

Dear Faculty of Law stakeholder

On 20 July 2017, our University will officially be renamed Nelson Mandela University. This is a great privilege and huge honour. We are now the only university in the world to carry the name of the late State President Nelson Mandela. Bearing in mind that Nelson Mandela was a legal practitioner, and in fact obtained an honorary doctorate in law (LLD *Honoris Causa*) from our university, the Faculty of Law is particularly excited about this development.

This is also a key milestone in the journey we set ourselves when adopting the University's Vision 2020 - that of working relentlessly towards building a new generation, dynamic African university, recognised for its leadership in producing cutting-edge knowledge for a sustainable future.

This name change comes with both opportunities and responsibilities, particularly that of projecting an academic and social vision that resonates with Nelson Mandela's ideals, commitments and values.

### **What will be new?**

You may, however, be asking what will really change? Aren't we just dropping the Metropolitan from the name?

In many ways, our present name – Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University - restricts us because of the metropolitan link. It binds us to a city and a particular geographical area, whereas our University operates across local, national and trans-continental spaces serving many publics. The new name will make it easier to reflect and build a national, continental and international brand, along with two other exciting development trajectories the university has embarked upon that will set us apart.

### **Ocean Sciences**

Our University is set to become the leading "go-to" destination in Africa for all postgraduate teaching, learning, research and engagement relating to Ocean Sciences. Our new dedicated Ocean Sciences Campus, which will take a novel transdisciplinary approach, is being launched later this year, as part of a bigger national effort towards sustainably growing the continent's blue economy and contributing the best of science and technology innovation for maintaining the health of the world's oceans.

### **Medical Training**

Our University is also embarking on a major programme to establish a new Medical School that will effectively be the 10<sup>th</sup> in the country. We are developing a holistic health and medical training model to support social equity and inclusion of particularly marginalised sections of society.

### **A new look**

A new look for Nelson Mandela University has been devised to visually advance our journey towards becoming a vibrant, transformative African university, of which we believe Nelson Mandela would have been proud.

In helping us grow this exciting new brand, as an alumnus, parent, student or stakeholder, please refer to Nelson Mandela University or Mandela University but not “NMU”. By using the acronym, we devalue the name Nelson Mandela, one of the world’s iconic leaders.

We hope you will be as proud as we are as we embark on this new journey.

We invite you to stay in touch with us as we embark on this exciting and challenging journey into the future.

With thanks

**FACULTY OF LAW**