

NELSON MANDELA  
UNIVERSITY

Autumn Graduation  
April 2026

CEREMONY 5  
Faculty of Law

FRIDAY, 10 APRIL 2026 | 09:30



# OUR Vision

To be a dynamic African university, recognised for its leadership in generating cutting-edge knowledge for a sustainable future

# OUR Mission

To offer a diverse range of life-changing education experiences for a better world

# OUR Values



Excellence



Ubuntu



Sustainable  
stewardship



Integrity



Social justice and  
equality



Respect for diversity

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# We Are Nelson Mandela University

*As a values-based, embedded African university, promoting social justice in the service of society, we offer a range of life-changing educational experiences, impactful research and innovation, and transformative engagement.*

These academic core missions are rooted in and informed by recent milestones in the University's history, such as the 2017 name change to Nelson Mandela University, the Vice Chancellor's listening campaign, inaugural and Advancing Mandela addresses, and a transversal organisational redesign process.

We offer quality higher education to over 33 000 students across seven campuses, making us the largest university in the Eastern and Southern Cape.

## What We Offer

Nelson Mandela University is a comprehensive university that offers both general formative and professionally orientated academic programmes from certificate to doctoral level.

We have a strong track record in both fundamental and applied research, working extensively in partnership with business, industry, government, and civil society.

The institution has over 400 study programmes across seven faculties that are internationally recognised and accredited by the relevant professional bodies.

State-of-the-art IT services include WiFi connectivity across all campuses and in numerous off-campus facilities, as well as advanced technological resources and digital aids geared to effective in-person and blended modes of

learning and teaching.

Along with a first-class academic education, Nelson Mandela University provides students with a vibrant student life beyond the classroom.

## Our Campuses

Our seven campuses have a large footprint, with six in Gqeberha and one in George. Of these, four are in Summerstrand, one in Bird Street in Central, and one in Missionvale. Our North and South campuses in Summerstrand are located on an 840-hectare private nature reserve.

Our George Campus is on the Garden Route, midway between Nelson Mandela Bay and Cape Town. Set at the foot of the Outeniqua Mountains, our sustainability campus is where our ecological footprint meets business acumen for a sustainable future.



# Fast Facts

## 7 CAMPUSES

North, South, Ocean Sciences, Second Avenue (in Summerstrand), Missionvale (Missionvale), Bird Street (Central), George (George Campus in the Garden Route)

## 6 INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH THEMES



### STRATEGIC FOCUS AREAS

## 420 PROGRAMMES

(From certificate through to doctoral qualifications)



# 33 117

ENROLLED STUDENTS

(As of March 2026)

# 2 177

PERMANENT EMPLOYEES

(As of March 2026)

## 483 INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS



# 40

DIFFERENT COUNTRIES

## 7 FACULTIES



Business and Economic Sciences



Education



Engineering, the Built Environment and Technology



Health Sciences



Humanities



Law



Science

# CELEBRATING YOUR ACHIEVEMENTS

## Message from the Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor

Guided by the Nelson Mandela University values, most especially Ubuntu, we believe that no achievement is reached in isolation, rather it is in part shaped by the efforts and sacrifices of many others, and rooted in the communities that sustain and nurture us. Your graduation today is more than just a ceremony; it is a testament to your resilience, hard work, and ambition.

So, as you stand at the threshold of a new journey, remember those who offered their guidance, knowledge, and encouragement along the way.

Nelson Mandela University is committed to fostering socially responsible, ethical, and engaged graduates who are equipped to contribute meaningfully to society. We believe that a qualification is a powerful mechanism to drive change, develop communities, and build a better world. As Nelson Mandela so profoundly stated,



***It is in your hands to create a better world for all who live in it.***

Today, you are not just graduates of Nelson Mandela University - you are the bearers of a legacy rooted in Ubuntu, innovation, and African leadership. With this responsibility comes the opportunity to serve humanity with integrity and compassion. Wherever your journey takes you, may you carry with you the values of servant leadership, ethical courage, and commitment to transformation. Nelson Mandela University has equipped you with the tools, knowledge, and courage to change the world - now, it is in your hands.

We salute you! We celebrate your achievement, take pride in your success, and look forward to witnessing the positive impact you will make. Congratulations, and best wishes for the next chapter of your journey ahead.

Ngokukhokelwa ziintsika zase Nelson Mandela University, ngakumbi Ubuntu, sikholelwa ukuba akukho mpumelelo ekungafikelelwa kuyo xa ubani elikheswa, koko impumelelo ibangwa yimigudu kwakunye nokuzijula ijacu kwabantu abaninzi, kwaye isekezelwe kuluntu olusig-cinayo nolusikokosayo. Uthweso-sidanga sakho namhlanje asingomsitho nje; sisiqinisekiso sokuxhathisa kwakho, ukusebenza nzima, kwakunye namabhongo akho. Ngoko ke, njengokuba umi kwindawo eliqalelo elitsha, khumbula abo bathe banikeza isikhokelo, ulwazi, kwakunye nenkuthazo apha ebudeni bohambo.

ENelson Mandela University, sizini-kele ekuphuhliseni abathweswe izidanga ukubaluleka koluntu, bagqibelele ngok- kuziphatha, baxabise uluntu futhi babe negalelo elililo kuluntu. Sikholelwa ukuba isidanga sezemfundo ligwiba elinamandla lokuqhuba utshintsho, ukuphuh-lisa uluntu, kwakunye nokwakha ihlabathi elingcono. Njengokuba uNelson Mandela wakhe watsho ngokuthe qabavu esithi,



***Kusezandleni zakho ekudaleni ihlabathi elingcono laye wonke ubani ohlala kulo.***

Namhlanje, aningobathweswazidanga baseNelson Mandela University nje kuphela - koko nifunjathiswe umzila osekezelwe kuBuntu, ubuchule, kwakunye nobunkokelo beAfrika.

Olu xanduva luza nethuba lokuba ukhonze uluntu obubondwe ngengqiqo kwakunye novelwano. Naphi na apho uhambo lwakho lukuthatha lukuse khona, inga ungatywatha kuwe iintsika zesikhokelo sokuba sisicaka, inkuthazo yengqiqo yokuziphatha, kwakunye

nokuzinikezela kwinguqu.

INelson Mandela University ikuxakathise ngezixhobo, ulwazi, kwakunye nenkuthazo yokutshintsha ihlabathi - ngoku, konke kusezandleni zakho. Siyayibhiyozela inzuzo yakho, siyazingca ngempumelelo yakho, yaye silinde ngomdla igalelo lakho nefuthe elihle oza kulenza. Sikothulela umnqwazi! Huntshu, futhi sikunqwenelela okuhle kwigxathu elilandelayo lohambo lwakho oluzayo.

Volgens die waardes van Nelson Mandela Universiteit, en veral Ubuntu, wat ons lei, glo ons dat geen prestasie in isolasie bereik word nie; dit word eerder ten dele gevorm deur die pogings en opofferings van vele andere, en is gewortel in die gemeenskappe wat ons onderhou en koester. Vandag se gradeplegtigheid is meer as net 'n seremonie; dit is 'n bewys van julle veerkragtigheid, harde werk en ambisie. Soos wat julle op die drumpel van 'n nuwe reis staan, onthou diegene wat hul leiding, kennis en aanmoediging langs die pad aan julle gebied het.

Nelson Mandela Universiteit is verbind daartoe om sosiaal verantwoordelike, etiese en betrokke graduandi te ontwikkel wat toegerus is om betekenisvol tot die samelewing by te dra. Ons glo dat 'n kwalifikasie 'n kragtige meganisme is om verandering te

dryf, gemeenskappe te ontwikkel en 'n beter wêreld te bou. Soos Nelson Mandela dit so treffend gestel het:

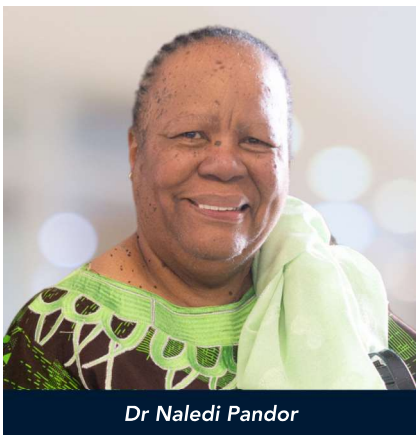


***Dit is in julle hande om 'n beter wêreld te skep vir almal wat daarin leef.***

Vandag is julle nie net die graduandi van Nelson Mandela Universiteit nie – julle is die draers van 'n nalatenskap wat gewortel is in Ubuntu, innovering en Afrika-leierskap. Met hierdie verantwoordelikheid kom die geleentheid om die mensdom met integriteit en deernis te dien. Waarheen julle reis julle ook al neem, mag julle die waardes van diensbare leierskap, etiese moed en toewyding tot transformasie met julle saamneem.

