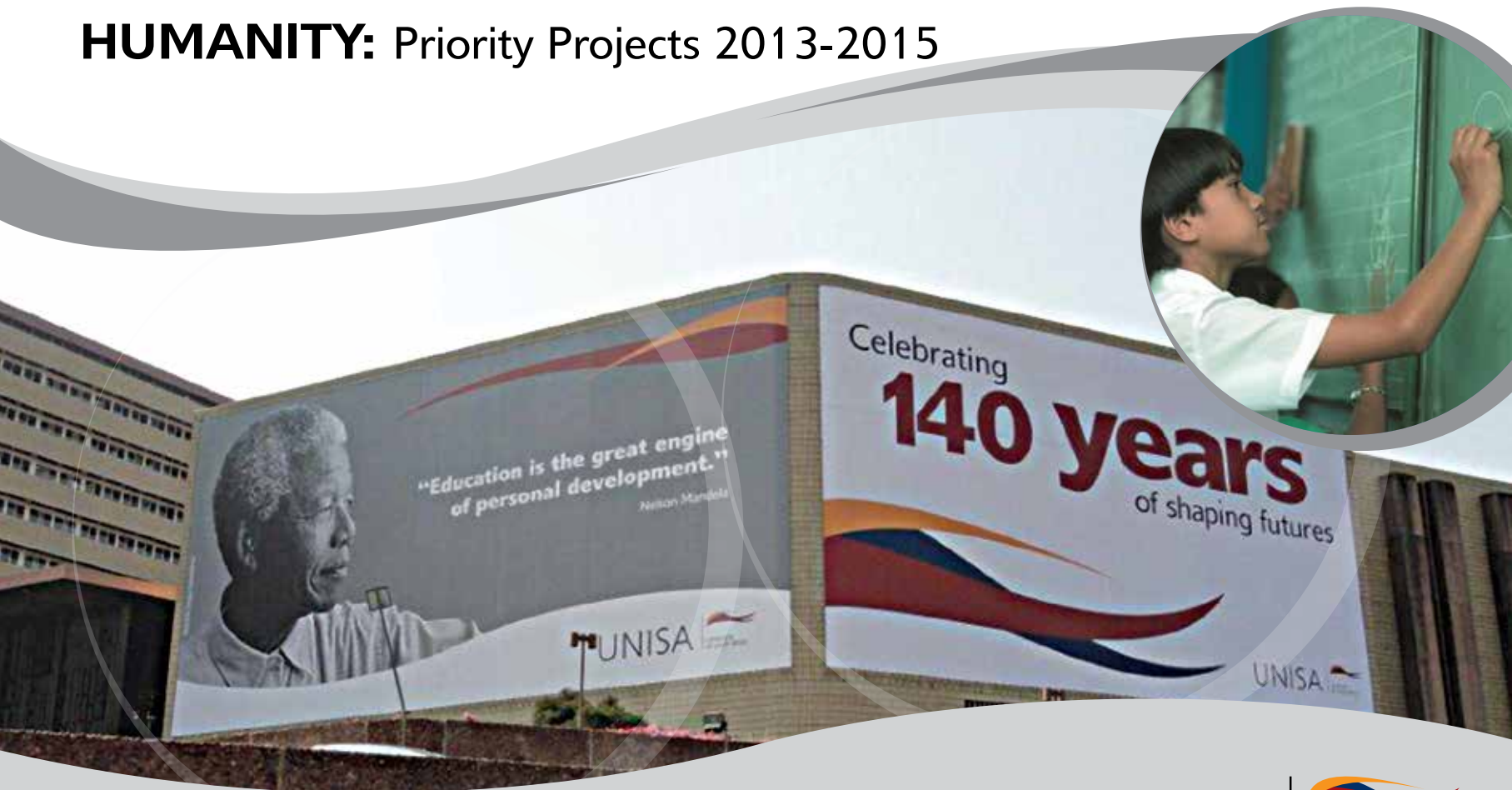
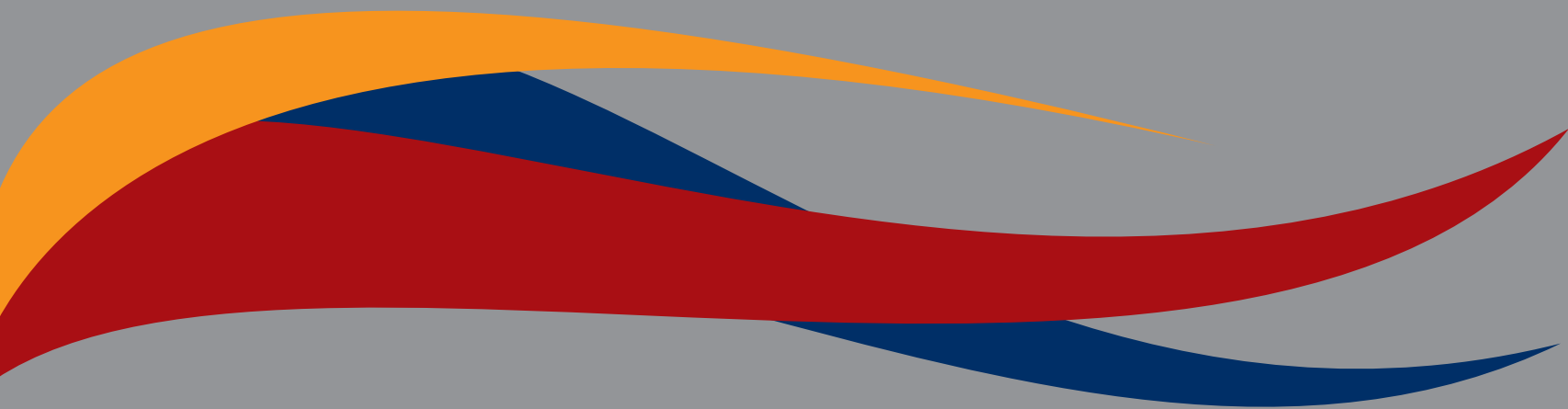


