

NELSON MANDELA

UNIVERSITY

"Education is the most powerful weapon we can use to change the world."

- NELSON MANDELA
Former President

"Nelson Mandela...dedicated all his life to creating a more equal and just society and ensuring a better life for all. And, of course, he placed huge importance on education as a force for good. So, it is expected of all of us - staff and students of Nelson Mandela University - to live his legacy. This is no mean task."

- SIBONGILE MUTHWA
Vice Chancellor



OUR VISION
is to be a
dynamic African
university,
recognised for its
leadership in
generating
cutting-edge
knowledge
for a
sustainable
future.

"A university that associates itself with Nelson Mandela... must remain rooted in answering the challenges that confront our society in a global economy. This must be an African university that serves the continent and her people."

- CYRIL RAMAPHOSA
at launch of Nelson Mandela University

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"Let us stand together to make of our world a sustainable source for our future as humanity on this planet."

- NELSON MANDELA
Former President

What does it mean to be an African university?
Is it a place, a mindset, a way of being?
How does this influence our curriculum,
research, engagement and institutional processes?

OUR MISSION

to offer a
diverse range
of life-changing
educational
experiences
for a
better world

"Education...is the practice of freedom, the means by which men and women deal critically and creatively with reality and discover how to participate in the transformation of their world."

- PAULO FREIRE
Author of Pedagogy of the Oppressed

"We all know that education, more than anything else, improves our chances of building better lives."

- NELSON MANDELA
Former President

"Emulate Nelson Mandela's moral values and replicate his servant leadership, his deep concern for others and his relentless fight for social justice."

- SIBONGILE MUTHWA
Vice Chancellor

OUR VALUES

DIVERSITY

EXCELLENCE

UBUNTU

SOCIAL
JUSTICE AND
EQUALITY

ENVIRON-
MENTAL
STEWARDSHIP

INTEGRITY

"The spirit of Ubuntu – that profound African sense that we are human only through the humanity of other human beings – is not a parochial phenomenon, but has added globally to our common search for a better world."

- NELSON MANDELA
Former President



What is my responsibility in living the values of Nelson Mandela University?

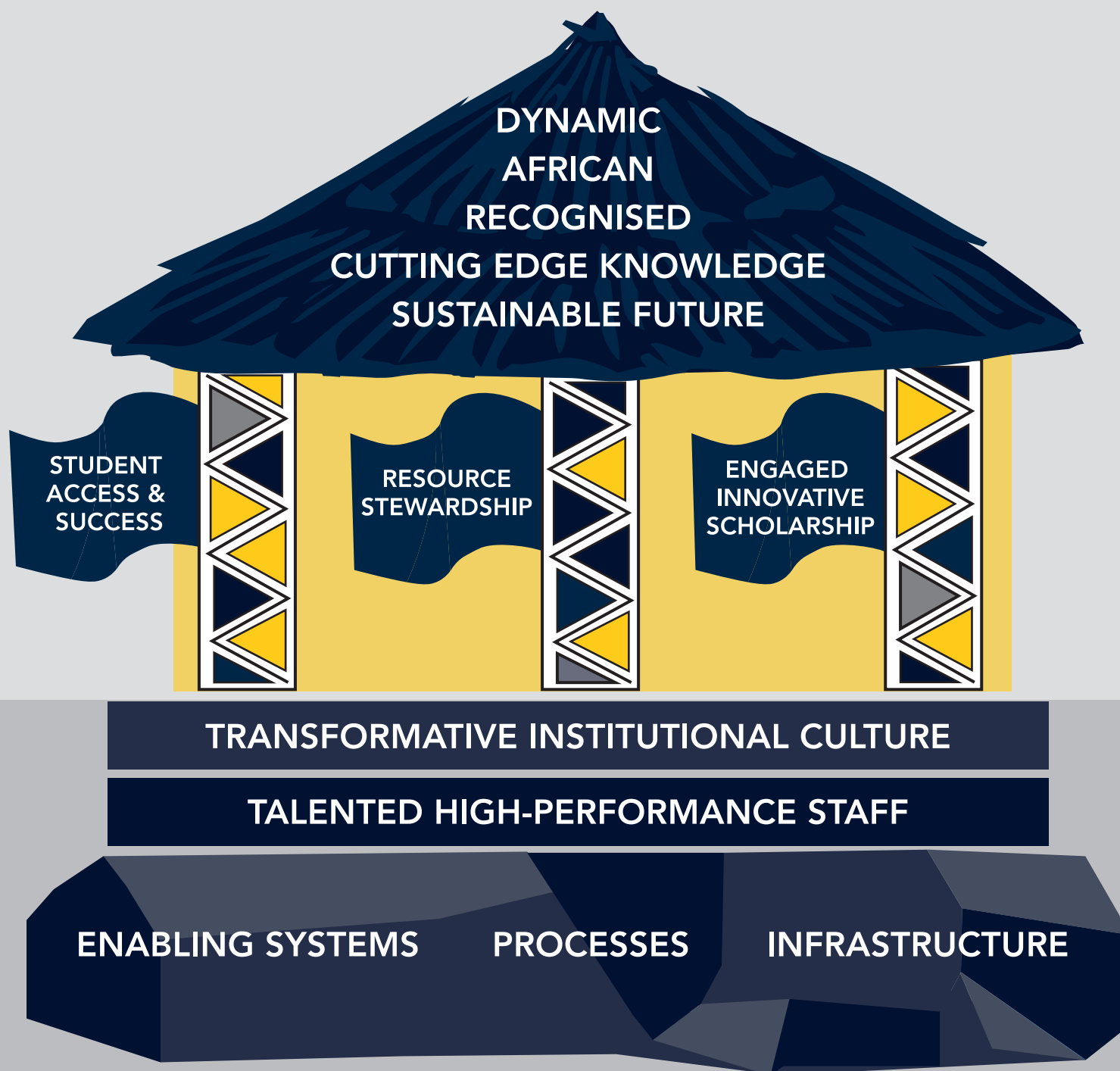
What do we collectively need to do to foster a caring, inclusive and values-based institutional culture?