Nelson Mandela Universiteit het julle toegerus met die gereedskap, kennis en moed om die wêreld te verander – nou is dit in julle hande. Ons saluier julle! Ons vier jul prestasie, ons is trots op jul sukses, en sien daarna uit om jul positiewe impak te aanskou. Veels geluk en net die beste wense vir die volgende hoofstuk van jul reis vorentoe.

# OUR CHANCELLOR, VICE-CHANCELLOR AND CHAIRPERSON OF COUNCIL



Dr Naledi Pandor

Dr Grace Naledi Mandisa Pandor is the new Chancellor of Nelson Mandela University.

Her distinguished career in education, science, governance and international diplomacy reflects a lifelong commitment to knowledge, justice and transformative development — values that lie at the heart of the University's Vision 2030. Her work is further characterised by deep intellectual grounding, a commitment to dialogue, and a firm belief in education as a public good that advances societal transformation.

Dr Pandor is one of South Africa's most respected public leaders in the democratic era. A Member of Parliament since 1994, her contribution to shaping post-apartheid South Africa is marked by

sustained and strategic leadership across multiple portfolios, including education, science and innovation, home affairs and international relations. Her work consistently demonstrates the power of education as a catalyst for inclusive growth, institutional excellence and societal renewal, while also reflecting a broader commitment to building a capable, ethical and developmental state.

Her ministerial leadership spans key national departments, including Education (2004–2009), Science and Technology (2009–2012 and 2014–2018), Home Affairs (2012–2014), Higher Education and Training (2018–2019), and International Relations and Cooperation (2019–2024). Across these roles, she has championed policy reform, institutional strengthening and global engagement, contributing significantly to South Africa's development trajectory and international standing.

As Minister of Education and later Minister of Higher Education and Training, Dr Pandor championed expanded access to higher education, strengthened quality assurance systems and prioritised student success in a transforming society. Her tenure was defined

by a deep commitment to equitable opportunity, institutional accountability and the development of a capable, future-oriented higher education sector.

Serving as Minister of Science and Technology, she played a pivotal role in advancing South Africa's national system of innovation — supporting research excellence, promoting international scientific collaboration and positioning science and technology as drivers of economic development and social progress. She was instrumental in securing South Africa as a co-host for the Square Kilometre Array (SKA) radio telescope project, while strengthening investment in research infrastructure, postgraduate development and global research partnerships.

In her most recent role as Minister of International Relations and Cooperation, Dr Pandor elevated South Africa's diplomatic presence on the global stage. She has been a consistent advocate for multilateralism, African solidarity, human rights and sustainable development, advancing peace, cooperation and shared prosperity while positioning Africa's voice within global governance systems. Dr Pandor's leadership is grounded in a strong academic and

intellectual foundation. Her career began in education, including teaching in London and Botswana, followed by roles as lecturer and senior lecturer in South Africa. She later contributed to academic development and support at the University of Cape Town, reflecting an enduring commitment to teaching, learning and intellectual growth.

She holds a PhD from the University of Pretoria (2019), alongside multiple postgraduate qualifications in education, linguistics and leadership from institutions including the University of London, Stellenbosch University and Harvard University. Her intellectual contributions and public service have been recognised through numerous honorary doctorates from leading institutions in South Africa and internationally.

Her earlier public service includes leadership roles in Parliament, including Deputy Chief Whip of the African National Congress and Chairperson of the National Council of Provinces, experiences that have shaped her principled, values-driven and consensus-building approach to governance. Dr Pandor's intellectual depth and public service have earned her wide recognition nationally and internationally. She remains a respected voice in global policy, education and development discourse.

In essence, our Chancellor embodies the University's commitment to social justice, humanising pedagogy, research impact, inclusive access and transformative engagement. Her advocacy for education as a public good, emphasis on ethical leadership, and belief in Africa's

agency in shaping its own destiny, resonate profoundly with Nelson Mandela University's mission.

Dr Naledi Pandor's stewardship signals a continuation of principled leadership—guiding the University in nurturing globally competent graduates, advancing impactful scholarship and strengthening its role as a catalyst for social and economic transformation.



We would like to introduce you to our visionary leader at the helm of Nelson Mandela University, our Vice-Chancellor, Professor Sibongile Muthwa. As a leader of a university that seeks to be a dynamic African University, Professor Muthwa embodies the African philosophy of interconnectedness and a shared humanity.

She holds a PhD from the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, and an MSc in Development Policy and Planning from the London School of Economics and Political Science. Her career spans academia, development, and public sector leadership in South Africa and internationally.

Professor Muthwa's career stands as a testament to educational excellence, societal advancement and global collaboration. She has played a pivotal role in shaping

higher education policy and governance. She previously served as the Chairperson of Universities South Africa (USAf), an organisation dedicated to advancing the sustainability, effectiveness, and societal impact of the country's 26 public universities.

Before joining Nelson Mandela University, she was the Director-General of the Eastern Cape Provincial Government (2004-2010), where she was instrumental in driving public sector transformation and service delivery.

Prior to that, she served as Director of the Fort Hare Institute of Government, strengthening public administration and governance frameworks.

Her leadership demonstrates a legacy building orientation and creating long-term value that benefits future-generations; and furthermore is deeply aligned with Nelson Mandela University's values of Ubuntu, integrity, social justice, and respect for diversity. Passionate about gender justice, social inclusion, and participatory democracy, she serves in various national and international advisory structures.

As Vice-Chancellor, Professor Muthwa is committed to positioning Nelson Mandela University as a university in service to society, fostering human-centered innovation, and nurturing graduates who are responsible global citizens, equipped to address the challenges of the 21st century. Under her leadership, she has spearheaded initiatives that demonstrate inclusive access to higher education, transformative research, and engagement that drives social and economic progress.



Judge Nambitha Dambuza

Nelson Mandela University is proud to introduce Judge Nambitha Dambuza as our Chairperson of Council. A highly respected jurist with over two decades of experience. Judge Dambuza's career exemplifies the ethical foundations that Nelson Mandela University must uphold—a commitment to integrity, justice, and social upliftment. Her presence as Chairperson of Council supports the institution's ability to remain a beacon of ethical leadership, transformation, and academic excellence in South Africa and beyond.

Judge Dambuza currently serves as a Justice of the Supreme Court of Appeal and brings a wealth of experience in legal governance, judicial education, and higher education leadership.

A graduate of the University of Natal (BProc and LLB) and Tulane University in the United States (LLM), Judge Dambuza's

legal expertise has significantly influenced the South African judiciary. She was appointed as a Judge of the Eastern Cape High Court in 2005, later rising to the Supreme Court of Appeal in 2015, where she has also served as Deputy President and Acting President. In addition to her judicial responsibilities, she plays a vital role in shaping South Africa's legal landscape—convening the induction programme for newly appointed judges through the South African Judicial Education Institute (SAJEI) and chairing the Rules Board for South African Courts.

Beyond the judiciary, Judge Dambuza is deeply committed to higher education and social justice, a commitment that aligns seamlessly with Nelson Mandela University's transformative mission. She has served as Council Chairperson of Walter Sisulu University, where she played a key role in stabilising the institution during a critical period. Additionally, she is a visiting professor at Rhodes University's Faculty of Law, underscoring her passion for nurturing future generations of legal minds.

Judge Dambuza's orientation towards environmental sustainability and the accompanying ethical responsibility reinforces the idea that truly ethical institutions must not only serve humanity but

also protect the world for future generations. Judge Dambuza has served as the Chairperson of the African Judicial Education Network on Environmental Law, is a board member of the Global Judicial Institute on Environmental Law, and champions legal frameworks that protect natural ecosystems. Her keen interest in our Ocean Sciences programme highlights her recognition of our university's unique role in addressing environmental challenges through academic excellence and innovation.

Judge Dambuza's leadership is grounded in the values of integrity, Ubuntu, and social justice, reflecting the very ethos of Nelson Mandela University. As Chairperson of Council, she will guide the institution in its pursuit of knowledge that serves humanity, ensuring that we continue to produce graduates who are ethical, engaged, and empowered to drive positive change in society.

