

Prudential donates sponsorship worth N\$106 000 to students



UNAM students, Fahil Yoleni Haufiku and Helena Nafuka were awarded bursaries from Prudential Portfolio Managers of Namibia (Pty) Ltd.

Mr Gunton Cloete, the Managing director of Prudential, during his keynote address made a profound statement, saying "Namibia is a rich country, we have Diamonds and fish but our GDP is low, so what is missing? Human Capital is missing. One can have all the resources, but if there is insufficient human Capital, who will give the resources life?"

Dean of the Science Faculty Dr

Martha Nickanor extended gratitude to the firm for assisting deserving students, she said "Vision of 2030, and the Harambe prosperity plan can only be realised when we hold hands and today marks such a point in time."

Fahil Haufiku, a Bachelor of Science Statistics (honours) student and Helena Nafuka, MSc Mathematics, were the two successful candidates out of 10 applicants. Haufiku had an average of 88% while Nafuka scored an average of 94%.

Ms Tuwilika Ashipala from Prudential Portfolio Managers of Namibia expressed that the candidates

applications reflected how brilliant and hardworking they are, "These students weren't lucky, they prepared themselves for this opportunity", she said.

Mr Tango Kanjaba, the Assistant Director of the UNAM foundation- the department responsible for managing bursary funds remarked, "Moments like this, in this economic situation, do not happen every day at the Foundation. Prudential has taken a very important role to award our students because most students go through hardship at the university but still manage to maintain high performance."

by Kerth Ithana

Lecturer presents paper at Tanzanian Conference on Distance Education

Ms Helena Amadhila from the Department of Lifelong Learning and Community Education presented a paper that addressed "Reaching the knot in education, employment and training (NEET) generation through blended TVET: Case study of Tommy's Lodge in Namibia". The paper made in roads into the Work Integrated Learning of the Namibia Training Authority (NTA) which is aimed at skills development through apprenticeship model to bridge the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical skills.

The Distance Education Association of Southern Africa (DEASA) and Distance Education Association of Tanzania (DEATA) joint conference 2019 was held on September 25th – 27th 2019 at The Open University of Tanzania. The theme was: Agenda 2030 and Open and Distance Learning: Making transformation happen. The conference brought together researchers, practitioners, scholars and academics to share research experiences in Open and Distance Learning (ODL).

Ms Amadhila was given an opportunity to moderate one session which served

as a learning platform for her to engage with other academics. See photo below.

The conference was attended by participants from 10 countries Namibia included. Apart from UNAM, NUST, NOLNet and NAMCOL were also represented. In 2020, the conference will be taking place in Mozambique and academics are encouraged to take their students with to the conference to ensure knowledge sharing and creation in the quest for global response for inclusive and equitable quality ODL.

Exchange project targets Small Town Transformation



Students from UNAM and the University of Basel went through a four week international exchange programme, themed "Small Town Transformation". The two groups each travelled to various small towns in Namibia and Switzerland to learn from each other.

The project's overarching goal is to serve as a model for future South-North cooperation in learning and teaching at universities. The first Winter/Summer School dealt with structural changes in small towns (Oranjemund in Namibia and Herisau/ Appenzell in Switzerland). Thereby, providing the participants with the methodologies to understand these changing environments at home and abroad in order to creatively think about strategies for the future well-being of societies. The project is thus situated in the framework of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Nine post-graduate students from the University of Namibia's Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences took part in the project as well as 3 young

professionals from Oranjemund and the Museum Association of Namibia. The post-graduate students are pursuing their MA studies in fields such as Tourism, Geo-Information Science, Geography and Environmental studies, Sociology, Political Studies, History and Archaeology well as Heritage and Conservation Management, respectively. Whilst, seven students from the University of Basel and two young professionals from Switzerland participated.

From UNAM's side, the project was headed by two lecturers Dr Martha Akawa-Shikufa, and Romie Nghiteveleka, and Coordinated by Nahas Angula Enkono. The Swiss-group was headed by Dr Giorgio Miescher and Dr Luregn Lenggenhager from the Centre for African Studies, University of Basel. The project was financially supported by the Mercator Foundation in Switzerland, and the University of Namibia. Next year's winter/summer school will focus on rural areas in transformation and will take a similar format.

by Nahas Enkono



Conference participants group photo after the official opening by the Hon Minister of Education of Tanzania