

**Bekendstelling van die Universiteit Stellenbosch se HOOP Projek
aan alumni & vriende van die Universiteit,
Windhoek, 2010-10-16: Prof Russel Botman, Rektor en Visekanselier**

Goeie naand, dames en here. Baie welkom hier.

Thanks for coming – your continued interest in your alma mater means a lot to us.

We are here to talk about Stellenbosch University's HOPE Project. The video we have just seen, provided some background, and I am going to tell you some more in just a moment, but first, allow me to brag a bit.

ALUMNUS-SUKSES

Ek is seker julle sal verstaan dat ek wil spog met die prestasies van 'n oud-Matie, Luke Mckend, wat onlangs aangestel is as hoof van Google Suid-Afrika. Dis net weereens 'n bewys van die gehalte wat Maties oplewer.

Similarly, this room is full of former Maties who have gone on to achieve great success in their careers, and who are making a difference to lives of people around them; alumni who are using the knowledge they gained during their studies to help make the world a better place.

Ons het hierheen gekom om 'n interaksie te begin binne die konteks van die HOOP Projek, *which is Stellenbosch University's initiative to be of relevance to society.*

Daar is drie groot goed wat gebeur binne die HOOP Projek. Die een is dat ons moet die universiteit se uitnemendheid tot 'n volgende vlak neem. Dit beteken ons moet ons personeel ondersteun om seker te maak hulle het die tegnologie waarmee hulle hul beste kan lewer, en om seker te maak dat hulle blootgestel word aan hulle kollegas in Namibie en elders in die wêreld om die beste uit te bring.

The biggest challenge for higher education is the next generation of academics.

ONS KAN DIE WERELD VERANDER

Ons het groot uitdagings voor ons, en een van die vrae wat die Bestuur van die Universiteit gevra het, is hoe posisioneer ons die Universiteit om gereed te wees vir daardie uitdagings.

Die Universiteit Stellenbosch het uit die Millennium Ontwikkelingsdoelwitte – en ander bronne – vyf temas gedistilleer.

We are convinced that if we work to eradicate poverty and related conditions, and promote human dignity and health, democracy and human rights, peace and security; as well as a sustainable environment and a competitive industry we will change the world.

This is quite a claim to make, but it is not entirely without foundation. It was former South African President Nelson Mandela who once said, "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."

Die HOOP Projek stel ons in staat om tot diens van die samelewing te wees deur ons kundigheid – die akademie en die wetenskap – aan te wend om ernstige probleme te takel.

Die agtergrond was in die DVD, en julle kan meer uitvind in die HOOP-boekies en koerante wat ons saambring het. Wat ek nou wil doen, is om vinnig 'n paar van ons opwindende akademiese inisiatiewe te bespreek.

STELLENBOSCH UNIVERSITY WATER INSTITUTE

300 million people in Africa don't have access to safe drinking water. Now, as you might have seen in the news, Stellenbosch University scientists have developed a high-tech "tea bag" filter that fits into the neck of a water bottle and delivers clean water as you drink from it.

The inside of the tea bag material is coated with a thin film of biocides encapsulated within minute nanofibres, which kills all disease-causing microbes.

Die sakkie word nie met teeblare gevul nie, maar met geaktiveerde koolstof, wat alle skadelike chemikalieë verwyder. Elke filttertjie kan 'n liter van die mees besoedelde water suiwer sodat dit 100% veilig is om te drink.

Once used, the bag is thrown away, and a new one is inserted into the bottle neck. The "tea bag" filter promises to provide easy access to clean drinking water for vulnerable communities, for instance those living near polluted water streams. The Stellenbosch University Water Institute is clearly a hope generating initiative.

We would like our alumni and friends of the University to ask, what is it at the University that we can support that will make a difference in areas that will bring real solutions to the key challenges of our continent?"

We don't want to look just at South Africa. We are based in Stellenbosch and it is our first laboratory, but whatever we do must be something that can be replicated on the rest of the continent.

So ons wil dinge doen wat jy op ander plekke ook kan doen en wat dieselfde soort resultate kan lewer.

UKWANDA LANDELIKE KLINIESE SKOOL

Die US se Ukwanda Landelike Kliniese Skool, wat op Worcester opgerig word, skep eweneens hoop.

'n Groot uitdaging in die gesondheidssektor van ontwikkelende lande soos Suid-Afrika en Namibië is die wanbalans in die verspreiding van dokters tussen landelike en stedelike gebiede.

To contribute to solutions, Stellenbosch University decided to establish the Ukwanda Rural Clinical School, which will provide clinical training to medical students at rural hospitals and health centres.