"We must be truthful and rigorous in the pursuit of a more equal and just society. We must have the courage to call it right in the most difficult circumstances."

- DIKGANG MOSENEKE
Former Deputy Chief Justice,
Constitutional Court of South Africa



OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



1. Embrace a distinctive educational purpose and philosophy that contributes to student access and success

2. Develop and cultivate an engaged, innovative scholarship culture that generates knowledge recognised for its contribution to sustainability

3. Enhance long-term financial sustainability through responsible resource stewardship

4. Foster an affirming, transformative institutional culture that promotes diversity and social cohesion

5. Position the University as an employer-of first choice by investing in talented, high-performing staff

6. Provide and sustain enabling systems and infrastructure that promote an exceptional experience for students, staff and key stakeholders

OUR DESIRED GRADUATE ATTRIBUTES PROFILE

Through benefitting from a life-changing educational experience, Nelson Mandela University graduates will be known for demonstrating the following attributes:

IN-DEPTH DISCIPLINARY/ INTERDISCIPLINARY KNOWLEDGE

- The ability to engage in the expanding knowledge base of their disciplines/professions.
- Excellence in both the art and science of their disciplines/professions.
- Awareness of the latest advances in and technical competencies required by their disciplines/professions.
- Leadership in the production of new knowledge and understanding through inquiry, critique and synthesis.
 - An appreciation of the interdisciplinary nature of knowledge that combines breadth and depth of understanding.
 - An awareness of the global context of their disciplines/professions.

SOCIAL AWARENESS AND RESPONSIBLE CITIZENSHIP

- Commitment to ethical conduct, social awareness and responsible citizenship.
- An acknowledgment of and respect for constitutional principles and values such as equality, equity, quality, humanity, diversity and social justice.
- Respect for and awareness of the environment in all its manifestations.
- A commitment to improving local, national and global environmental sustainability.

EXCELLENT COMMUNICATION SKILLS

- The ability to articulate ideas and information confidently and coherently in visual, verbal, written and electronic forms to audiences of different sizes in a range of situations.
- Respect for the multitude of voices, stories, perspectives and knowledge systems.

ADAPTIVE EXPERTISE

- The ability to apply knowledge and skills in a range of contextual and conceptual frameworks.
- Ability to anticipate and accommodate change, ambiguity and differing views.
- Self-management including the ability to work autonomously, exercise initiative, and apply time management and organisational skills.
- The capacity to sustain intellectual curiosity and a willingness to improve personal performance through self-reflection, the pursuit of lifelong learning, and building networks.

EXCELLENT INTRA- AND INTERPERSONAL SKILLS

- Self-awareness.
- The ability to relate to and collaborate with others, individually or in teams, to exchange views and ideas and to achieve desired outcomes.
- The ability to function in a multicultural and multilingual context.

CRITICAL THINKING

- Openness to new ideas.
- The ability to understand, interrogate and apply a variety of theoretical and philosophical positions and objectively assess the merits of competing and alternative perspectives.
- The capacity for critical reflection.

CREATIVITY, INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURIAL THINKING

- Ability to think creatively and to generate a range of innovative ideas that are appropriate to the particular context.
- Innovation in their approach to and solution of complex problems.
- Commitment to innovative thinking to advance scholarly excellence.