We are honoured to have Judge Nambitha Dambuza at the helm of our Council. Her wisdom, experience, and unwavering commitment to justice and education will undoubtedly strengthen Nelson Mandela University's legacy as an institution that champions the advancement of a more just and sustainable world.

# OUR HISTORY

## *Nelson Mandela University*

Nelson Mandela University is a new generation comprehensive public university. It owes its origins to the transformation of the higher education sector in South Africa in the early 2000s. Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University was established in 2005 from the amalgamation and merger of three former higher education institutions: the University of Port Elizabeth (established in 1964), the Port Elizabeth Campus of Vista University (established in 1982) and the Port Elizabeth Technikon (established in 1925).

In 2017 our university was renamed after the global icon, Nelson Mandela. This was much more than a branding exercise.

It was an opportunity to ask searching questions about the role of public universities in society and what it means to carry the name of arguably the greatest statesman of the 20th century.

We re-imagined Nelson Mandela University as a values-based university, embedded in its multiple communities, in the service of

society. We envisioned a university that would be the academic expression of the values and ethos of our namesake, one that would partner with government, civil society, other higher education institutions and like-minded organisations to promote social justice and help resolve pressing societal challenges. This was the journey we embarked upon, and it is a journey that is still ongoing.

As graduates of our fine university, you have now become an indelible part of its history.



# OFFICE-BEARERS OF THE UNIVERSITY

## CHANCELLOR

Dr GNM Pandor: BA (UBLS), Dip Ed (University of London, UK), MA Ed (University of London, UK), MA, PhD, (UP) PhD (hc) (CPUT, SU, University of Lisbon, Portugal, University College of Dublin, Ireland)

## CHAIRPERSON OF COUNCIL

Judge N Dambuza: B Proc, LLB (Natal), LLM (Tulane University, USA)

## VICE-CHANCELLOR

Prof SW Muthwa: BA(SW) (Fort Hare), BA(SW) Hons (Wits), MSc, PhD (London University, UK)

## DEPUTY VICE-CHANCELLOR: ENGAGEMENT AND TRANSFORMATION

Prof A Keet: BA, HDE, BEd, MEd (Cum Laude) (UWC), PhD (Edu Manag, Law and Policy) (UP)

## DEPUTY VICE-CHANCELLOR: LEARNING AND TEACHING

Prof M Moeng: BA, HDE, BEd Hons (UPE), MSc (St Cloud State University, USA), DEd (NMMU)

## DEPUTY VICE-CHANCELLOR: PEOPLE AND OPERATIONS

Mr LP Jack: NDip (PM) (EC Technikon), BTech (PM) (PET), BAPhil (US), MCom (UKZN)

## DEPUTY VICE-CHANCELLOR: RESEARCH, INNOVATION AND INTERNATIONALISATION

Prof A Muronga: BSc, UED (UNIVEN), BScHons, MSc (UCT), PhD (University of Minnesota, USA)

## DEAN OF STUDENTS

Dr S Mchunu: B Paed (UNIZULU), BA Hons (Natal), MA (Education) (University of Newcastle, UK), MCom (Organisational and Management Systems), PhD (UKZN)

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: FINANCE

Mr MR Monaghan: BCom (UPE), BCom Hons (UNISA), Professional Accountant (SA)

## REGISTRAR

Mr EB De Koker: BA(UCT), BA Hons (UNISA), MA (Pub Admin) (University of Warwick, UK)

## PRESIDENT OF ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Mr L Nare: BA (NMMU), PGDip Bus Admin (GIBS), MBA (GIBS)

# EXECUTIVE DEANS OF FACULTIES

## **BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC SCIENCES**

Prof HR Lloyd: BCom (Cum Laude) (UPE), BCom Hons (Cum Laude) (UPE), MCom (UPE), DCom (UPE)

## **EDUCATION**

Prof HH Sathorar: BCom, HDE (Cum Laude), BEd Hons (Cum Laude) (UPE), MBA (Cum Laude) (NMMU), PhD (Mandela Uni)

## **ENGINEERING, THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT AND TECHNOLOGY**

Prof S Rathilal: BSc (Chem Eng) (UDW), MSc (Eng), PhD (UKZN)

## **HEALTH SCIENCES**

Prof Z Zingela: MBChB (Natal), FC Psych (SA), M Med (UP), PhD Psychology (Mandela Uni)

## **HUMANITIES**

Prof P Maseko: BA, BA Hons (UWC), MA, PhD, PGDip in Higher Ed (RU)

## **LAW**

Dr L Biggs: BCom (Law), LLB (UPE), LLM (Labour Law) (Cum Laude), LLD (NMMU)

## **SCIENCE**

Prof C Grobler: Dip Bio Med Tech, HDip Bio Med Tech, (VUT), MTech Bio Med Tech (CUT), DTech Bio Med Tech (DUT)

## **DEAN OF LEARNING AND TEACHING**

Dr P Kota-Nyati: BA (Vista), BA Hons, MA Couns Psych (UPE), DPhil (Mandela Uni)

# ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS

- **Entrance of Academic Procession**
- **Moment of Silence**
- **Constitution of Congregation and Welcome**  
Chancellor
- **Choral Item**  
Nelson Mandela University Choir
- **Awarding of Qualifications**  
Chancellor
- **Conferring of Doctoral Degrees**  
Chancellor
- **Dissolution of Congregation**  
Chancellor
- **National Anthem**  
(The congregation is requested to stand for the singing of the National Anthem)
- **Departure of Academic Procession**  
(The congregation is requested to remain standing until the academic procession has left the hall)

\* The words *Cum Laude* indicate that the diploma or degree is awarded with distinction to the candidate/s

# HONORARY DOCTORAL CITATIONS

# Doctor of Laws (LLD) (honoris causa)

*Justice Cecil Mpho Somyalo*



It is an honour for Nelson Mandela University to confer the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws (LLD) (*honoris causa*) upon Justice Cecil Mpho Somyalo, a distinguished jurist, and respected leader of the judiciary. His life and work have significantly shaped the administration of justice in South Africa.

Born in Qumbu in the Eastern Cape, Justice Somyalo came from modest beginnings and his passion for the law was sparked when he interpreted for a white firm of attorneys (unpaid), during his school holidays. He attained a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Fort Hare and taught English, History and Latin at schools in Mthatha and Port Elizabeth (now Gqeberha).

He subsequently continued his studies through the University of South Africa, obtaining legal qualifications that would enable him to enter a profession that, at the time, remained largely closed to black South Africans under the apartheid system.

His commitment to justice led him to pursue a legal career, and in 1971 he was admitted as an attorney of the Supreme Court of South Africa. He set up a law practise with the late Dumile Kondile, who later became a judge. For more than 20 years, Justice Somyalo practised law in Gqeberha, serving communities during one of the most turbulent periods in South Africa's history.

His appointment to the bench in 1995 signalled a turning point in the history

of South African law. When he became a judge of the Transkei Division of the High Court, Justice Somyalo became the first attorney in South Africa to be appointed permanently to the bench — detracting from a long-held tradition that had limited such appointments to senior advocates.

This appointment heralded a radical shift in the legal profession and contributed to the broader transformation of the judiciary in the early years of democracy. In 1997 he was appointed Judge President of the Transkei Division, becoming the first black jurist to hold that position.

Just two years later he was elevated to Judge President of the Eastern Cape Division of the High Court. The South African judiciary faced complex institutional challenges. The legacy of apartheid had left the court system fragmented in terms of the former homelands and provinces. Judge President, Justice Somyalo played a critical role in guiding the rationalisation and integration of the courts of the Eastern Cape.

He helped bring together previously divided divisions: Grahamstown (now Makhanda), Bhisho and Mthatha into a more unified judicial system.

Justice Somyalo has been described as a leader of integrity and humility and one who understood the law not merely as a technical discipline, but as a mechanism through which fairness and dignity could be pursued. Known for

his fairness and firmness on the bench, he earned widespread respect for his commitment to judicial independence and for his ability to inspire cooperation among judges and court officials alike.

In 2001 he served two terms as an acting justice of the Constitutional Court of South Africa, participating in the work of the country's apex court during a formative period in its history.

He also served as Vice-President of the Rules Board for Courts of Law and contributed to the drafting of the Code of Conduct for Judges and procedures governing complaints against members of the judiciary, while he also mentored younger lawyers and judges.

