



University of Fort Hare
Together in Excellence

UFH NEWS

JUNE 2022

UFH
RECEIVES
CLEAN AND
UNQUALIFIED
AUDIT OPINION





“Based on the unqualified opinion from the external auditors, it is evident that the necessary financial governance controls have been fully restored at UFH through stronger fiduciary mechanisms.”



UFH receives clean and unqualified audit opinion on consolidated and separate financial statements for 2021 financial year

The University’s external auditors has issued an unqualified and clean audit opinion for the University’s consolidated and separate financial statements.

Mr. Charles Matumba, Chief Financial Officer (CFO) for UFH, said the external independent audit was completed by Chartered Accounting and Auditing Firm PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC), and encompassed reporting for the financial year ending 31 December 2021.

The unqualified audit opinion indicates UFH’s financial statements contain no material misstatements and complied with predetermined objectives of legislation and performance information.

In the Independent auditor’s report to the Council and the Minister of Higher Education, Science and Innovation on University of Fort Hare, PwC in their report on the audit of the consolidated and separate financial statements remarked:

“In our opinion, the consolidated and separate financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the consolidated and separate financial position of the group as at 31 December 2021, and their financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards and the requirements of the Higher Education Act and the Regulations for reporting by Public Higher Education Institutions, 2014, issued in terms of the Higher Education Act of South Africa, 1997”.

Mr. Matumba said this is an important moment and milestone for the University, especially when the institution’s financial performance over recent years was considered.

He said: “Based on the unqualified opinion from the external auditors, it is evident that the necessary financial governance controls have been fully restored at UFH through stronger fiduciary mechanisms.”

“The University has operated within its approved and allocated budgets for the year and has even increased its financial reserves – setting a base for the new strategic plan goal of creating a broader and stronger resource base and long-term financial sustainability of the Institution”, said Mr. Matumba.

Vice-Chancellor, Professor Sakhela Buhlungu said the University’s Council and Management Executive Committee (MEC) appreciates the importance of an unqualified audit outcome in terms of the University’s stabilization through its renewal programme.

“We would like to thank the Office of the CFO, our finance team, our group auditors PwC, MEC, Council and governance committees in achieving an unqualified audit outcome,” said Professor Buhlungu.

“The latest financials indicate that ongoing restoration and renewal through the appointment of the new Council and the ongoing efforts by Council and MEC to set UFH on a path of health,” he said.

“The unqualified audit outcome directly empowers us to deliver our mandate of ensuring UFH reclaims its place as a leading African University, to provide an even greater education experience to students, and to serve our communities through engagement and the academic project,” the VC concluded.

Addressing youth unemployment through SEDA funded Centre for Entrepreneurship and Rapid Incubator



“The core objective of the incubator is to be responsive to the challenges of rural communities through entrepreneurial and innovation development.”

The University of Fort Hare has been awarded R5 million by the Small Enterprise Development Agency (SEDA) to establish a Centre for Entrepreneurship and Rapid Incubator (CfERI) that seeks to address youth unemployment in the Eastern Cape by developing self-sustainable entrepreneurs.

The incubation centre which will serve students and surrounding communities will be located on the Alice Campus and is set to assist SMMEs (Small, Medium and Micro Enterprises) with starting up, job creation and client support. Operation is estimated to commence in the last quarter of this year.

According to the Statistics South Africa 2022 Quarter 1 Labour Force Survey report, the youth unemployment rate for 15-24 years old was at 63.9%.

Recent research conducted by the Eastern Cape Socio-Economic Consultative Council (ECSECC) found that during the 4th quarter of 2021, the unemployment rate for young people in the Eastern Cape stood at 73.5%.

It also found that the proportion of employed young people in the province who earned less than the minimum wage rate has increased from 69.0% in the 4th quarter of 2014 to 71.3% in the 4th quarter of 2021.

