

University of Limpopo Appoints New DVC

On Monday, 3 May 2010, the University of Limpopo welcomed Prof Mbudzeni Mbulaheni Sibara, as the new Deputy Vice-Chancellor (DVC) Academic and Research. He comes to the University with extensive experience in teaching and research matters. He is also not new to the University of Limpopo. He previously worked as a Professor, HOD of Microbiology and Dean of the former Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences between 1992 and 2001.

He also worked as Acting DVC and Campus Principal at the then Qwaqwa Campus of the University of the North. He later joined the then North West Technikon as DVC (Academic) in 2001.

Following the mergers and establishment of the Tshwane University of Technology in 2004, Prof Sibara acted as the interim DVC for research until June 2006.

Prior to his appointment at the University, he served as a Co-ordinator of the merger office of the former DoE which recently transformed into Department of Higher Education and Training (DoHET) since July 2006.

Prof Sibara has an incredible research and publications record. He participated and read papers in conferences globally. This clearly distinguishes him as a scholar of repute. The well travelled Prof Sibara also belongs to a number of professional bodies. He succeeds Prof Peter Franks, who retired recently.

As he appreciates this appointment, Prof Sibara cited that: "This is homecoming for me. Fortunately, I have been engaged with higher education matters ever since I left the then University of North where I served as Dean. I also fully understand challenges of higher education as espoused by the Minister and delegates at the recent Higher Education Summit. Hopefully the institutions that I served will assist in growing the profile of the University of Limpopo".

In welcoming the new DVC, Prof NM Mokgalong, the Vice-Chancellor and Principal indicated that Prof Sibara would definitely add value and strengthen the academic leadership of the University. "You are joining the University at the time which we are preparing for the HEQC Audit 2010. Your experience will assist the University to present a sound submission to the HEQC Audit".

Besides the academic leadership being his primary responsibilities, Prof Sibara will also be in charge of Institutional Planning, Quality Assurance, Information and Communication Technology and Library Services.