Other achievements by Justice Somyalo include him:

- Being a member of the Independent Mediation Services of South Africa, where he did several labour-related arbitrations in the Eastern Cape and
- Being deputy electoral chair for the Eastern Cape, during the 1994 elections.

In honouring Justice Cecil Mpho Somyalo today, Nelson Mandela University recognises not only an eminent jurist but also a pioneer who expanded the horizons of the legal profession. His life embodies the ideals of justice, service and ethical leadership that this University seeks to cultivate in its students and graduates.



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***It is an honour for Nelson Mandela University to confer the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws (LLD) (*honoris causa*) upon Justice Cecil Mpho Somyalo, a distinguished jurist, and respected leader of the judiciary. His life and work have significantly shaped the administration of justice in South Africa.***

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# Doctor of Literature (D Litt)

*Professor Gabeba Baderoon*



It is a privilege for Nelson Mandela University to award an Honorary Doctor of Literature (D Litt) to **Professor Gabeba Baderoon**, a poet, scholar, public intellectual and one of the foremost literary voices to emerge from democratic South Africa.

Currently an Associate Professor of Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies, African Studies and Comparative Literature at the College of Liberal Arts, Pennsylvania State University, Prof Baderoon was born in South Africa. She is known internationally for her work in poetry and literary studies.

Her work speaks to questions of memory, belonging, identity, and justice. Prof Baderoon is affiliated with the Social Thought Program and the School of International Affairs at Penn State University, and co-directs the African Feminist Initiative, a transnational platform where feminist scholars and activists collaborate in interdisciplinary research on Africa and its diaspora.

She received a PhD in English from the University of Cape Town and held post-doctoral fellowships in the Africana Research Centre and the Islam, African Publics and Religious Values Project. Her accolades include the Sarah Baartman Senior Fellowship at the University of Cape Town, an Extraordinary Professorship of English at Stellenbosch University, and fellowships at the African Gender Institute, the Nordic Africa Institute, the Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Study and

the Harvard Radcliffe Institute. Prof Baderoon started writing poetry late in life, but has earned an outstanding place in contemporary literature, with her collections being celebrated for the powerful ways in which they explore the textures of everyday life. Her poems showcase the ordinary and the historical, providing readers with a platform of new ways of understanding the intersections of personal memory and collective history. Her writing appeals to readers to reflect on the legacies of colonialism, apartheid, migration and the enduring search for home.

Through her writing and teaching, she has contributed to a broader understanding of the diverse intellectual traditions that have shaped South African society. Her work foregrounds voices and histories that have often been marginalised, bringing them into dialogue with global conversations about race, religion, gender and belonging.

Prof Baderoon's research also examines the cultural and political histories of Islam in South Africa, visual and literary representations of Muslim identity and the ways in which memory and narrative shape public life.

Her award-winning works are:

- The Dream in the Next Body, which received the DaimlerChrysler Award for South African Poetry.
- A hundred silences, which was a finalist for the Olive Schreiner Award.

- Regarding Muslims: from Slavery to Post-Apartheid, which received the National Institute for the Humanities and Social Sciences Best Non-fiction Monograph Award.
- The History of Intimacy, which received the Elisabeth Eybers Poetry Prize, the University of Johannesburg Prize for South African Writing and the Best Poetry Book award from the National Institute for the Humanities and Social Sciences.
- Surfacing: On Being Black and Feminist in South Africa, which received the Best Edited Collection Award from the National Institute for the Humanities and Social Science.

Prof Baderoon also co-edited the award-winning essay collection, Surfacing: on Being Black and Feminist, with Desiree Lewis. Her writing showcases the role of the humanities in helping societies understand themselves more fully.

Her work has been translated into multiple languages, including Spanish, Swedish, Mandarin and German.

By conferring upon Prof Baderoon the Honorary Doctor of Literature, the University celebrates a writer and scholar whose work continues to enrich literary culture, advance critical scholarship and inspire readers and students around the world.



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## FACULTY OF LAW

### HIGHER CERTIFICATE IN LAW ENFORCEMENT

BANJWA, Siphon Khanya  
BANZANA, Oyintando  
BENGU, Liso  
DINGANA, Owam  
DUTYWA, Yamkela  
DYAN, Imna  
DZIMBA, Mpendulo Petros  
FUMBA, Okhulekodwa  
GEGE, Khanyisa  
GOSS, Blessing  
JALI, Londeka Thalente  
KONDLO, Esihle  
LUBISI, Salinah  
LUGONGOLO, Othembele  
LUKHULENI, Ndumiso  
MABALA, Baxolise  
MALIKITI, Indipile  
MALULEKE, Kagiso  
MATHE, Kwanele  
MATSHOBA, Sipehelele  
MDOSE, Linomtha  
MFAZWE, Ncumisa  
MFUSI, Entle  
MHLAYIVAYO, Liyema Zamokuhle  
MHLONGO, Palesa  
MOKGOMME, Seja  
MTHEMBU, Ayanda Nonkululeko  
MTYOBILE, Zimkitha Patronella  
NDABA, Ntombenhle Amahle  
POYO, Soyama  
RADEBE, Lindokuhle  
SELDON, Hope Tammy  
SIBANYONI, Siphon Calvin  
SIGOKWANA, Sisiphon  
SIHONJANA, Zintle  
SIMAKUHLE, Sivuyisiwe  
STEMELE, Awodwa  
TALIWE, Luvo Loyolo  
THAMAHA, Tebello  
TYIWA, Elam

#### **CUM LAUDE**

BIZANI, Cwenga  
KHOZA, Kuyabongeka

### DIPLOMA IN LAW ENFORCEMENT

BHOYISI, Lihle  
BOKOBOKO, Siziphiwe  
BONGOZA, Amanda  
CELE, Mbalentle  
CHAUKE, Khanyisa Jeaneth

CILIWE, Sinalo  
DABANE, Nandile  
DANA, Nelani  
DAWETI, Sinovuyo  
DLAMINI, Azola  
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GUMBI, Onelisa Nontando  
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HLONGWANE, Asanda Zama  
HLUNGWANI, Louis  
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MAGADE, Mikhali  
MAGADE, Onwabisiwe  
MAGAYANA, Zizipho  
MAJAJA, Aphile  
MAKOLA, Dimpho  
MALELE, Mmasentle  
MANGXABA, Alungile  
MANQUMA, Anelisa  
MAQUNGO, Khanyisa  
MASEBENI, Sibonokuhle  
MASIKANE, Thalente Kwanele  
MASINDI, Nzudzanyo Jemima  
MAVUMA, Apehelele  
MAYAPI, Sizwe Theodore  
MBENGA, Likhona  
MBUNDWINI, Sindy Engel  
MDAKA, Zinhle Charlotte  
MDHLOVU, Joyce  
MFACA, Sibonelo Emanuel  
MFUNDA, Alulutho  
MNQOKOYI, Aviwe  
MOSIMANE, Letlhogonolo  
MPOFANA, Sinothile Noxolo  
MPUMLWANA, Ngcali  
MTHIMKHULU, Zodwa Portia  
MUOFHE, Diandise Nation  
NAKANI, Siyambuka  
NAMA, Azile  
NCANISA, Lunathi Pearl  
NDZOYIYA, Okuhle  
NGOBENI, Gladynes  
NGUBO, Sisiphon Zamazulu  
NOMNGONGO, Anilisiwe  
NOWALA, Lumkisa  
NXELE, Apehelele  
PHAKATHI, Samkeliso  
PHEMBESHIYA, Asithandile  
PITA, Sisiphon  
PLAM, Yonwaba  
QUNTA, Salizwa  
ROJI, Liyema  
SELOTOLE, Katlego Daphney

SIBANYONI, Patience  
SIDELO, Ayamkela  
SKIBI, Yolanda  
SOSIBO, Aphelele  
SOTSHONGAYE, Yamkela  
TAYITILE, Luluto  
TOKWANA, Ncomeka  
TSHIYABA, Onathi  
TSHUTSHA, Zine  
VANA, Musa  
VILAKAZI, Gugulethu Ntombizonke  
VUNDLE, Asisipho  
WETVOET, Sinothando  
XATASI, Liseza  
YALOLO, Asemahle  
YIMPI, Mtha Simanyiwe  
ZOMBELWANA, Zinam