The report further states that due to lack of economic activities and opportunities, thousands of young people are deserting the province for greener pastures elsewhere. <https://www.ecsecc.org/infocentreitem/has-the-social-profile-of-the-marginalised-youth-i>

The call for proposals for funding for the establishment of the incubator centre was made last year to all South African Universities and Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) colleges.

A team from the University's Department of Business Management led by Prof Olabanji Oni submitted a proposal on behalf of the University. After a selection process, UFH was one of eight institutions that were shortlisted for an incubation review meeting. In March 2022, the University's proposal was approved and awarded the SEDA grant.

The grant will be used for the renovation of premises, purchase of machinery, equipment, furniture, computers, administration, salaries, branding and marketing material as well as SMME support programmes.

Prof Oni said the motivation behind the application was solution-driven. “We want to be able to provide solutions to the real challenges of poverty, unemployment and inequality which our students and youths are facing in the rural communities by encouraging entrepreneurship and innovation development. In fact, young people are vulnerable to unemployment and youth unemployment is very high.”

According to him, the core objective of the incubator is to be responsive to the challenges of rural communities through entrepreneurial and innovation development.

“This is expected to be achieved through the following secondary objectives: first to be a catalyst for entrepreneurial development within a rural community context. Second, to advance innovations in view of the challenges that exist in rural marginalized communities. Third, to drive the localisation of local Intellectual Property (IP) commercialisation and last, to scale up new technologies that solve the challenges of rural communities.”

The services to be provided at the incubator centre are guided by activities in the three phases of incubation which are:

- Pre-incubation phase: focuses on recruitment and selection, screening, orientation programmes for learners, training of entrepreneurs (pre-incubation), training on idea generation, feasibility studies and business plan pitching.
- The Incubation phase which will focus on business plans, training on raising and management of finances, pitch readiness training, technical support attached to the sectors, training on marketing, sector specific operations training on Agriculture, Smart technologies, Renewable energy and Health (Pharmaceutical products). Also training on Intellectual Property (IP) and protecting IP as well as mentoring and evaluation.
- The Exit or Graduation phase which will focus on networking.

“The centre has a significant role to play in terms of local economic development and in addressing challenges experienced by youth in accessing entrepreneurial opportunities in Alice and surrounding communities,” said Prof Oni.

28th Biennial Conference of Southern African Historical Society

Professional Historians, postgraduate students and specialists related to the history discipline from different parts of the globe converged for the 28th Biennial Conference of Southern African Historical Society (SAHS) hosted by the University of Fort Hare's Department of History, and the National Heritage and Cultural Studies Centre (NAHECS).

The hybrid conference was held from the 28-30 June at the Regent Hotel in East London.

The SAHS is an active network for communication among professional historians located throughout the subcontinental region and the organisational home for the accredited South African Historical Journal.

Themed: *Expanding Margins: New and Lingering Questions, and Debates on Southern African Histories*, this year's conference sought to address key questions about the prospects and production of history and engage with complex old and new forces in the Southern African region.

During the opening session, participants were welcomed by Professor Nomalanga Mkize who is the Secretary for SAHS.

The gathering was officially opened by the Vice-Chancellor, Prof Sakhela Buhlungu, who in his address, reflected on the historical significance of the University of Fort Hare and the Eastern Cape.

"It is fitting that you are hosted by us, this University has a distinguished history," said the VC.

A keynote address was delivered by Professor Hlonipha Mokoena who opened up the politics of religion and blackness in her speech titled: *Black Gods & Black Messiahs - Reading Religion in the Wake of Blackness*.

The conference coincides with the 106th anniversary year of the founding of UFH. In addition, the University will be celebrating in 2022 the 30th anniversary year since it took custodianship of the rich archival material, which major political organisations involved in the struggle against segregation and apartheid donated to the University.

In the last 25 years or so, some scholars have used this vital collection held at the NAHECS to add to ongoing historiographical revisions, especially on topics related to broader liberation processes in the Southern African region.

