

PMR awards NUST for fighting HIV/AIDS

For the first time, NUST received a Professional Management Review (PMR) Africa Award in the category of *Companies/Institutions Doing the Most to Fight HIV/AIDS* in Namibia. In addition, the Institution secured the top spots in the categories of *Best Higher Education/Tertiary Institutions*, as well as *Institutions Offering Executive Education*. The latter was specifically bestowed upon NUST's Harold Pupkewitz Graduate School of Business (HP-GSB). The three accolades were handed over at a ceremony held in Windhoek earlier this week.

Fighting the pandemic

Annually, NUST organises themed campaigns aimed at continuously raising awareness about the HIV/AIDS pandemic. Tests are held on campus, as well as counselling and other activities, in partnership with stakeholders such as the Ministry of Health and Social Services, and the Embassy of the United States, amongst others. The campaign promotes prevention methods such as the use of condoms and maintaining monogamous relationships, whilst at the same time encouraging infected persons to remain committed to anti-retroviral treatment.

Global Talent Competitiveness

At the event, Dr Tjama Tjivikua, the NUST Founding Vice-Chancellor, delivered the keynote address titled 'Global Talent Competitiveness.' Tjivikua spoke extensively

about entrepreneurial talent - encompassing vocational and global knowledge skills - placing emphasis on the need for the creation of opportunities to cater for the ballooning population of young people. "Governments, businesses and stakeholders need to implement better policies in areas such as education, employment and immigration, to name a few. This will contribute to competitiveness, innovation and growth," remarked Dr Tjivikua.

Credibility

The PMR Awards are the culmination of a research process whereby companies and institutions are rated based on respondents' perceptions, with a strong focus on evaluating and measuring customer service and satisfaction. NUST has received various PMR Awards since 2002, attesting to the high standards of excellence upheld at the Institution.



NUST Founding Vice-Chancellor, Dr Tjama Tjivikua, posing with two of the three 2018 PMR Diamond Arrow Awards.

Making students more employable

... in a highly competitive job market



Rita Becker: B360 Representative (standing), working with a group of NUST students at one of the recently held Career Starter Week.

NUST and B360 Education Partnerships, supported by First National Bank (FNB), hosted four Career Starter Week (CSW) workshops at the beginning of the year. The workshops, which were attended by 50 students in total, are aimed at equipping students with essential skills to improve their employability and marketability.

The Career Starter Week, is an initiative of B360, which was first piloted at NUST in 2017. The workshops last for five days each and focus on a number of topics that ensure that when the students graduate from the Institution, they leave with enhanced skills. The CSW covers topics such as *CV and Cover Letter Writing, Interview Training, Governance and Ethics, Project Management and Entrepreneurship*.

Whilst the workshops are primarily facilitated by B360 experts, participants also have the opportunity to gain an insider's perspective, from local industry professionals, of what employers expect from

graduates. Approximately ten professionals from a range of local businesses and organisations, including *FNB, Bank Windhoek, Cymot, Deloitte, CIC Namibia, AM Consulting, Old Mutual* participated in the initiative.

2019 marks the tenth year of partnership between NUST and B360, with 14 experts assigned to NUST for the current semester. Three NUST students are currently in Switzerland where they are doing three-month internships at Credit Suisse, facilitated by the B360 Internship Programme.

Engaging rural communities

Representatives from the Department of Communications and Marketing visited the towns of Okakarara recently to give career guidance to hundreds of learners in the area. The visit, which was also extended to the village of Otjinene, formed part of the Ritja Career Fair. The Fair is held regularly across rural schools, with the sole aim to encourage learners to make informed career choices.



Learners pictured at the Ritja Career Fair in Okakarara.

2019 NUST CAREER FAIR

Ministries, and companies from the public or private sectors are invited to participate as exhibitors in the upcoming **NUST CAREER FAIR 2019**. The Fair, slated for March 2019, is an opportunity for exhibitors to give career guidance and scout for the best performing students and learners. Thousands of young people attend the event annually.

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2019 THEME: Catalysing Youth Empowerment for the Fourth Industrial Revolution.