



TO NEWS EDITORS AND JOURNALISTS FROM THE MPUMALANGA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

10 MAY 2025

CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER

The MEC for Education, Ms Cathy Dlamini, attended the University of Mpumalanga's 10th graduation ceremony this afternoon to celebrate a remarkable milestone in the institution's journey.

She extended heartfelt congratulations to the 2,035 students who graduated this week, a significant increase from the 1,515 qualifications conferred last year, marking the university's continued growth and commitment to academic excellence.

This year's graduation was marked by several exceptional achievements.

Among them was Ms Khumbelo Mabadahanye, who made history as the first student to earn a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) from the University of Mpumalanga. Additionally, 61 Master's students graduated, and 170 students earned their qualifications cum laude in recognition of their outstanding academic performance.

Women represented a strong majority among the graduates, with 66.2% female and 33.8% male students.

The ceremony also saw the graduation of 45 recipients of the prestigious Vice-Chancellor's Scholarship and 11 recipients of the Academic Excellence Award.

In total, students were awarded or conferred with 60 different qualifications, 10 of which were offered for the first time in the university's history.

MEC Dlamini expressed her joy and pride in the university's progress and praised the students for their dedication and performance.

She wished all graduates continued success in their journeys ahead:

"Education is the light that guides our way, and today, you shine that light even brighter.

Your achievements are not only a personal triumph but a beacon of hope for our communities and our Province, the Place of the Rising Sun.

May you go forward boldly, lead with purpose, and always carry the spirit of transformation that this university embodies.” — MEC Cathy Dlamini

Well done to all. A nation at work for all.

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