During the conference, a broad range of topics were presented and discussed which include, but not limited to, disputed principles: historical structures, and changing historiographies; Historical Studies, past and contemporary university; archives, heritage and remembrance(s); forms of history production: analog and digital and; governance and authority systems: from precolonial to colonial and postcolonial Africa



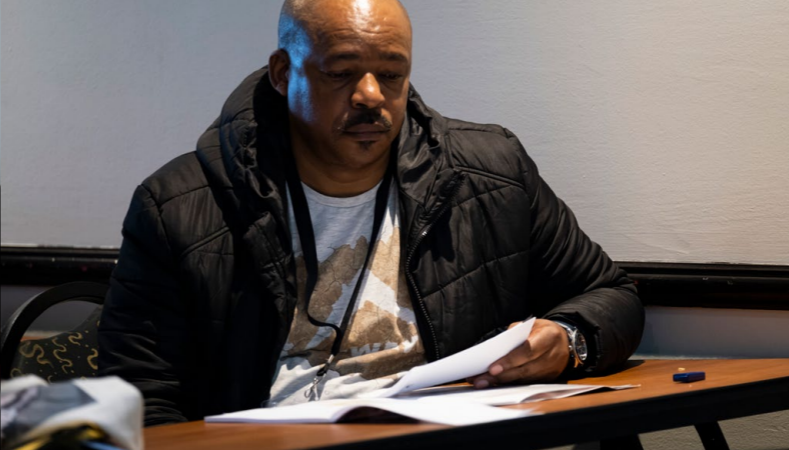
About 45 sessions were held, this includes a visual presentation by Carolyn Hamilton from the University of Cape Town's Archives & Public Culture, titled: *Celebrating the Centenary of Fuze's Abantu Abamnyama* and a visual presentation of the NAHECS Collection conducted by Sinazo Mtshemla and Mosoabuli Maamoe.

Day 2 concluded with a gala dinner and the final day commenced with a business meeting where a new SAHS executive was elected.

Conference organizers hope to reconsider and expand existing historiography through the papers that have been presented as well as to report on hidden histories of the marginalised.

The gathering also sought to provide a platform for critical dialogue on Southern Africa's past, whilst similarly making sense of its present.







Prof Simatele delivers 27th Inaugural Professorial Lecture

“I realized that the problem of poverty was far more complex than I had realized. Though the role of finance was pivotal, development depended on complex institutional setups which are highly affected by the ubiquity of information asymmetries”

“Digital finance has emerged as a potential lever to accelerate financial inclusion and aid poverty reduction. Relative to traditional financial services, digital finance can improve financial services’ speed, cost-effectiveness, and accessibility. These benefits mainly accrue through the provision of payment services.”

This is a view expressed by Professor Munacinga Simatele, from the Faculty of Management and Commerce, during her Inaugural Professorial Lecture titled: *Accelerating Financial inclusion: The promise of digital finance*.

The 27th Professorial Lecture was held on the 7th of June at the Miriam Makeba Arts Centre on the East London Campus.

Professor Simatele is an Economics Professor focusing on transformative research with a particular interest in development finance that addresses poverty and marginalization.

Her research provides a deeper understanding of finance for development and how the poor interact with the financial sector. It further investigates how informality, small businesses, and financial markets can contribute and be harnessed to reduce poverty.

Throughout her academic career and extensive years of research, Prof Simatele became more interested in understanding the role of finance and how the financial sector impacted the lives of the marginalized.

“I realized that the problem of poverty was far more complex than I had realized. Though the role of finance was pivotal, development depended on complex institutional setups which are highly affected by the ubiquity of information asymmetries,” she said.

Her current research project focuses on financial market duality, business subsistence, and poverty research, which investigates how subsistence businesses are funded and affect livelihoods in South Africa, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, and Zambia.

Prof Simatele has extensive practical experience managing education and development-related projects and providing consulting and technical services and support to different organizations.

