

Professor Mashudu DAVHANA-MASELESELE

Professor Mashudu DAVHANA-MASELESELE was born at Balanganani village at Ha-Davhana being the third born child of the late Vhamusanda Vho DMK Davhana and Mrs Nyambeni Rhodah Davhana (nee' Nengovhela). She trained as a nurse and midwife at the then Venda Nursing College and served as a Professional nurse at Donald Fraser hospital. She obtained BA(Cur) Nursing Education and Community Health Nursing Science; Honours BA(Cur) in Nursing Education and Masters in Nursing Education all at UNISA. She completed her Doctoral degree in Programme Development at the University of Johannesburg. She was awarded a scholarship through Fogarty Funding to pursue her Postdoctoral studies at the University of California (Los Angeles) USA in collaboration with University of Limpopo. Her PostDoctoral studies focused on trauma research with special emphasis on Gender Based Violence. She also did Postgraduate Diploma in International Research Ethics in Southern Africa (IRENSA) at UCT.

She served as a Nurse Educator at the then Venda Nursing College whilst also serving as a part time Lecturer at UNISA for more than 10 years. She served as a Lecturer and Senior Lecturer at the University of Venda in 1998 and 2006 respectively; before joining the North West University in December 2007. She has served the profession at different levels as a member of Standard Generating Body (SGB) developing Nursing Programmes according to SAQA as a representative of DENOSA. As a Nurse activist she has served as a Chairperson of DENOSA in Limpopo Province. Served in many different structures of DENOSA, such as the NEC. She is currently an Editor –in –Chief of CURATIONIS; a DENOSA peer reviewed journal which is on open access. She is currently serving a second term as a member of the South African Nursing Council (SANC).

Her Research focus is on Sexual and Reproductive Health issues with special focus on trauma related to Sexual and Gender Based Violence as well as Caring for caregivers of HIV and AIDS. She has published several articles in accredited journals both nationally and internationally on these areas and has also developed Sexual and Reproductive Health Curriculum for Limpopo Provincial Department of Health. Her research work has been acknowledged by her peers and was awarded Hall of Fame for Research Excellence in Nursing at the Nurse Educators' Conference in East London in September 2012.

She serves as an International Editorial board member of Nursing and Health Sciences (International Peer reviewed Journal). She is a Peer Reviewer of several Accredited Journals such as Health South Africa; AIDS CARE, just to mention a few. She is an external examiner of many different universities nationally and internationally for both Masters and Doctoral Students.

She is passionate about capacity development and has supervised several Masters and Doctoral students. Prof Mashudu is also a fundraiser as the Department of Nursing is benefiting from funds raised from the Atlantic Philanthropies to the tune of 18.5 million since 2009. She has also fundraised from NRF; DFID; MRC and Fogarty Fellowship. She has several collaborative agreements with different universities such as Johns Hopkins in the USA; University of California (Los Angeles) USA; Mc Master in Canada where North West College staff are also benefitting from this relationship as they attend a yearly Summer Institute on Problem Based Learning. Some collaborations were established for the Faculty such University of Naples in Italy for Agriculture; University of Ghana for Centre of Applied Radiation, Science and Technology (CARST); University of Zimbabwe for new programmes in Agricultural Engineering.

Prof Mashudu was appointed Dean of FAST in January 2009 after acting as Dean for 5 months in 2008. She was then promoted to Full Professorship in 2010. She was appointed as Vice Rector Teaching/Learning and Research in October 2012. During her leadership she succeeded in improving the research culture of the campus. She has recently been appointed as Rector of the Mafikeng Campus and will take over from Prof D. Kgwadi who is now the Vice-Chancellor of North West University as from the 1st of April 2014.

She always argue that being rural and poor does not mean that one is mentally challenged but that one needs to work ten times harder to achieve as a result of resources that are very limited and highly competed for. Therefore given a chance we can all do better. The campus have grown and achieved all these as they worked against all odds to be where they are today.