



Central University of
Technology, Free State

■ ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

05 July 2021

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF CUT ALUMNI ASSOCIATION: MR CHABANA CHABANA

Dear fellow alumni,

As the CUT Alumni Association, it is our utmost pleasure to welcome you in our ranks. We have full knowledge that this long and difficult road you traversed has been fraught with obstacles and challenges, at times, you thought of giving up as the lectures demanded more from you, and you felt like your potential has reached its limits. Thank you for never giving up, as a result, today you are joining the ranks of many other CUT graduates using their skills to make a huge difference in our society.

It feels like yesterday when you entered the gates of Central University of Technology, Free State as a first year, terrified of the uncertainties of university life. We are happy that this university has provided you with a platform to reach your full potential. It is in the nature of CUT to contribute to building budding intellectuals such as this cohort of graduates.

The graduation ceremony is a clear culmination of your dedication, perseverance and commitment since your arrival as a student. You've worked hard for this tremendous achievement and you deserve every ounce of celebration.

While we are aware that virtual graduation ceremony is not ideal for many of us who are first generation of graduates in our respective families, we have no choice but to avoid in-person graduation ceremony due to COVID-19 pandemic. We continue to be optimistic that the world will finally conquer the pandemic with the help of intellectuals such as you, so that our lives can be brought to normality.

As you pursue other endeavours, please keep a strong and steadfast association with CUT through Alumni Association. The association is the glue which will always remind you of your intellectual foundation and growth.

We are working very hard to keep close contact with you through a strong and a very active alumni network. The Alumni Association's obligation is to promote interests of the alumni in the affairs of the university, ensure that alumni become good ambassadors of the CUT brand and it is a conducive platform to support your alma mater.

We thus request that you upload your details through CUT website to remain connected to the institution through regular updates with ground breaking developments in your alma mater. We are continuing to design programmes that will ensure that you are engaged with Alumni

Association through webinars and seminars among others, these programmes are meant to support you as you pursue your career.

We have also put an ambitious philanthropic effort to help those graduates that find it difficult to settle their debt with the institution due to current economic conditions. We are calling on all graduates to help donate to our fundraising initiatives through our alumni office so that we ensure that the academic project of the institution remains of high standards it is.

We also request you to make necessary arrangements to settle your outstanding fees for the sake of the posterity. We remain committed to engage the university to change its policy of withholding certificates of graduates as a debt collection mechanism. The Alumni Executive Committee believe this approach to graduates debt is counterproductive.

Our society needs more ethical and honest leaders than before; we are in a serious need of leaders who are innovative and creative. We need to follow into the footsteps of founding fathers of our democracy in helping our nation to move to greater heights and resolve socio-economic challenges we are faced with. You have made it as a graduate, thus call upon you to always be an embodiment of CUT Graduate attributes, as these attributes will help you to be a transformational leader needed in our society. Good luck in your future endeavours.

Mr Chabana Chabana
CUT Alumni President