She has published 23 articles in accredited and peer-reviewed journals, 12 conference papers during the past five years, and three book chapters.

“My research shows that the realization of the full benefits of digital finance is hindered by poor infrastructure, lack of consumer protection, and the absence and fragmentation of support markets and institutions,” she said.

In concluding her lecture, Prof Simatele mentioned an old African proverb that was relevant at that point which is: “The best way to eat the elephant standing in your path is to cut it up into little pieces.”

“Just as cutting an elephant requires several weapons, addressing poverty needs several instruments. I firmly believe that digital finance can contribute to cutting the elephant of poverty into smaller pieces if an enabling environment is created.”

Prof Simatele extended her gratitude to the university’s management, not only for giving her the opportunity to give her inaugural lecture but for creating an environment that has made it possible for her to stand there on that day.

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof Sakhela Buhlungu said: “This is the 2nd Inaugural lecture this year and the focus has been on having female professors inaugurated and our female academic are rising to the challenge.”



Memorial Lecture Series in honour of female Journalism pioneer – Noni Jabavu



In the month of June, the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences launched the Noni Jabavu Memorial Lecture Series in honour of one of South Africa's revolutionary female writer-activist who flipped the script and paved the way for female Journalist and Writers.

Born in 1919 in Middledrift, Noni Jabavu was one of the first African women to pursue a successful literary career and the first black South African woman to publish books of autobiography.

She is the daughter of Davidson Jabavu who started the first black-owned newspaper in 1884, he was also the first black staff member at the University of Fort Hare. Her grandfather, John Tengo Jabavu, editor of South Africa's first isiXhosa language newspaper, played an important role in the founding of the South African Native College, which later became the University of Fort Hare.

Noni Jabavu spent most of her life in England where she was schooled from the age of thirteen. She became the first African woman to be the editor of a British literary magazine when in 1961 she took on the editorship of *The New Strand*, a revived version of *The Strand Magazine* which had closed in 1950.

During the time spent in South Africa in 1976 and 1977, researching a book about her father, she published a weekly column in the Eastern Cape's *Daily Newspaper*, under the editorship of Donald Woods.

She was awarded a lifetime achievement award by former Arts and Culture Minister Pallo Jordan, as well as the best literature award in the Eastern Cape by the then sports, art and culture minister, Nosimo Balindlela

She passed away on the 19th of June 2008 at the age of 88.

The inaugural lecture was delivered by Professor Luvuyo Wotshela, Director of the UFH National Heritage and Cultural Studies (NAHECS). Titled, "Unfulfilled Potential: Persistence constraints of Historical Studies and Associated Humanities at the University of Fort Hare the Critical Years, 1960-2015, Prof Wotshela premised on a paper he published with the Southern Journal for Contemporary History.

Representing the family, Siyabonga Jabavu, grandson to Noni Jabavu, described her as a giant who revolutionized black intellectualism. 'She revolutionized the thinking of black nationalism in the Eastern Cape and subsequent to South Africa as a whole.' According to Siyabonga, the family will be launching the Noni Jabavu Foundation on the 28th of September. "This is in an effort to realize her dream of inspiring future Journalists and Writers."

The Dean of Humanities, Professor Neil Roos said the lectures attempts to tackle fresh and crucial challenges about historical studies and humanities as well as re-examining the potency of the University's academic departments.

"The series should be a flagship programme of the Faculty. It should not only be limited to the Faculty but flourish throughout the institution. These lectures should influence the direction of the Decade of Renewal by offering some insight into the decolonization agenda and ensure UFH remains an intellectual hub," said Prof Roos.

Additional info sourced: <https://www.sahistory.org.za/people/helen-nontando-noni-jabavu>

Click here to watch the recorded session: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ho_Cw5Z4-wg



VC Pays Homage to ZK Matthews

The Vice-Chancellor Professor Sakhela Buhlungu delivered a welcome message during the 67 Years of the Freedom Charter event held on the University of Fort Hare Alice Campus on the 26th of June.