Studente sal steeds deels by ons hoof-opleidingshospitaal in Tygerberg opgelei word, maar sal ook landelike blootstelling kry. En dit neem ook belangrike dienste na gemeenskappe toe.

International experience shows that longer exposure to the rural environment encourages students to continue with postgraduate studies, and motivate them to eventually settle and practice in rural areas.

VIRTUAL POSTGRADUATE LEARNING SUPPORT

Virtual Postgraduate Learning Support makes it possible for people with jobs to study further without having to resign or take long leave. This clears many hurdles in the way of higher education.

Our division of Interactive Telematic Services (ITS) runs a modern broadcasting studio and control room in Stellenbosch, from where classes for postgraduate programmes in die faculties of Humanities, Education, Military Science, as well as Economic and Management Sciences, are interactively telecast to 19 centres in South Africa and Namibia. There is a centre right here in Windhoek.

Ons inisiatief wat Virtuele Nagraadse Leerondersteuning bied, is baie gewild en groei steeds. Tans studeer 21% van al ons nagraadse studente op dié manier.

RAAK BETROKKE

As ons van diens tot die samelewing en 'n plek van uitnemendheid wil wees, moet ons verseker dat ons aktiwiteite volhoubaar is. Ons kan dit nie doen sonder die bystand van ons vennote, netwerke en ondersteuners nie.

Vanaand is dus nie net 'n inligtingsessie nie, maar ook 'n uitnodiging aan elkeen van u om betrokke te raak.

We would really like you to get involved in the HOPE Project. We want you to interact with the different initiatives.

NUWE ALUMNI BEURSSKENKERS

Drie jong voormalige Maties stel 'n uitstekende voorbeeld in dié verband – Nico Mans, Paul Antohnie en Alphonso Primo. Hulle het vroeër vanjaar 'n beursfonds gestig om minderbevoorregte studente te help. Dit na aanleiding van hul eie ervaring op kampus, toe hulle finansiële gesukkel het om kop bo water te hou, maar vasegebyt het omdat hulle die belang van opvoeding besef.

Nadat hulle afstudeer het, het elkeen elke maand 'n R100 of wat weggesit, en toe hulle R4 000 gespaar het, het hulle die Universiteit genader en 'n beursfonds vir behoeftige studente gestig.

Hulle noem dit die MAP-beurs, op grond van die eerste letter van hul vanne – (Nico) Mans, (Paul) Antohnie en (Alphonso) Primo.

Elke bietjie help. Ons het julle ondersteuning en nodig. Praat sommer vanaand nog met Bev Witten of Heidi October van ons Ontwikkelingskantoor oor skenkings wat ons kan help om studentesukses te verseker, of vir een van die projekte wat ek genoem het, of enigeen van die 22 HOOP Projek-inisiatiewe.

BENEFACTORS OF HOPE

The HOPE Project is in effect the largest fundraising campaign ever by an African university. Our goal is to raise gifts of at least R1,75 billion by 2015. Our vision of hope has already been very well supported, both locally and internationally. We have raised R500 million in philanthropic

contributions the past three years in the silent phase of the campaign. Thank you to all our donors and supporters here tonight.

However, we still need R1,25 billion to fully realise our vision of turning Maties into a centre of hope for Southern Africa, Africa and the world.

Speak to Heidi October or Bev Witten tonight to make your pledge, or visit the HOPE Project website – www.thehopeproject.co.za – for more information on how to MAKE A CONTRIBUTION.

Een van die doelwitte van hierdie veldtog is om meer van ons alumni te inspireer om hul alma mater te ondersteun. Ons wil graag die koers van diegene wat in die Universiteit terugploeg van 2% tot nader aan 10% verhoog.

Besoek gerus die HOOP Projek-webblad – www.diehooprojek.co.za – vir 'n magdom inligting oor al ons verskillende inisiatiewe, asook inligting oor hoe om 'N BYDRAE TE MAAK.

Ladies and gentlemen, I have shown that an investment in education is an investment in a better life. Higher education, in particular, unlocks and imparts reliable knowledge, which can be used to change the world for the better. And it produces professionals in a variety of fields, equipping them with the necessary skills to fulfil leadership roles in society and drive the economic growth required for improving people's lives.

Die Universiteit Stellenbosch se HOOP Projek is nommerpas vir die uitdagings van ons tydvak. Dit stel ons in staat om ons vernaamste sterkpunte in te span om van ons streek en vasteland se grootste probleme aan te pak.

The HOPE Project is the right thing to do. Now is the right time for hope. Future generations deserve nothing less.

Baie dankie.