#### **CUM LAUDE**

LIWANE, Xolelwa  
MUNZHELELE, Comfort  
NEKHAVHAMBE, Lufuno Patience

#### **BACHELOR OF ARTS (LAW)**

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MASEKWANA, Kamvelihle  
MOEPE, Modimo-Onthatile  
NYATI, Lisakhanya Lithemba  
PIKA, Fadzai Cynthia  
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DOMBO, Muofhe  
DUBE, Nande Farai  
DUMISA, Sanele  
FEPHIWE, Mpumelelo  
GALA, Mandisa Unica  
GAZI, Mihle  
HONONO, Maliviwe

KAMANA, Lwazi  
KLEYNHANS, Jason  
KOLISANG, Boitumelo  
KOM, Amanda  
LLOYD, Lutho Sinalo  
MAITLAND, Ava Alexandra  
MAKHATHINI, Samukelisiwe Phindi  
MAKINTA, Mmanakedi Emily  
MANGIWA, Mary-Kendy  
MANIX, Michell Tatenda Magaret  
MATRASS, Franquin Thomas  
MBOBO, Aphindile  
MEMKA, Inathi  
MGALELI, Anita  
MGIQWA, Mongezi  
MHALENI, Khangelani Noel  
MKHAVELE, Agreement Musa  
MKHWANAZI, Morena Richard  
MKUZO, Solethu  
MNIKI, Aluncedo  
MOHLALA, Koketso Mamokadi  
MOSS, Wayne David  
MUDENDA, Ntokozo  
MVULA, Inamandla  
MWAGURA, Zenaide Ruwimbo De Byskmer  
NDENDWA, Matshidiso Adelis  
NETSHIPALE, Nganeo  
NGCWANGU, Mpho Soluliwe  
NGENI, Zeza  
NGQUMSHE, Yonwaba  
NHLAPO, Thulabuse Patric  
NOHE, Banele  
NTOMBELA, Phiyayinkosi  
NTOYABO, Onakho  
NXITYWA, Cebokuhle Sonwabiso  
NZUZA, Sibongakonke  
PERUMAL, Shamara  
POSWA, Milani Norma  
RAMSAMMY, Sohanaa  
SAM, Yolanda Buhle  
SMIT, Michaela  
SOCIKWA, Nontuthuzelo  
SOCISHE, Simamkele  
SOTHOZAMA, Asemahle  
STUURMAN, Benito Gareth  
VAN ZYL, Johandr e  
WATSON, Deveney Nichole  
WEYI, Xoliswa Yolanda  
WILLEMSE, Kaylin Amber  
XAKILE, Manelisi  
XULU, Ntethelelo Mondli  
XUZA, Luvano

#### **CUM LAUDE**

MTSI, Phindile Yanga  
TEMBO, Theophilus Tawanda

## **POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN LABOUR LAW PRACTICE**

BAARD, Rudolf Willem  
BREDA, Tamryn  
FANA, Mpumezo  
JOSOPU, Thembinkosi Matthews  
KANI, Vuyiseka  
MAHLALA, Lusindiso  
MAHONGA, Viwe  
MALI, Nandipa  
MAPAPU, Xola  
MAYONGO, Akhona Monica  
MBILI, Sisipho  
MDINGI, Luko  
MOKHINA, Mathetso Martha  
MOKUPO, Letshepa  
MPOFU, Ngazibini  
MURU, Somila  
MVILA, Sixolile Goodman  
NEL, Dems  
NGQUNGWANA, Sangolinye

NJINGOLO, Njingolo  
NOFUKUKA, Siyabonga  
PILLAY, Czarina Beverley  
POLTINI, Gcobani Victor  
RUNGQU, Belinda  
SAPO-SOTHENI, Vuyokazi  
SNAYERS, Tania Marilli  
TONI, Chuma  
TSHALI, Somikazi Lenn  
TYALI, Afika  
VAN DEN BERG, Stephan  
VANDALA, Siyasanga  
ZAZINI, Vuyokazi Patricia  
ZIBONDA, Lungelo

### ***CUM LAUDE***

MAKAPELA, Xolani Hopewell Makapela  
MASILO, Mosa Isaac  
MOKGWETSI, Phatheka  
TWANI, Mandy

**MASTER OF LAWS IN OCEAN GOVERNANCE (COURSEWORK)**

STARBUCK, Nathan Taylor

Title of treatise:

*LEGAL ASPECTS OF MARINE SPATIAL PLANNING IN THE SOUTH AFRICAN MARITIME CULTURAL ZONE*

Supervisor: Prof PHG Vrancken

---

**MASTER OF LAWS (COURSEWORK)**

ALLNUTT, Angela Isabelle

Title of treatise:

*INORDINATE DELAYS IN THE FINALISATION OF LABOUR DISPUTES*

Supervisor: Dr JK Gathongo

---

KUNGU, Ivy Sheila Atieno

*(Criminal Justice)*

Title of treatise:

*THE IMPACT OF MANDATORY MINIMUM SENTENCES LEGISLATION ON JUDICIAL DISCRETION AND SENTENCE OUTCOMES IN SOUTH AFRICA*

Supervisor: Mr M Ntontela

---

MERILE, Simphiwe

*(Labour Law)*

Title of treatise:

*LEGAL REGULATION OF SICK LEAVE OF EMPLOYEES*

Supervisor: Dr JK Gathongo

---

MLONZI, Llewellyn Luyanda

*(Labour Law)*

Title of treatise:

*PLURALISM AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO MAJORITARIANISM TO ENSURE WORKPLACE DEMOCRACY*

Supervisor: Dr H Hamukuaya

---

MNQOJANA, Success Chumani

*(Criminal Justice)*

Title of treatise:

*INTERCEPTION OF COMMUNICATION AS A MEANS TO COMBAT ORGANISED CRIME IN SOUTH AFRICA*

Supervisor: Prof D Erasmus

---

NGUBO, Khayelihle Langelihle Njabulo

*(Criminal Justice)*

Title of treatise:

*UNREASONABLE DELAYS IN CRIMINAL TRIALS IN TERMS OF 342A OF THE CRIMINAL PROCEDURE ACT 51 OF 1977*

Supervisor: Dr E Gumboh

---

**MASTER OF LAWS (RESEARCH)**

AH GOO, Clarissa Moi-Sui

*(Public Law)*

Title of dissertation:

*ABOLITION OF THE DEFENCE OF SUBJECTIVE CONSENT: TOWARDS AN AFFIRMATIVE CONSENT MODEL FOR RAPE*

Supervisor: Dr E Gumboh

---

BOTHA, Michiel Coenraad - **Cum Laude**

*(Public Law)*

Title of dissertation:

*THE INTERPRETATION AND APPLICATION OF SECTION 102(2) OF THE SYSTEMS ACT, WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF DISPUTED ELECTRICITY TARIFFS*

Supervisor: Prof HJ van As

---

CHETTY, Preesen Daniel

*(Public Law)*

Title of dissertation:

*THE SADC TRADE PROTOCOL ON CUSTOMS AND DUTIES REVENUE – THE LOOPHOLE IDENTIFIED IN COMMISSIONER SARS VS LEVI STRAUSS SA (PTY) LTD*

Supervisor: Mr SP Newman

---

FOONG, Reade Connor - **Cum Laude**

*(Public Law)*

Title of dissertation:

*THE ROLE PLAYERS IN INTERGOVERNMENTAL DISPUTES REGARDING BULK ELECTRICITY SUPPLY*

Supervisor: Prof JC Botha

---

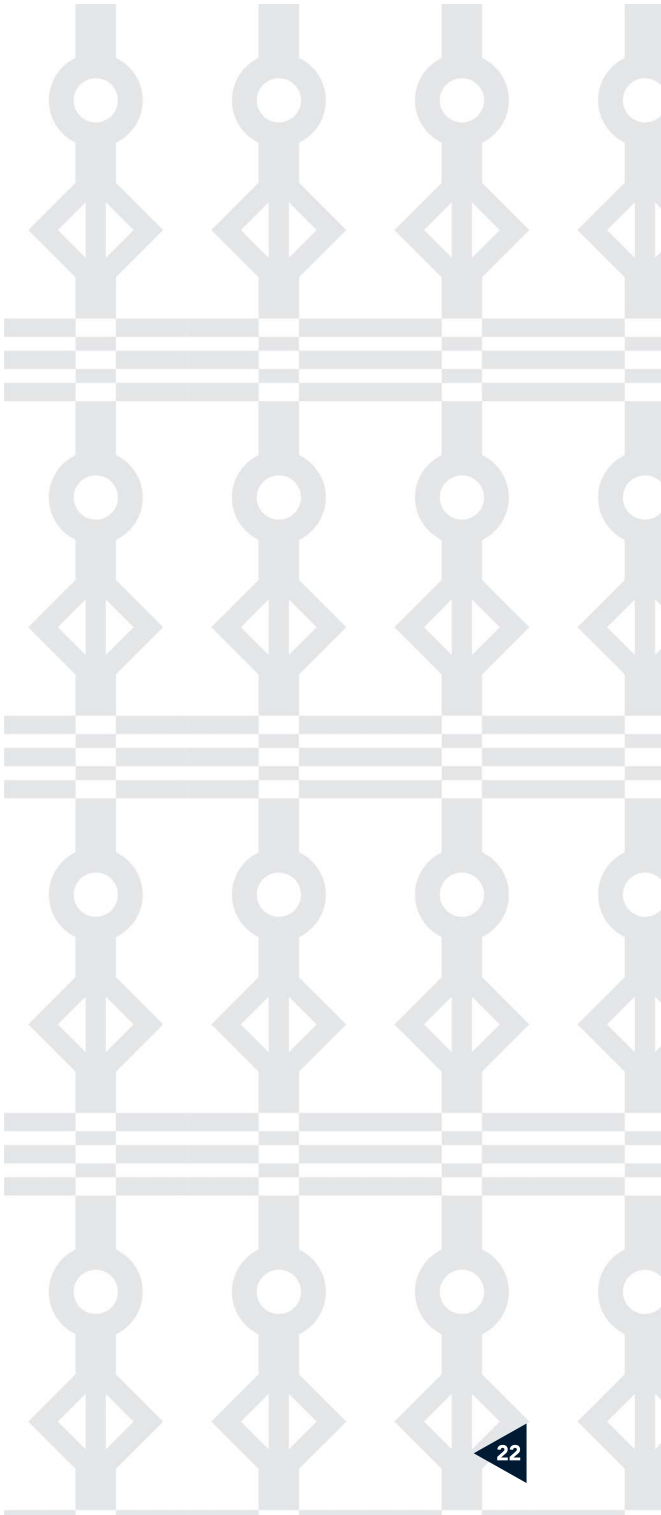
**DOCTOR OF LAWS**

MOYO, Priscilla Tariro  
(Public Law)

Title of thesis:

*THE GREATER GOOD AS A JUSTIFICATION FOR THE LIMITATION OF RIGHTS DURING A PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY: THE CASE OF COVID-19*

Supervisor: Prof A Spies





## DOCTORAL CITATIONS

# THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF LAWS (PUBLIC LAW)

**PRISCILLA TARIRO MOYO**

**Previous qualifications:**

2018 Bachelor of Laws (*Cum Laude*)

2020 Master of Laws (*Cum Laude*)

Nelson Mandela University

Nelson Mandela University

**Thesis:**

*THE GREATER GOOD AS A JUSTIFICATION FOR THE LIMITATION OF RIGHTS DURING A PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY: THE CASE OF COVID-19*



This thesis aimed to investigate the concept of the greater good as a legal principle within the contexts of international law and South African law during Public Health Emergencies (PHEs). The findings of this thesis indicate that, while international law does not explicitly reference the greater good, it is implicitly present through various justifications found in different treaties. Within the South African constitutional framework, the concept can be considered in the Section 36 analysis, serving as either an unlisted value that underpins the Constitution or as a factor to be considered in the proportionality analysis. The study provided detailed recommendations for effectively incorporating the concept of the greater good into South African law while ensuring the protection of entrenched human rights.

Supervisor: Prof A Spies

# CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE FROM THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

*Congratulations on your academic achievement!*

Welcome to the Nelson Mandela University alumni family. You are now a Nelson Mandela University alumna/us. We would like to take this opportunity to introduce you to the Nelson Mandela University Alumni Association.

Once you have obtained your Nelson Mandela University certificate, diploma or degree you become an alumna/us of the University and a member of the Nelson Mandela University Alumni Association.

The Association is recognised by the University Council as a structure of the University. The Association supports and enhances the realisation of the University's vision and mission through maintaining and expanding positive relationships with its members.

## **The Role of the Alumni Relations Office (ARO)**

Primarily, the Alumni Relations Office (ARO) builds relationships and maintain strong links with graduates, friends and supporters of the University through events, newsletters, social media and the alumni and friends magazine Thetha

<https://publications.mandela.ac.za/Publication>

## **The Role of Nelson Mandela University graduate**

We encourage you to attend the

alumni engagement events, be an active alumni ambassador, support your alma mater in a variety of ways including sharing news, expertise, skills, and contributions in cash and kind. For more information regarding University projects you can support please visit the University giving page

<https://www.mandela.ac.za/Giving-to-Mandela-University>

## **Mandela Alumni Connect – our online alumni global networking platform**

Join the Mandela Alumni Connect community - to stay in touch with fellow alumni, get informed about events and job opportunities, career guidance, mentorship initiatives and expand your network. Register for free on <https://alumni.connect.mandela.ac.za/> Visit our website and follow or connect to our social media channels for more information regarding our alumni digital networking platform.

When you happen to be in Gqeberha or on campus please visit the Alumni Relations Centre on North Campus or the University Shop at the Sanlam Student Village.

## **University Shop – the official branded items retailer**

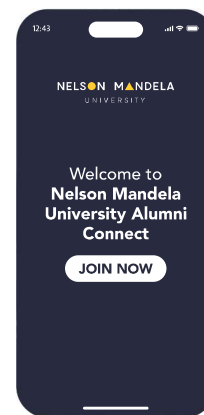
Visit the University Shop situated at the Sanlam Student Village on University Way, Summerstrand, for all Nelson Mandela University

branded clothing, corporate gifts, bags and memorabilia!

Alternatively, shop online for all your favourite branded items <https://onlineshop.mandela.ac.za/>

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# OUR BRAND

## *We are Nelson Mandela University.*

We are the only university in the world named after Nelson Mandela. The iconic South African statesman, humanitarian, and leader is known globally for his remarkable achievements.

As Nelson Mandela University, we are honoured to carry his name. In return, we honour our namesake by striving to live his legacy and embrace the ethos he embodied. We pay tribute to him by using his full name when referring to our institution. We are Nelson Mandela University.

Siyeyona kuphela kweyunivesithi ehlabathini ethiywe ngoNelson Mandela. Esi siswenye senkokheli yombuso eMzantsi Afrika, esingusosisa, kwakunye nenkokheli saziwa kwihlabathi jikelele ngokugqwesa kwakhe okuyimbalasane. NjengeNelson Mandela University, siziva sibekekile ngokuthwala igama lakhe.

Ngokwembuyekezo, sibeka phezulu ugama wethu ngokutabalazela ukuphila umzila wakhe kwaye sikokose iintsika zokuphila awayeqamele ngazo. Simothulela umnqwazi ngokusebenzisa igama lakhe ngokupheleleyo xa sithetha ngeziko lethu. SiyiNelson Mandela University.

Ons is die enigste universiteit ter wêreld wat na Nelson Mandela vernoem is. Die ikoniese Suid-Afrikaanse staatsman, filantroop en

leier is wêreldwyd bekend vir sy merkwaardige prestasies.

As Nelson Mandela Universiteit is ons geëerd om sy naam te dra. In ruil daarvoor eer ons ons naamgenoot deur daarna te streef

om sy nalatenskap uit te leef en die etos wat hy verpersoonlikheid het, aan te gryp. Ons bring hulde aan hom deur sy volle naam te gebruik wanneer ons na ons instelling verwys. Ons is Nelson Mandela Universiteit.



# PHOTOGRAPHER DETAILS

The official photographer for the Nelson Mandela University graduation ceremony is Gordon Harris Photographic. Photographs will be taken of every graduate as he or she is being presented by the Executive Dean of the Faculty and when being hooded by the Registrar. A demarcated area will be used to take family photographs, please follow directional signage. Please refer to the enclosed photograph order form.

**NOTE: NO OTHER PHOTOGRAPHERS WILL BE ALLOWED IN THE HALL.**

**NB: THE TAKING OF ALL PHOTOGRAPHS (INSIDE AND OUTSIDE THE HALL) IS A PRIVATE TRANSACTION BETWEEN EACH CANDIDATE AND THE PHOTOGRAPHER CONCERNED. THE UNIVERSITY ACCEPTS NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE QUALITY OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS.**

# NATIONAL ANTHEM

Nkosi Sikelel'i-Afrika,  
Maluphakanyisw'uphondo lwayo,  
Yizwa imithandazo yethu,  
Nkosi Sikelela, thina lusapho lwayo.