The VC underscored UFH was the intellectual birthplace for liberation ideas and South African democracy, and today continues to preserve the rich history hosting and preserving the archives of various liberation movements. He encouraged youth, scholars and political organisations to revisit the archives which can serve as a historical compass for renewal.

He underscored the University's renewal programme to restore the institution position as the cradle of African intellectualism and leadership, and also appealed to guests to close the gap between the original charter and the lived realities of South Africans.

"We have in a small but extremely important way as a town, university and province and played a role in the adoption of the Freedom Charter"

Professor Buhlungu reflected on the historical role of the town of Alice as the epicenter of liberation and South African democracy.

"We have in a small but extremely important way as a town, university and province and played a role in the adoption of the Freedom Charter," he said.

During his welcoming address, Professor Buhlungu paid homage to Professor Zachariah Keodirelang

(ZK) Matthews – the architect of the Freedom Charter which gave way to South Africa's constitution.

Matthews a political activist but also alumnus and Acting Principal of the University of Fort Hare, and he was the institution's first university-level graduate in 1924. He later attended Yale and the London School of Economics, and returned to Fort Hare as a lecturer in 1936, where he occupied various senior posts over more than two decades.

In 1953, Professor Matthews proposed the idea of "a national convention (of all races)... to draw up a Freedom Charter for the democratic South Africa of the future." The Freedom Charter is considered the founding document of a free South Africa. It forms the basis for the bill of rights included at the beginning of the country's 1996 constitution 30 years later.

DSI-NRF sponsored vehicle to boost Risk and Vulnerability Science Centre's research initiatives

The University of Fort Hare's Risk and Vulnerability Science Centre (UFH-RVSC) is proud to announce the acquisition of a new vehicle that was generously sponsored by the Department of Science and Innovation and the National Research Foundation (DSI-NRF).

According to the centre's Director, Dr Leocadia Zhou, the vehicle will go a long way in supporting UFH-RVSC's research initiatives for the benefit of resource-poor communities in the Eastern Cape and other provinces in South Africa.

"The donated vehicle will guarantee meaningful engagement of communities that are adversely impacted by wide-ranging stressors exemplified by climate change-driven extreme events and pandemics like COVID-19 and HIV-AIDS."

The UFH-RVSC located on the Alice campus is one of five centres that were initiated by the DSI-NRF at South African Universities in 2011 as flagship entities under the Global Change Research Plan's (GCRP) framework to direct global change research investments in South Africa.

The four other centres are located at the University of Limpopo, Walter Sisulu University, University of Sol Plaatjie and the University of Free State. The RVSCs receive a three-year annual cycle funding from the DSI-NRF to achieve the following mandates:

- Contribute to Human Capital Development on issues of climate change through postgraduate student development, staff development, internship and research collaborations with relevant stakeholders;
- Generate up-to-date data and information for key sectors to support strategy development and decision-making in areas of risk and vulnerability, thereby supporting South Africa's transition to a resilient future;
- Provide information for the South African Risk and Vulnerability Atlas that will effectively bridge the gap between science and policy through improved access to information and;
- Provide risk and vulnerability assessment services to local communities and other users.



The UFH-RVSC is managed by the Director and supported by a Senior Researcher, Post-Doctoral Research Fellows, research assistants and an intern.

Dr Zhou thanked the DSI-NRF on behalf of the centre and the University at large. "I would like to take this opportunity to commend DSI-NRF's unwavering support by noting that this is just the beginning of an enduring partnership that will yield substantial benefits for society."

"With UFH-RVSC's strategic positioning in Eastern Cape Province, there is no room to doubt that DSI-NRF will not regret extending and beefing up the support they have been giving and continue to provide to UFH-RVSC. The brand-new vehicle generously provided by DSI-NRF comes at the right time when our resources were getting thinly spread to a point where it was becoming increasingly difficult for us to deliver on our research mandate," said Dr Zhou.

