

## **Albert (Bert) Sorgdrager**

Albert, or Bert as he is known is currently involved with the NWU as:

- Representative of the Potchefstroom Campus Alumni since 2012.
- Chairperson of the NWU Alumni Society since August 2014.
- Executive member of NWU Convocation since August 2014.

Bert was born in Potchefstroom in 1959 and matriculated from Hoër Volksskool Potchefstroom in 1976.

Thereafter Bert enrolled at the then, PU for CHE in 1977 to further his education and does so by completing B IURIS (1979) and LLB (1981). During this time, Bert not only prepares himself for a career in the legal field, but inextricably ties himself to the university.

Bert served on the very first House Committee of Villagers where he was the Primarius for two years and also served on the Student Council.

He undertook 4 years' of research and in 2012 he published a book about the 35 year existence of the Villagers Residence, since its establishment in 1977.

His involvement may be best remembered for his effort to have the dress code on the PUK changed to compliment the more contemporary needs of the students at that time.

Bert married a fellow PUK student, Mara Kriel. Bert and Mara have 2 children, Albert and Mariette who are both already a next generation of NWU students in heart and soul. It was one of Bert and Mara's ideals to be able to afford their children the privileges of being a NWU student. Albert finished his postgraduate studies in Engineering and Mariette is currently completing her Masters degree in Art History.

Bert was admitted as an attorney in 1986 after completing his articles of clerkship at the firm Couzyn, Hertzog and Horak. Bert thereafter became a lecturer at the Technicon RSA (later incorporated into UNISA), during which time he published two student handbooks.

The majority of his career was spent in the banking industry where he initially served as legal advisor. He later held various managerial positions in credit risk.

Bert was Head of risk Management for Nedbank's African affiliates from 2006-2012. He served on the boards of some of the banks which was Nedbank owned in Africa.

In 2010 he completes an "International Executive Program" at INSEAD business school and

- the "Banking Board Leadership" programme at the Gordon School of Business Science
- completes courses in Basel II en III.

On 1 Augustus 2012, Bert was appointed as Nedbank's Group Legal Counsel: Litigation and Disputes, which position he still holds.

Bert is still active in the community where he voluntarily shares the vast experience he gained at the erstwhile PUK. The vast business experience gained by Bert compliments his ground level involvement, as he realises and gives shape to ideologies which are intertwined between practical and financial considerations.

Bert has served on the governing bodies of both Laerskool and Hoërskool Florida for a period of 10 years. He has also been the chairman of said governing bodies for several years.

As scholar and active student of Potchefstroom, Bert plans to, if elected to the Council, serve the university through his experience, education and memories of NWU, where it will be utilised to the benefit of the university.

Bert considers it a privilege to care for the interests of the NWU, both current and in future.