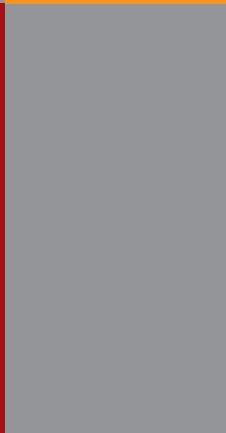
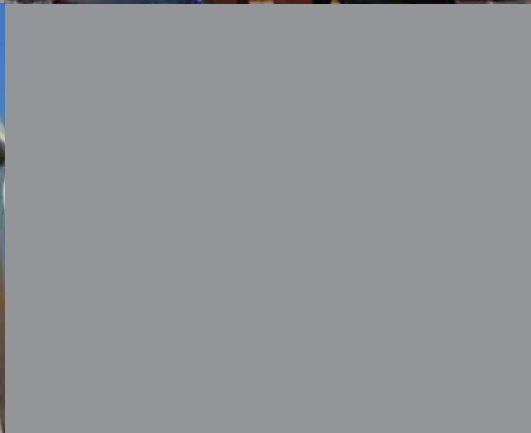
FUNDRAISING IN THE SERVICE OF HUMANITY: Priority Projects 2013-2015



Learn without limits.

UNISA | 
university
of south africa
140 years of shaping futures





FOREWORD



Partnering for African success

For more than 140 years the University of South Africa, better known as Unisa, has been at the forefront of changing lives for the better in South Africa and in Africa as a whole. Partnering with regional and international communities allows Unisa to continue with this noble and challenging task. Unisa has identified critical themes that will impact the lives of the communities that it seeks to influence positively. Productive partnerships are sought regarding the following:

- Student bursaries and support
- Developing young academics, especially the disadvantaged and women
- Developing the research expertise at Unisa and in Africa
- Providing access to information and communication technology (ICT) and engendering ICT literacy
- Engaging and developing African communities

These funding themes are meant to influence transformative development within Unisa itself, enabling it to transform broader society. Unisa looks forward to forging enduring partnerships with organisations that believe in transforming and empowering societies through education.

I trust that you will give serious consideration to helping us to realise our vision of becoming the African university in the service of humanity.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Makhanya', written in a cursive style.

Professor MS Makhanya
Principal and Vice-Chancellor



HERITAGE

Background of Unisa

In 2013, Unisa marked 140 years since it was first established in 1873. Unisa has been at the forefront of utilising open distance learning to shape the futures of the diverse people in our country, on the African continent and indeed the world at large.

Unisa was the world's first correspondence university in 1946 and is today the largest distance education institution on the African continent and one of the largest universities of its kind worldwide. The student population currently stands at almost 400 000 in seven Colleges and ten satellite campuses. The university has presence in all nine provinces of South Africa as well as one campus in Ethiopia which provides face-to-face interaction and support to students.