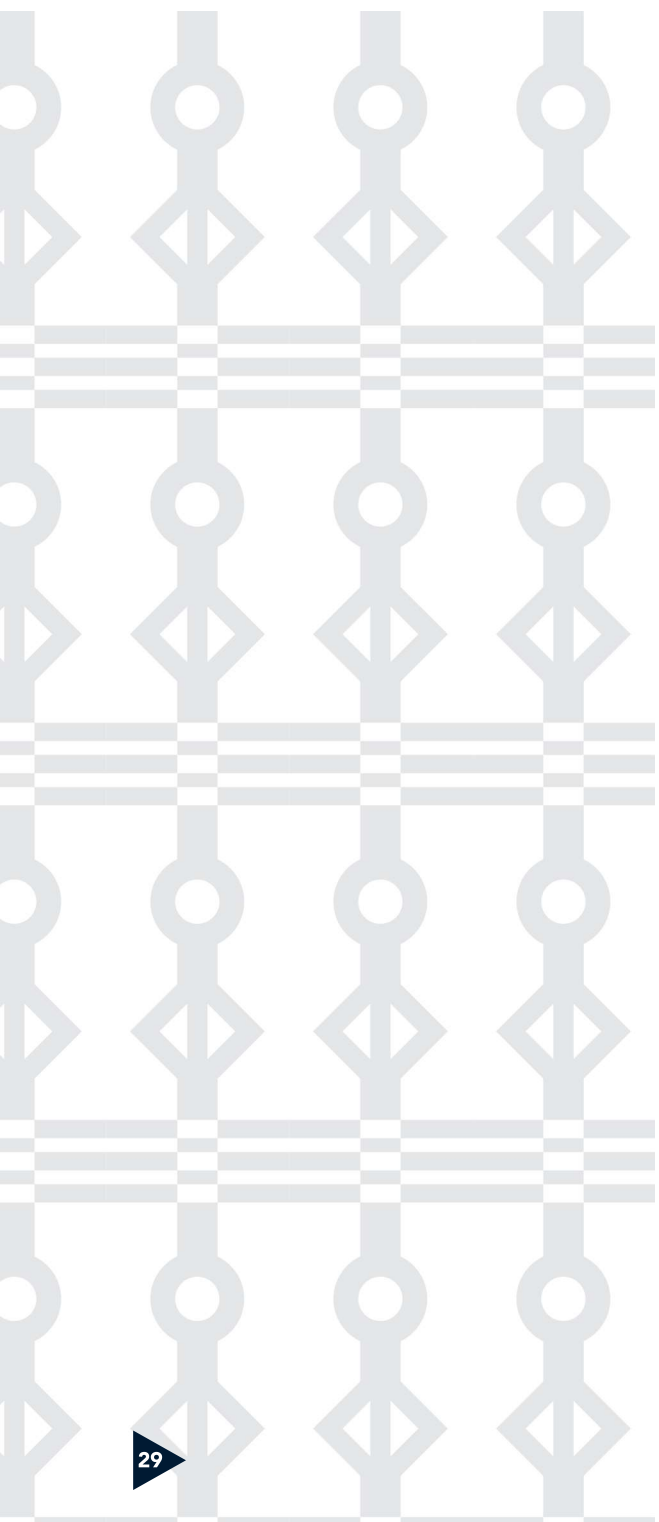
Morena boloka setjhaba sa heso,  
O fedise dintwa le matshwenyeho.  
O se boloke, O se boloke setjhaba sa heso,  
Setjhaba sa South Africa.

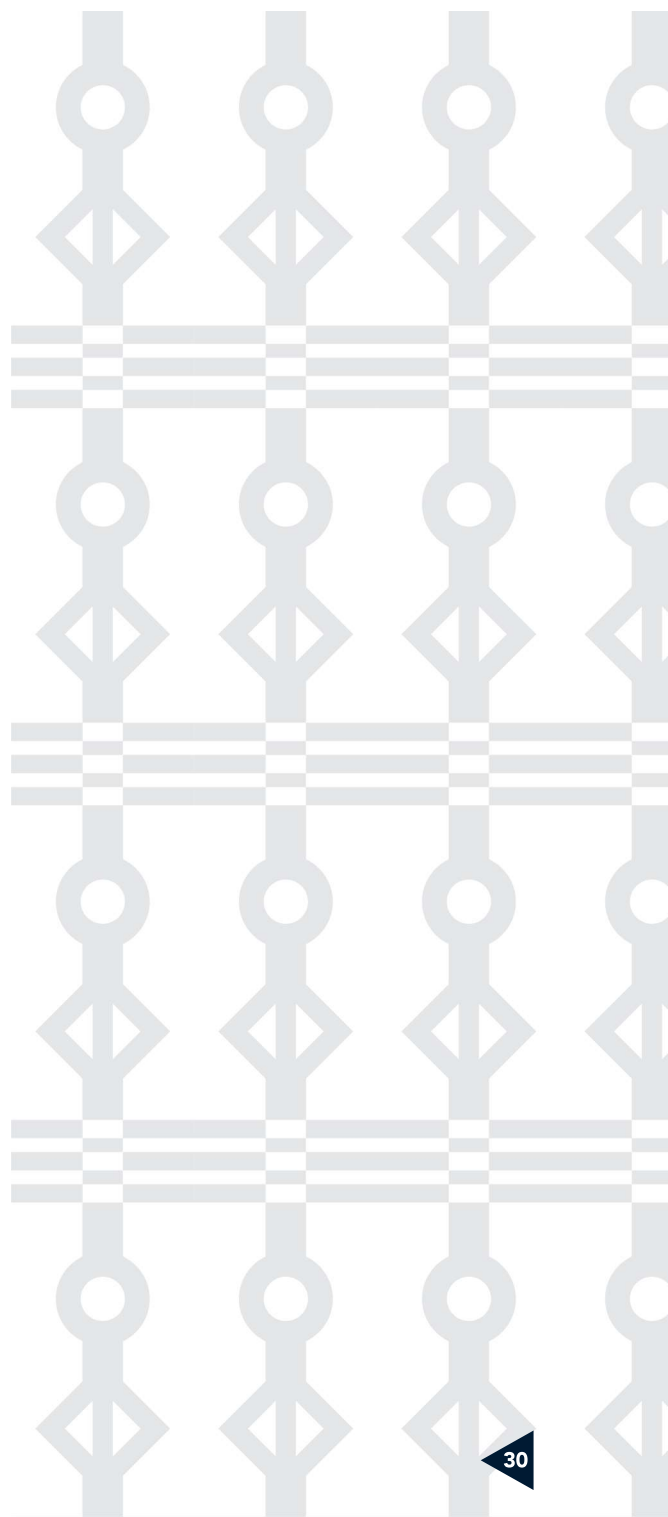
South Africa.