Student Affairs conduct Residence Walkabout



"With the university's drive towards renewal, we need to ensure that all student concerns are being attended to efficiently"

The provision of dignified and safe student accommodation is one of the goals listed in the University's 2022-2026 Strategic Plan and with this in mind, the Student Affairs Office recently embarked on a walkabout to inspect all student residences on the Alice campus.

This is the second walkabout that has been undertaken, the first walkabout was initiated by the Vice-Chancellor earlier this year.

The recent inspection was led by the Dean of Student Affairs, Mr Lufuno Tshikhudo who assessed progress made in the refurbishment of some of the student residences.

Lindokuhle Mveleli, SRC Alice Premier said: "These inspections are very important because it shows that student grievances are taken seriously and are attended to."

Residence Manager, Mzi Lingela stated that the exercise was to ensure that all student residences are being maintained to provide world-class accommodation

for our students. "With the university's drive towards renewal, we need to ensure that all student concerns are being attended to efficiently. The walkabout revealed that there is still a lot of work to be done but we are confident we will achieve our objective soon."

Mr Lingela further stated: "All the relevant stakeholders will need to pull together and prioritize the needs of students. Accommodation contributes immensely to the students' experience at the institution. As we embark on the decade of renewal we want to ensure that we enhance the academic life of students by offering world-class accommodation."

The Residence Department has committed to conduct regular inspections to ensure all residences are up to standard.



Drama Society showcasing GBV play “Xa Bekutheni” at National Arts Festival

Often when incidents of Gender-Based Violence (GBV) occur, a lot of questions arise, one being: “Why did it happen?”

This question is the inspiration behind the UFH Drama Society’s theatre play that is showing at the National Arts Festival (NAF) in Makhanda (Grahamstown), titled *Xa Bekutheni* which loosely translates to “why did it happen?”

The piece was developed following the death of Nosiselo Mtebeni, a UFH final year Law student who was brutally murdered in August last year.

They are performing at the Rehearsal Room at the Settlers Monument from the 28th of June until the 2nd of July.

Society Director, Yanga Mabetshe who is a Social Science Master’s student said following the death of Nosiselo, the society, together with Dr Rianna Oelofsen (Founder of the UFH Gender Equity Office) felt there was an urgent need to develop a theatre play that speaks to incidents of GBV.

“*Xa Bekutheni* seeks to inform, educate, influence and hopefully make a positive change in this GBV pandemic. It seeks to create a conversation on some of the root causes of GBV by following the lives of two people (male and female) who have experienced GBV from childhood to adolescence.”

This is not the first time the society is performing at the NAF. In 2018 they performed a piece titled: *Isandi Segubu’* (The Sound of the Drum) which explores matter related to cultural traditions, ancestral veneration and religion. In 2019, they performed a play titled: *The Maxhoba Village: Lost tribe*, which centres on the Maxhoba Village which considers the world beyond its boundaries to be a “lost tribe”.

The society comprises 25 first-year to Masters students who are from different fields of studies who are brought together by their passion for the arts and performing. Although there is no Drama Studies at Fort Hare, the group found each other and created magic.

The National Arts Festival remains the largest annual festival of performing arts in South Africa and Africa that attracts a large number of visitors.

Some of the performances lined-up for this year include music from artists such as Amanda Black, SA singer and songwriter, and a theatre play titled: *Bloke & His American Bantu* Written by UFH alumnus, Sipiwo Mahala and directed by Sello Maake kaNcube who is a renowned South African Actor.

“We are excited and honoured to be among the artists to perform at this prestigious arts festival,” said Mabetshe.

“*Xa Bekutheni* seeks to inform, educate, influence and hopefully make a positive change in this GBV pandemic. It seeks to create a conversation on some of the root causes of GBV by following the lives of two people (male and female) who have experienced GBV from childhood to adolescence.”