Unisa has helped shape South African history by delivering graduates who have had a significant influence on the country's development. Its illustrious list of alumni includes Dr Nelson Mandela, former State President of the Republic of South Africa and Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu (both Nobel Prize Laureates), and many others who continue to do good in the service of humanity.

The Unisa Foundation and Alumni Relations Directorate

The Directorate is the central department that drives all the resource mobilisation initiatives of the institution. It supports the Executive Management Team, all the colleges, institutes, departments and other components of the university in fundraising. The Unisa Foundation is a statutory and autonomous body established by a Deed of Trust in October 2004. The Trust is registered as a public benefit organisation (PBO) under Section 30 of the Income Tax 58 of 1962 of South Africa. The Foundation is governed by an independent Board of Trustees which plays an advisory role on fundraising strategies and mechanisms to give effect to implementation. The Foundation was established with the sole objective of raising third-stream income in support of the university to fulfil its vision and mission as a public higher education institution.

In the USA, Unisa has an instrument called the Unisa Fund Inc to enable the supporters of the university to have an efficient mechanism through which to make contributions. It is compliant with the tax law of the State of New York and contributions are tax deductible for USA based individuals and organisations.

Priority themes for fundraising projects

In 2012, Unisa developed a strategy to drive its fundraising initiatives. The fundraising strategy is in line with the university's strategic plan for the period until 2015 and is premised on five institutional thematic areas. In turn, these strategic themes are manifested through projects that address imbalances and developmental challenges facing South Africa and the African continent. These projects have the potential to make a substantial positive impact on the lives of students, staff and the broader African community.

The priority themes were selected through intensive consultation with the university community, ensuring widespread support and commitment from stakeholders. The priority projects are premised on the following thematic areas:

STUDENT SUPPORT



Student access and success

The 'Access for Success Campaign' is a direct response to the challenges that deserving students face in accessing tertiary education. This campaign seeks to close the gap between available funding assistance and the ever increasing demand for it. Currently, Unisa delivers 12.5% of all degrees conferred in South Africa. In future, in line with national priorities, the university will be expected to play an even bigger role. The South African government wishes to promote access to higher education and increase the higher education enrolment to 1,5 million students by 2030, representing a participation rate of 23% (Department of Higher Education and Training, 2012).

Students choose Unisa because it is accessible and affordable. The university is cognisant of this and ensures that student fee increases are reasonable and responsible. However, the majority of Unisa's students come from poor or working class homes and thus require financial aid to access and succeed at university. With approximately 360 000 students registered for formal qualifications, most of them female and from previously disadvantaged backgrounds, Unisa is inundated with student requests for study assistance.

In 2010, a total of R99 million in student funding was used to assist students, while the 2011 NSFAS budget of R112 million was used to assist 13 290 students. A further amount of R45 million was still required to assist students who had already registered for the first semester. By the end of 2012, R350 million in funding was distributed to more than 50 000 Unisa students. By mid-2013, Unisa had set aside a further R120 million in order to assist needy students. Of the 99 000 applications for funding received in 2013 Unisa was able to assist more than 66 000 students with funding totalling just over R433 million, including R170 million received from NSFAS. This underlines the key role that external contributors play in supporting student funding.

The Unisa Foundation has recently launched the "Shaping Futures Bursaries Programme" which intends to mobilize alumni, corporates, government structures as well as other strategic partners to contribute towards student fees and other support programmes to ensure the successful completion of qualifications.



