

## VICE-CHANCELLOR AND PRINCIPAL



## Vice-Chancellor's Communiqué

## **Welcoming Leonard Thuto to the Bloemfontein Campus!**

I hope most of us have noticed that since last Friday, there has been a new very proud person towering over our Park Road entrance at the Bloemfontein Campus. I am told his name is **Leonard Thuto**. His surname just means 'education'. Very appropriate, I think, given the educational community that we are part of.

On behalf of all of us I am writing to welcome Leonard. Welcome Leonard! By the way, he is both teacher and scholar and he is both staff and student. An amazing person, indeed!

I wish to thank the members of the A-team, especially the Aesthetics Cluster under the leadership of Jeannet Molopyane for the 'crazy idea' behind Leonard. You will be excused to think Jeannet and her team are artists. She is actually a Librarian! I hope the installation of Leonard shows that A-team work is not just ideas, but action. We hope more and more of our staff and students will share their 'crazy ideas' and see some of them being implemented.

I do not want to steal the team's thunder about explaining to the whole university community what inspired them to think of installing Leonard Thuto there and what he means to all of us and so forth.

The least I can say is that his location suggests something profound. Henceforth, everybody who enters the Bloemfontein Campus and wants to be successful in whatever they have come for is now obliged to greet or touch Leonard even before they meet the security officers at the gate. His jubilant and victorious pose, with a scroll in his hand, is something that students, in particular, should be aiming for. That is how important Leonard has just become as a constant inspiration to all of us to be innovative, excellent, triumphant and successful. Please treat Leonard with love and respect like we do with the rest of the members of this academic community.

Thandwa Mthembu
Vice-Chancellor and Principal

24 February 2014