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NOTICE TO ALL STAFF AND STUDENTS

It is my great pleasure to announce to the University Community that Professor Sakhela Maxwell Buhlungu has been appointed as a new Vice Chancellor to succeed Professor Mvuyo Tom, who will vacate this position at the end of the year.

Professor Buhlungu holds the following higher education qualifications:

- BA History and Political Science, University of Transkei;
- BA Hons, University of Cape Town;
- MA: Industrial Sociology, University of Witwatersrand;
- Phd: Sociology, University of Witwatersrand
- and also Programme for Academic Leadership, Gordon Institute of Business Science, University of Pretoria.

He is currently the Dean of Faculty of Humanities at the University of Cape Town with twelve years of experience in senior executive positions in various Institutions of Higher Learning as Deputy Dean, Head of Department and Deputy Director. He is also recognised for his research in Labour and Unionism and won “Book of the Year” Award from the International Labour History Association. He has a NRF rating of C2.

As Acting HOD and Deputy Dean at the University of Pretoria, he was in charge of Post Graduate Studies and Ethics. This was labour intensive, encompassing quality control, ethical compliance and quality assurance. Internationally, he has been hosted by a number of institutions and has interacted with the academic community through programme review at departments and centres at University of Western Cape, North West, UKZN, Pretoria and Stellenbosch.

His career in higher education can be summarised as follows:

- Head of Department: Sociology, University of Witwatersrand (2006 – 2007)
- Professor of Sociology, University of Johannesburg, (2008 – 2010)
- Deputy Dean: Post Graduate Studies and Ethics, University of Pretoria, (2011 – 2013)
- Executive Dean: Humanities, University of Cape Town, to date

One of his Referees has identified some of his greatest strengths as engendering a sense of trust amongst colleagues simply by being straightforward, soft spoken, reasonable and demonstrably even-handed; determination and being unshakeable in pursuing what he felt was the right path; integrity and groundedness with orientation towards respect, courtesy, humility, hard work and commitment to the common good.

On behalf of Council, I take this opportunity to welcome Professor Buhlungu and trust that the University Community will provide him with all the support that he will need in executing his mandate as Vice Chancellor of the University of Fort Hare

Kind regards,

ND Orleyn (Ms)
Chairperson of Council