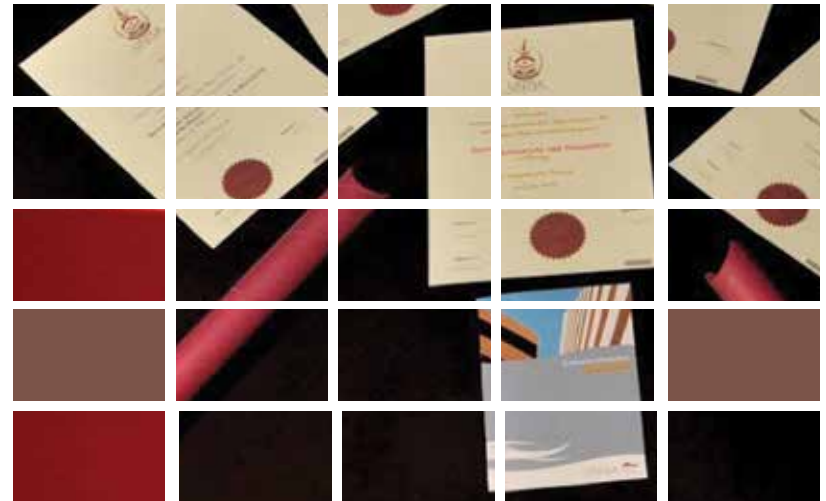
ACADEMIC SUPPORT

Investing in the next generation of academics

Like many universities in South Africa, Unisa is faced with an aging academic in various disciplines which puts at risk the very existence of the institution.

Unisa strives to produce a new, young cohort of academics in the various disciplines across the university. This effort is meant to stimulate the interest of young graduates and academics in careers in academia and also to create a career development trajectory in their chosen academic domains. For this purpose, Unisa runs a Young Academics Programme for academics under the age of 36 who have at least an honours degree and have registered or are considering registering for a master's degree.

The Young Academics Programme is aimed at fast-tracking academics in the areas of tuition, research and academic management. It also seeks to provide them with the knowledge and skills required to become high achievers not only within Unisa but also the national environment and global stage. It is hoped that these young academics will one day assume leadership roles in their academic departments or colleges.



RESEARCH AND INNOVATION



Research and innovation

In response to the low research productivity of South African institutions compared to international norms, Unisa is exploring various innovative ways to develop and sustain research productivity.

Unisa has a Research and Innovation Strategy which takes into consideration the South African National Research and Development Strategy, as well as the country's Ten-Year Innovation Plan which guides the research priorities of South Africa and the sub-region.

This strategy is managed by the Research and Innovation Portfolio, whose primary responsibility is to provide strategic leadership in research and innovation that contributes meaningfully to socially relevant knowledge production and impacts on technology, industry and society. The production of research excellence runs through all the academic fields at the university's seven colleges: Economic and Management Sciences; Law; Human Sciences; Education; Engineering and Technology; Agriculture and Environmental Sciences and Graduate Studies.

The Unisa Science Campus

Unisa recently launched the Science Campus in Florida, Johannesburg. The new campus hosts two colleges, namely the College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences and the College of Science, Engineering and Technology. The campus boasts state-of-the-art facilities for the practical training of staff and students in the fields of science, technology, natural and applied sciences. The new campus is aimed at addressing structural and infrastructural deficiencies that limit science and research capabilities within Unisa and South Africa.

The Laboratory Complex is an important element of the Science Campus. The complex has been built to promote postgraduate science research and will support research in engineering, science, technology, environmental and agricultural sciences. Students who qualify through the two colleges will be equipped to work as researchers in government or the private sector in the fields of engineering and agriculture, biotechnology and plant breeding, sports physiology, molecular and medical microbiology, biochemistry and zoology and environmental sciences.



UPLIFTING COMMUNITIES



Community engagement

Unisa subscribes to an ethos of service to and relevance in the community through its vision, "Towards *the* African University in service of humanity". It strives to conduct its research and teaching and learning in an 'engaged way', deploying ethical research and pedagogical methodologies in service of communities and taking into account indigenous knowledge systems.

In 2012, Unisa committed itself to funding community engagement initiatives to bring this ethos to life. To this end, the university registered 120 community engagement projects within the colleges and regions, and R34 million was budgeted for these. In 2013, an additional R30 million was allocated to 30 new projects. The Unisa Board of Trustees raised and contributed a further R6 million for community engagement projects in 2013.

One flagship community engagement project is Chance 2 Advance, which was introduced during 2010 as a community learning initiative that seeks to raise awareness of the inherent human capacity to learn. It is aimed at members of the public, grassroots communities, businesses, corporates and educational institutions. Through Chance 2 Advance workshops, people are able to improve their personal development and acquire skills that increase their probability of employment, while enabling them to learn new things, become constructive and ethical citizens, and gain a deeper understanding of themselves, their society and the world.

The programme offers free workshops to poor communities and has an open admission programme, ensuring wide participation and the inclusion of communities that have had little access to learning initiatives. Those who cannot access higher education are also given a chance to do so through the programmes provided.

Students from this programme are able to interact with experts from Unisa on the subject matter, which in turn contributes towards bridging the gap between Unisa and the community. Communities also benefit from a selection of programmes with relevant learning opportunities.

