

Celebrating 140 years of shaping futures

**To achieve great heights,
one must have strong roots.**

This year Unisa reaches a significant milestone in its history.
The university's remarkable journey extends from humble beginnings in 1873 to its current role as a **premier Open Distance Learning institution** on the continent.

As we open the academic year, we celebrate our achievements as a **responsive, relevant and transforming** institution throughout our history. We take pride in our **teaching** and our investment in **research and innovation**. We will continue to contribute to **social and economic development** into the future.

“Higher education is a daunting and challenging endeavour in the 21st century, with new challenges and demands at every turn. Unisa will continue to shape the future of people, our country and the continent.
Professor Mandla S Makhanya, Principal and Vice-Chancellor
(at the official opening of Unisa's academic year 2013).”