaders to stand up and take collective responsibility for humanity's current failings. Justice Mogoeng encouraged leaders to engage communities and youth to take action to end conflicts, injustice, inequality, corruption to ensure true inclusive democracy, peace and prosperity for all through dialogue.



Professor Martin Mokgwathi, SA High Commissioner, Ms Rosemary Mashaba and Chief Justice, Justice Mogoeng Mogoeng.

PROFESSOR MONAKA WINS 2018 CIPL AWARD

Professor Kemmony Collete Monaka in the Department of English is the winner of the 2018 Endangered Languages Award. She received the award at the 20th Comité International Permanent des Linguistes (CIPL) in Cape Town, South Africa, last month.

The award was in recognition of her linguistic and sociolinguistic research on Shekgalagari, her mother tongue, and on other languages in Botswana, including Khoesan languages.

During the 20th ICL, she gave a talk on marginalised languages in the country. Together with other scholars in the institution and worldwide, her research makes a contribution in this important area of language study.

CIPL is a global organisation whose core mandate is to coordinate activities that seek to support and advance the development and expansion of research in linguistic science.

It also produces a comprehensive bibliography of all linguistic publications worldwide, irrespective of the language they are written in. The organisation is further committed to research on endangered languages.

One of its former presidents, Stephen Wurm, compiled some of the important works on language endangerment, including the UNESCO Atlas of Endangered Languages. Since then, and in collaboration with UNESCO, CIPL has funded summer schools and provided a significant number of small awards on language endangerment.

CIPL was established in 1928 in The Hague during the first International Congress of Linguists (ICL). In liaison with local/regional committees of linguistic research that are members of the organization, CIPL has, since its formation, been organising ICL conferences in various continents of the world every five years. It held its first ever International Congress of Linguists in Africa this year.



Professor Kemmony Collete Monaka.

UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND HONOURS PROF DUBE AS 2018 INTERNATIONAL ALUMNA OF THE YEAR



Professor Opha Pauline Dube.

University of Botswana Environmental Change Scientist and Associate Professor in the Department of Environmental Science, Professor Opha Pauline Dube, has been awarded the 2018 International Alumna of the Year Award by the University of Queensland (UQ) in Australia.

Professor Dube who has been recognised as a leader in climate change research is among a broad range of leaders recognised for their exemplary contributions in fields ranging

from science to social enterprise. The awards acknowledged outstanding alumni who have created change.

"The exceptional alumni honoured this year have driven social change through advocacy and journalism, pioneered new medical treatments, and steered game-changing companies and initiatives," UQ Vice-Chancellor and President Professor Peter Høj is quoted in the University's online contact magazine.

Professor Høj said the work of the award recipients has had a profound impact both in Queensland and around the world. The UQ Alumni Awards will be presented at the annual Courting the Greats ceremony on October 17, 2018. The award recipients were nominated by their peers and selected by a committee led by Professor Høj. "This year's recipients have contributed to the community not just through their work, but also through their generosity of spirit," he said.

He said they had committed extensive resources to help society's most vulnerable as well as to cultivate the next generation of students, researchers and advocates. In addition, most of them had pivoted on their careers to take advantage of emerging opportunities and trends.

"It's something I do out of passion and out of my own drive, and I realise when you do these things you create an environment that leads to the growth of education and hence



Professor Opha Pauline Dube with Kgosì Mosadi Seboko during a Climate Change Consultative Workshop in Ramotswa last year.

THIRTY-SEVEN YEAR GOOD SERVICE EARNS MATLAPENG TWO AWARDS



Mrs Dineo Matlapeng with Professor Sheila Tlou and a colleague as the Botswana Nurse's Day Awards.

Mrs Dineo Matlapeng of the University of Botswana Clinic has received two Presidential Awards of Honour for her distinguished service and immense contribution to Botswana's nursing profession.

Mrs Matlapeng received the awards at the Botswana Nurses' Day and Botswana Nurses Union (BONU) 50th Anniversary Celebrations held at the UB Indoor Sports Centre under the theme: *Nurses: A voice to lead-Health is a Human Right*.

She was the only person to be honoured with two awards that day being the Nursing Meritorious Award and the Nursing Long Service of Good Conduct Award. The two awards add to another - the HIV and AIDS Community Engagement Champion - which she received from the University of Botswana in collaboration with National AIDS Coordinating Agency (NACA) in 2014.

Mrs Matlapeng boasts a 37-year experience as a nurse and health care practitioner, 34

of which was at UB where she witnessed the student community populations grow from less than 1000 in 1983 to above 17 000 in 2018.

In addition, she has extensive management experience, having acted as a matron and Director of UB Health Services on numerous occasions.

"Mrs Matlapeng single handedly introduced the outreach/community health programme in the University, mobilising students around various primary health care issues such as HIV/AIDS, safe sex, alcohol and substance abuse. The programme created a lot of awareness among the student community," says Dr Joseph Atta who has known her for over 20 years in one of the references he wrote for her.