PLUGGED-IN

STUDENTS



The Plugged-in Students

The remote nature of studies at Unisa poses a challenge to students. They need technology infrastructure in order to access the library, research material and any other electronic resources of the university. Accordingly, Unisa is digitising its electronic resources, which calls for massive, but necessary, financial investment.

Access to a computer and internet are essential when it comes to studying at an open distance and learning University. The Plugged-in Student Campaign therefore seeks to provide electronic facilities for Unisa students who are at different, and at times challenging, localities. This campaign gives them access to the electronic resources provided by the Unisa Library.

Progress has been made in ICT support for teaching and learning. The ICT infrastructure available will ensure that Unisa meets the needs of its staff and students in securing and storing data, as well as in accessing information. Unisa has a duty to ensure the integrity and security of information.

In another step forward, Unisa became the first university to offer its students exclusive online connectivity savings as they are able to purchase 3G internet access, laptops and tablets at reduced prices. Due to inequality and poverty in South Africa, the reduced price is unfortunately still challenging to most students.

Although technology-related issues remain a challenge, ICT hardware, software and even cloud computing will remain a priority as Unisa continues exploring all feasible avenues for supporting students.



COLLABORATIONS

Partnerships and collaborations

The ethos that embodies the Unisa way of conducting business is encapsulated in the symbolism of the African calabash. The calabash symbolises generosity, hospitality and sharing and represents Unisa's awareness of its social responsibility to serve humanity.

Unisa, as an ODL institution, acknowledges the value of partnerships and has established relationships with several institutions on the continent and beyond. These include partnerships with the governments of Ethiopia, Namibia and Angola, the Marcus Garvey Institute in the USA and the University of Makerere in Uganda. It is through partnerships that are practical and reciprocal in nature that Unisa ensures its offerings are relevant and contribute meaningfully towards meeting the needs of society at all levels.

Unisa is therefore looking for sincere regional and international partners that are either universities, the corporate, science and research institutes or developmental organisations for productive relationships. The relationships will be anchored on the broad thematic areas explained above.



UNISA EXECUTIVE AND PORTFOLIO HEADS

Unisa Executive and Portfolio Heads



Prof Mandla S Makhanya

Principal and Vice-Chancellor of the University of South Africa
Prof Makhanya is the Chief Fundraiser and he oversees all the resource mobilisation initiatives as well as strategic partnerships.



Prof Narend Bajjnath

Pro Vice-Chancellor
The PVC drives a range of innovative projects including the Chance to Advance project (a national community outreach initiative) and the Signature Course project, aimed at developing leading-edge online course prototypes.



Prof Mamokgethi Phakeng

Vice-Principal: Research and Innovation
Prof Phakeng is a member of the Executive who is responsible for the overall Research and Innovation Strategy of Unisa.



Prof Rita Mare

Vice-Principal Academic: Teaching and Learning
Prof Mare oversees the entire Learning and Teaching enterprise of the University of South Africa.



Dr Molapo Qhobela

Vice-Principal: Institutional Development
Dr Qhobela is the member of the Executive Management who has the administrative responsibility of the Unisa Foundation, Internationalisation and Corporate relationship building.



Prof Barney Erasmus

Vice-Principal: Operations
Prof Erasmus is responsible for the provision of quality and timeous service through the Departments: Human Resources, Information Communication and Technology, Study Material, Print Production and Delivery and Protection Services.



Mr Adrian Robinson

Vice-Principal: Finance and University Estates
Mr Robinson has overall responsibility to provide strategic leadership regarding all financial matters of the University.



Prof Mogege Mosimege

University Registrar
Prof Mosimege is responsible for student administration and institutional governance.



Prof Divya Singh

Vice-Principal: Advisory and Assurance Services
Prof Singh has the responsibility to work collectively with all institutional stakeholders within Unisa on matters of corporate governance, ethics, sustainability awareness and the implementation framework across the organization.

UNISA TEAR OFF SLIP

Tear off slip

The Principal and Vice Chancellor of Unisa, Prof Mandla Makhanya invites you to know more about the Unisa funding priorities.

Personal Information:

Surname: _____ Name: _____ Title: _____

Name of Organisation: _____

Position in Organisation: _____

Telephone no: _____

Mobile no: _____

E-mail: _____

Please indicate area of interest:

Student Access and Success

Investing in the next generation of academics

Research and Innovation

Community Engagement

The plugged-in students

For more information about thematic areas, please contact the following:

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