Overcoming loss, poverty, sexual abuse and hopelessness

Anathi Kom, a 19-year UFH second-year BSC in Agriculture (Animal Science) student has penned a book detailing how she dealt with the pain of loss, poverty, sexual abuse, hopelessness and her struggle to forgive and let go.

Titled: *The Tree of Life – Anthology* – the book is a collection of 44 poems. This is her third book but the first one to be published, the two other books she wrote are titled: *Broken Rose and Dear Self*.

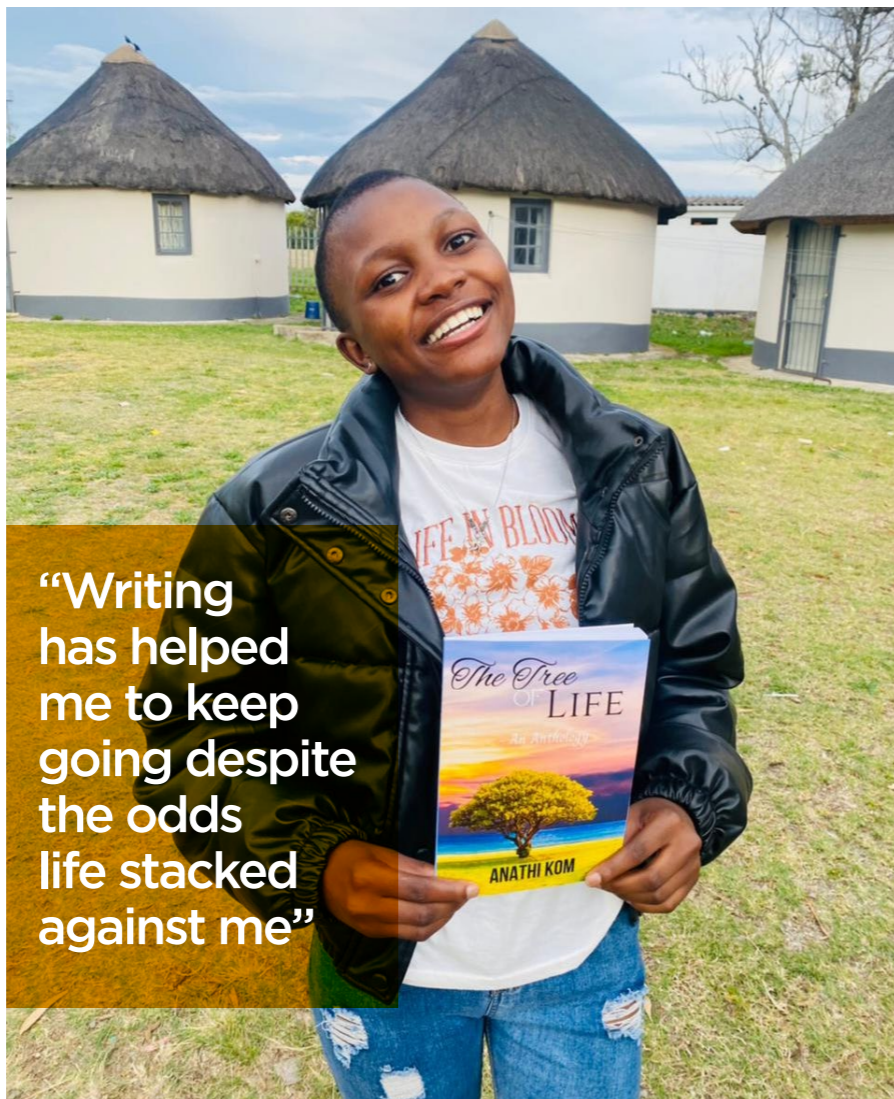
Kom who hails from Butterworth in the Eastern Cape suffered great loss when her mother passed away when she was just eight years old. “My sister and I were left to be raised by our grandmother who provided, nurtured and cared for me immensely in my life journey. I am because of her and I am nothing without her.”