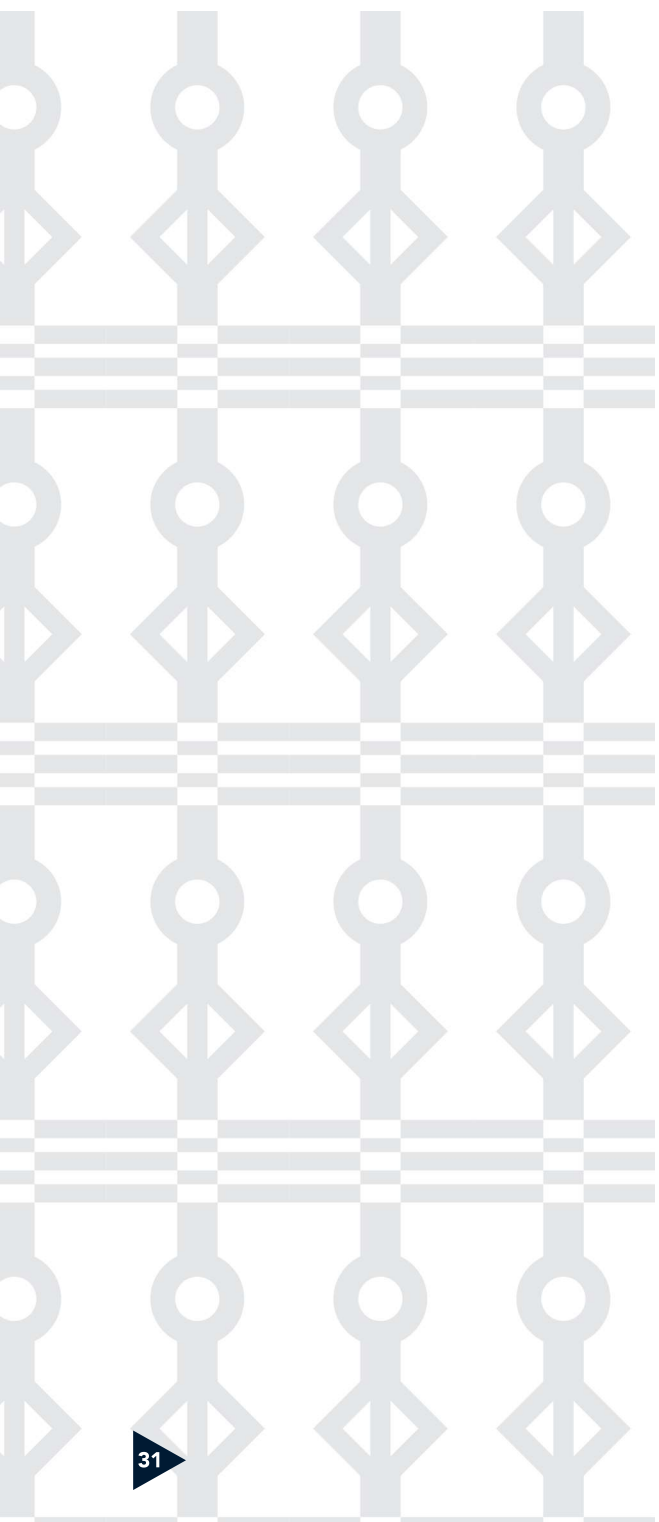
Uit die blou van onse hemel,  
Uit die diepte van ons see.  
Oor ons ewige gebergtes  
Waar die kranse antwoord gee.

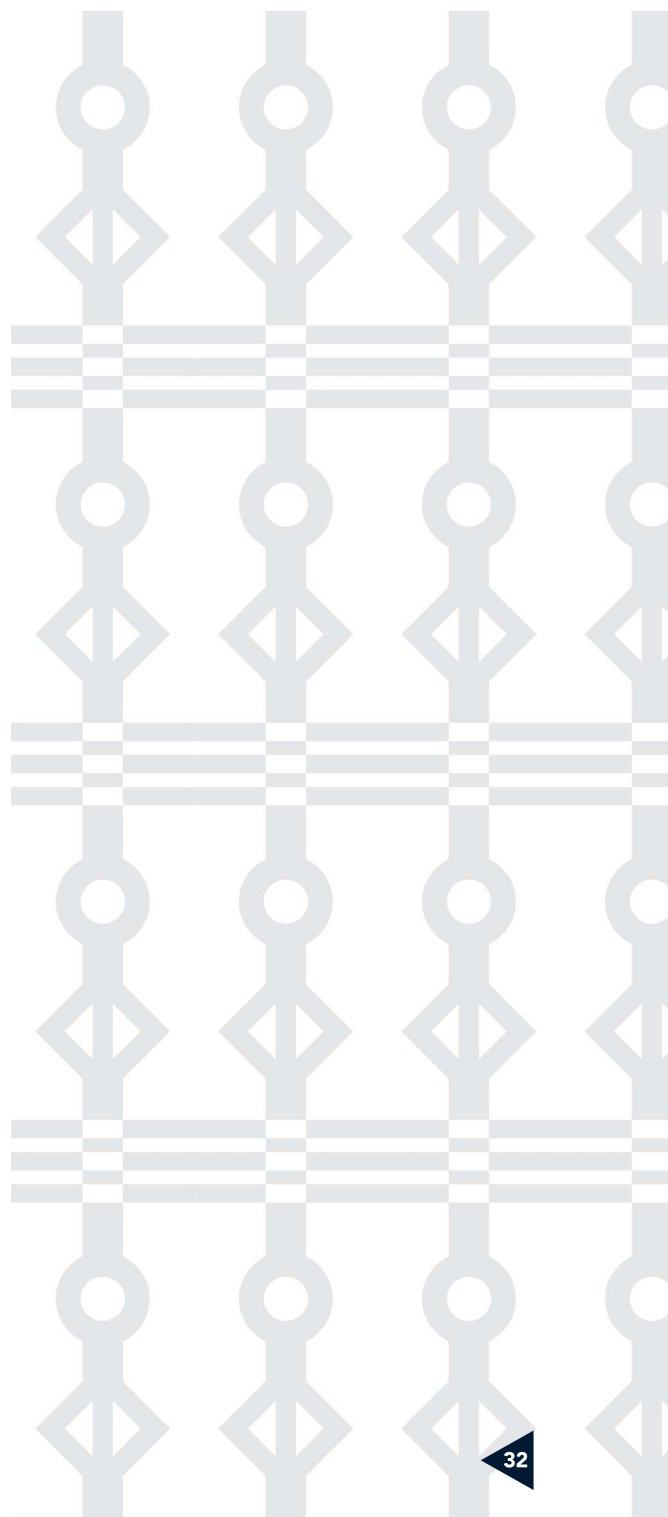
Sounds the call to come together,  
And united we shall stand.  
Let us live and strive for freedom,  
In South Africa our land.

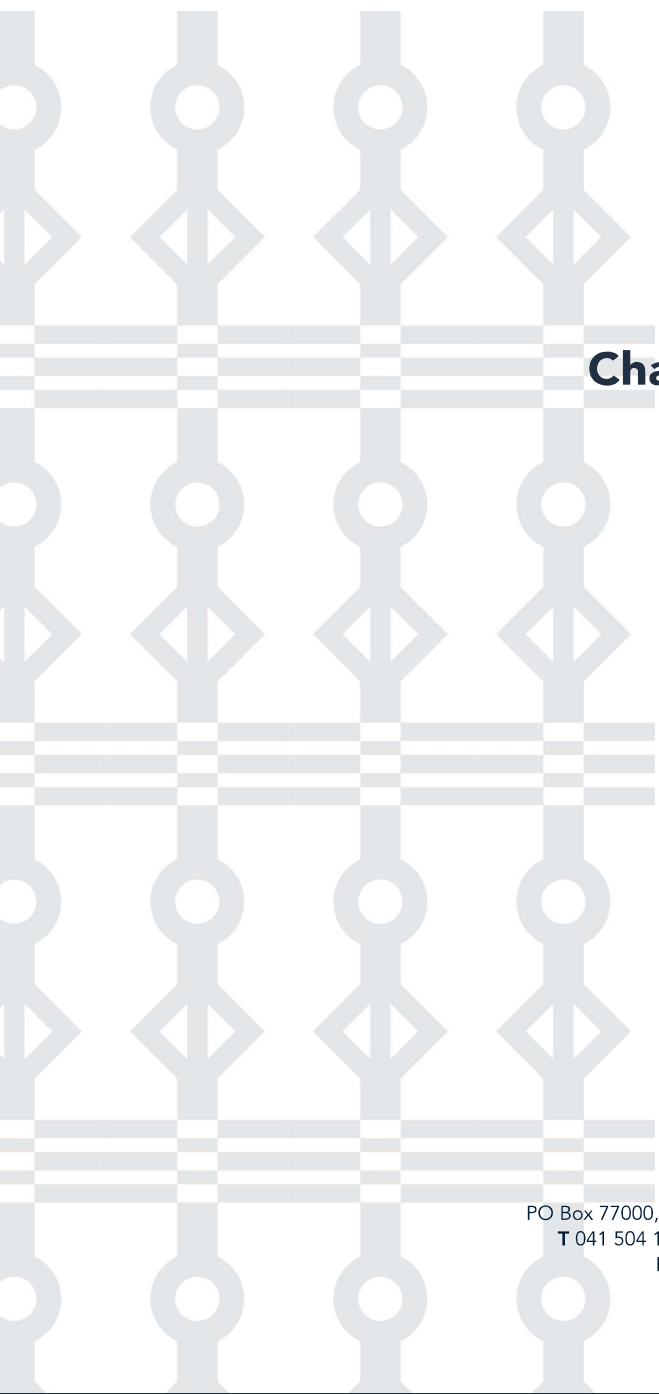












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