



# Higher Education Transformation Network

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For Immediate Release

## PRESS RELEASE: APPOINTMENT OF PROF PULENG LENKABULA AS NEW UNISA VICE-CHANCELLOR

The Higher Education Transformation Network (HETN) hereby welcomes the appointment of **Prof Puleng Lenkabula** as the new Vice-Chancellor of the University of South Africa (UNISA).

We welcome the appointment of Prof Lenkabula which is in line with the **Employment Equity Act of 1998** and the objectives of the **National Development Plan Vision 2030** which states that the *higher education sector must ensure that black South Africans and women make up 50% of the teaching and research staff of universities*”.

The appointment of Prof Lenkabula is a historic success in higher education given that there are currently only three female Vice-Chancellors and black female South African Professors constitute less than 17% of the total academic workforce. There is an urgent need to focus on the development of black female South African academia

As indicated in the findings by the “**Ministerial Task Team Report on the Recruitment, Retention and Progression of Black South African Academics**” appointed by Minister Ndzimande led by *Prof David Mosoma et al*, universities should amongst others, ensure greater numbers of African & female South African Masters & Doctoral graduates.

We commend the UNISA Council, Senate and Institutional Forum and further encourage all University Councils to follow suit and act in the best in line with the transformation policies and laws of the Republic of South Africa. We call on all roleplayers in the higher education sector to ensure that the objectives of the National Development Plan Vision 2030 are met.

We further encourage the Council for Higher Education (CHE) and Universities SA to fulfill their mandates to ensure that transformation within the echelons of senior academia is accelerated in line with the objectives of the NDP Vision 2030. Ends.

## Higher Education ACCESS for ALL Communities



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**About the Higher Education Transformation Network (HETN):-**

The Higher Education Transformation Network (HETN) is an independent network of alumni and graduates from various higher education and further educational institutions across South Africa committed to the process of transformation of higher education to increase equitable and access to education, skills and learning to eliminate of socio-economic disparities.

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