

Letter from the President of the North-West University (NWU) Convocation



Tutu Kgobane,

President of NWU Convocation at North-West University

Fellow members of the NWU Convocation

We are now halfway through the year, and as the new Exco, we have adopted the new motto that Convocation is ***“A Home for All”***. We would also like to take this opportunity to extend our heartfelt congratulations to the newly appointed Registrar Designate, Professor Hennie Goede. He will assume his new role on 1 January 2026, serving as our new Secretary of the Convocation. The Exco has been hard at work and would now like to update members on the following matters:

(a) NWU Biennial Alumni Excellence Awards

The Convocation Exco has decided to host this year's awards on 30 October 2025. These awards recognise alumni who have achieved distinctions or made an outstanding contribution to society. Nominations are open in eight categories until 8 August 2025. We encourage all Convocation members to submit a nomination for an alumnus or alumna, or to ask another member to nominate them. Please click on the link to watch the video created by Exco and to find out more about how to submit: <https://www.nwu.ac.za/alumni-awards-nomination>

(b) Vacancies: Council member(s) elected from the Convocation:

The Exco discussed the process for filling the current vacancy, with particular focus on the importance of considering diversity targets and skill sets in accordance with the NWU's Statute and Council rules. The Exco members deliberated and unanimously agreed on the need for Council representation from different campuses.

This is in line with the TGM resolution of the new clause 5.11 of the Convocation Constitution, which states that, when electing members of the Convocation to join the Council, the Secretary must ensure that due regard is given to gender, race, and the multi-campus nature of the University.

Therefore, the Exco also supports the motion to allocate two seats to Potchefstroom, one to Mahikeng, and one to Vanderbijlpark, in line with the percentage of Convocation members on the voters' roll. It was also agreed that the process to fill the vacancy should proceed, ensuring representation from the Mahikeng Campus first, followed by the Vanderbijlpark Campus, and then the Potchefstroom Campus (as and when vacancies arise).

The Registrar recommended giving effect to the TGM resolution of 15 March 2025.

At its quarterly meeting on 19 June 2025, the NWU Council approved the recommendation and the necessary amendments to the Council rules, and we, as Exco, are pleased that this has been done. As per the constitution, the Rules for the Nomination, Election, Designation and Appointment of Council Member(s) will reflect this approach, and the call for nominations will be issued shortly.

We will now move swiftly with the call for nominations. Please note that nominations and voting will be "open", but candidates will come from the pool of Convocation members who have indicated Mahikeng Campus as their primary affiliation.

(c) Institutional Forum (IF) Representatives

As per clause 6 of the Convocation Constitution, and in consultation with the entire Exco, I am pleased to inform Convocation members that the following two (2) Convocation Exco members have been appointed to represent the Convocation on the IF:

- Prof L Grobler
- Mr M Mosia

We congratulate them on their appointment, and we are confident that they will represent us well on the IF.

(d) Membership from the Convocation Exco on the Campus Alumni Committee

The following Exco members have been assigned to support the Campus Alumni Committees by attending meetings, assisting in the establishment of NWU chapters, and providing a bridge between the Convocation and the Campus Committees:

Campus	Member	Member
Mahikeng Campus	Ms S Paxton	Mr M Mosia
Potchefstroom Campus	Mr H-J Moolman	Mr G Laufs
Vanderbijlpark Campus	Mr A Rautenbach	Prof L Grobler

Members are encouraged to familiarise themselves with the current standing Exco, as their photos have been uploaded to the university page under Convocation Matters. Please see the link: <https://www.nwu.ac.za/convocation>

(e) NWU Convocation Exco Strategy Session

The Convocation Exco held a successful strategy and team-building session on 22-23 May 2025. This was in line with clause 10.4 of the amended Convocation Constitution. A detailed three-year performance plan will be shared in due course, once finalised.

(f) We Care Bursary Fund

Let us take a moment to support our youth at the University by making a donation to our We Care Bursary Fund. This initiative supports students in the "missing middle" category who require financial assistance to complete their studies and access postgraduate qualification. Please follow this link to find out how to donate: <https://apex.nwu.ac.za/ords/f?p=140:1:668855820924:::>

"Rest assured that the Exco is united, and we encourage members to continue to prioritise the needs of the University. Thank you for being amazing ambassadors of the NWU in society."



Mr Tutu Kgobane,
President of NWU Convocation at North-West University