One of her poems titled: “Too sudden you left” is dedicated to her late mother where she expresses her longing and wish for her mother to be still alive.

Sadly, her pain did not end with the loss of her mother. In her 19-years of existence, Kom says she has dealt with so many obstacles, including sexual abuse. “As a result of the abuse, I fell pregnant and became a mother.”

Kom discovered her gift of expressive writing while she was in Grade 10 in Lamplough Senior Secondary School and began her road to healing using words.

“Writing has helped me to keep going despite the odds life stacked against me. It has also helped me



“Writing has helped me to keep going despite the odds life stacked against me”

to escape some realities of life and also discover myself. Through writing, I have learnt to forgive, to move on and accept things I cannot change, so that I don't inflict pain onto my daughter.”

In her first book *Broken Rose*, she shares her journey of healing, while her second book *Dear Self* is a self-reflection book and a short story titled: *My parents failed me*.

Tree of Life was published on the 30th of May by Publish'd Afrika publishing company that is sponsoring Kom's book. The co-founder of the publisher, Sukoluhle

Nontokozi said: “Although we are a self-publishing agency, I couldn't let such body of work gather dust or go to waste”. Kom will be Publish'd Afrika's 51st author.

“I am grateful to the UFH Student Development Office for paying the printing expenses and Mr Mfundo Scott from the UFH ICT Department for assisting with securing me a laptop,” said Kom.

She hopes her book will inspire, empower and impart hope regardless of the challenges, speed humps and pot holes that life throws at us.

Alumna Zukie Gwayi re-appointed as Chair of UNEP Chemical Review Committee

One of our esteemed alumni and Mavuso Location (Alice) born, Noluzuko “Zukie” Gwayi has been reappointment as the Chair of the Chemical Review Committee (CRC), a scientific subsidiary committee of the Rotterdam Convention under the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

This unanimous decision was taken by parties (country representatives) at the Conferences of the Parties to Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm (BRS-COPs) conventions held from 6th to 17th June in Geneva, Switzerland.

The CRC is responsible for assessing whether scientific research undertaken by parties

for risk evaluation of the dangers of chemicals of concern to the environment and human health in a country, has been done in accordance with internationally accepted scientific standards and methods.

According to a report issued by the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD), an international Press body that covered the BRS COPs meetings, a region, and parties from all the UN regions supported her re-election for the second term. Several lauded her outreach to developing countries regarding the convention and efforts to improve the effectiveness of the CRC. Various parties indicated that this was

the first time in the history of the conventions that a single name was echoed in the plenary for chairing the CRC and was supported by all.

“The whole world displayed confidence in her leadership, with not one objection”, one of her seniors, Ms Mishelle Govender said.

Zukie is currently a Senior Policy Advisor for the International Chemicals and Waste Cooperation in the Department of Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment (DFFE). She holds a Bachelor of Science Degree (1992) and Higher Diploma in Education (1993) from UFH. She also holds an Honours Degree and a Master's Degree in Zoology /Animal Biology from the University of KwaZulu-Natal and Rhodes University, respectively.

Commenting on her reappointment, she said: “From a policy perspective, my nomination affords me and all developing countries an opportunity to ensure that the work of the CRC continues unhindered. It also ensures that developing countries get access to scientific research outcomes on chemicals that are a danger to the environment and to human health so that they can make informed decisions in their respective countries”

“From a personal perspective, I am humbled and overwhelmed by the support from all the continents of the world. To the African child, it does not matter whether you come from Mavuso Location, the world can be your oyster.”

Well done Zukie. Thank you for flying the South African, UFH and Mavuso Location's flags high.



“To the African child, it does not matter whether you come from Mavuso Location, the world can be your oyster.”



University of Fort Hare
Together in Excellence

PRODUCED BY

Institutional Advancement

FOR COMMENTS, IDEAS AND STORY LEADS:

Aretha Linden - alinden@ufh.ac.za