Specialist Physician-Nephrologist, Dr Gordana Cavric, describes Mrs Matlapeng as very diligent, compassionate and able to perform multiple roles.

"She has pioneered community and wellness programmes at UB and her passion for HIV has driven her to organise and participate in various workshops and programmes in service and training of nurses and students," reckons Dr Cavric.

"I am truly humbled and pleased to look back at the changes and impact I have made within the student community pertaining to health and growth of the clinic. I cannot further express my gratitude to BONU for acknowledging my contribution throughout my stay at the UB clinic," says Mrs Matlapeng.

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PROF. DUBE HONOURED

contributing towards a knowledge economy," Professor Dube is quoted in the UQ online contact magazine.

Professor Dube is an environmental change scientist and an Associate Professor in the Department of Environmental Science. She is recognised as a leader in global environmental change including climate change research internationally and completed her PhD in Geographical Science at The University of Queensland (UQ).

She served as one of the Vice Chairs of the International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme (IGBP) for five years where she introduced the Global Environmental Change and Least Developed Countries synthesis and capacity building work.

Professor Dube is the Founder and Chair of the Botswana Global Environmental Change Committee (BGCC) at the University of Botswana that laid a foundation for building capacity in climate change research.

In her role as Vice Chair of the Botswana Government National Climate Change Committee (NCCC), Professor Dube facilitates introduction of climate change into Botswana's development agenda.

She coordinated the Southern African Fire Network (SAFnet) for seven years and her work on wild fires contributed to the Botswana National Fire Strategy and led to the development of a regional Southern African Development Community (SADC) trans-boundary fire protocol.

Professor Dube, who is Co-Editor-in-Chief of environmental science journal *Current Opinion in Environmental Sustainability*, has

a focus on global environmental change in the context of the Anthropocene.

She is a Co-Coordinating Lead Author in the Inter-Governmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) special report on "the impacts of global warming of 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas emission pathways, in the context of strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change, sustainable development, and efforts to eradicate poverty.

Professor Dube has received many accolades for her research, including a Nobel Peace Prize Certificate awarded in 2007 as part of the IPCC authorship for significant contribution to the scientific understanding of climate change and its implications for society.

Walt Disney World comes to UB on recruitment drive



Mrs Montle Siya.



Disney recruitment team Ms Jill Jacobsen, Ms Katy Kreco and Ms Regina Maluta.

Scores of potential students from different parts of Africa converged on the University of Botswana Conference Centre on August 24, 2018 to be quizzed for a 12-month internship at the world renowned Walt Disney Company in the United States of America.

The interviews attracted fourth-year UB Tourism and Hospitality students in the Faculty of Business and others from Ghana, Rwanda, Nigeria, Kenya, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Malawi, Namibia, Angola and South Africa.

The Walt Disney Company is an American establishment operating around the world and, together with its subsidiaries and affiliates, it is a leading diversified international family entertainment and media enterprise with a number of business segments. These include media networks, parks, experiences and consumer products as well as studio entertainment.

The interview session was organised by the UB Department of Tourism and Hospitality in conjunction with the Careers and Counselling Centre. The Walt Disney Company was represented by international recruitment team members, Ms Jill Jacobsen; Ms Katy Kreco from the Animal, Science and Environment Programme and Ms Regina Maluta from the International Recruitment Culinary Training Programme.

Speaking at the event, Head of the Department of Tourism and Hospitality, Ms

Montle Siya, a Disney alumna, urged the interviewees to make use of the Disney Internship Training programme to build upon skills they learnt in class within a family of legendary brands passionate about creating world class experiences on a global scale.

"The five to seven months training programme with Disney Company will allow participants to network with leaders, take part in personal and career development classes, and build transferable skills such as problem-solving, teamwork, guest service and effective communication," said Ms Siya.

Career and Counselling Centre Director, Dr Lucky Odirile, urged those who would be enrolled for the internship to return home upon completion of training in the USA to contribute towards the development of their home countries.

Dr Odirile assured the participants a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity in the US as they would learn from one of the world's most innovative entertainment companies. "You'll also gain valuable leadership, presentation and customer service skills, all things that Disney is known for worldwide," she said.

Meanwhile, Ms Jacobsen noted that the participants would have the opportunity to share unique cultures and customs of their countries with guests, while working in different frontline and guest facing roles.

Similarly, Ms Maluta said the internship



Ms Jill Jacobsen.

programme allowed international culinary participants to gain exposure to all areas of the kitchen operation, including the ability to understand financial aspects of a food and beverage operation.

"Participants are exposed to various food stations within the kitchen and become familiar with the menu and products of the restaurant. The participant will refine culinary skills within the kitchen department," said Ms Maluta.

As for Ms Kreco, she said Disney's Animal Programme was responsible for the care and welfare of animals across Walt Disney Animal Kingdom Lodge. She added that Disney's Animal Programme also shared conservation messages with guests, and the cast while championing the wise use of resources across the Walt Disney World Resort Property.



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