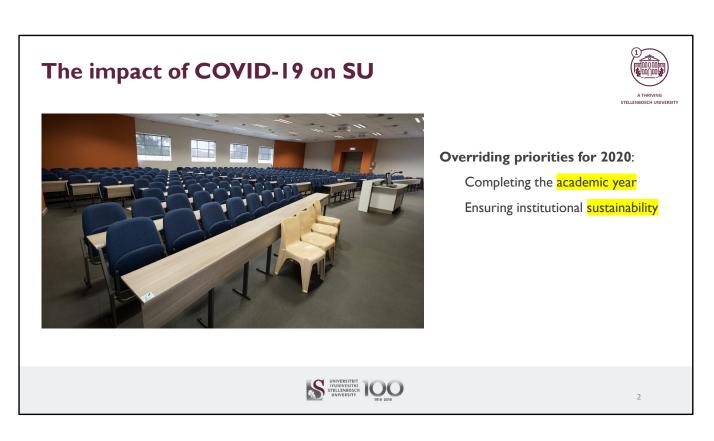


- Thank you.
- You will find my Management Report on pp. 49–99 of the Council bundle (we've tried to make it a bit shorter than usual, and managed to shave about 10 pages off)
- I take it as read ... but I do want to highlight some important issues.
- Report structured according to our six core strategic themes as usual. But obviously this year COVID-19 has had a big impact on all our operations
- So, this presentation does not follow the numerical order of the report. Instead, I will do two things:
 - Highlight our response to COVID-19
 - But I will also update Council on **other important developments** at the University since our last meeting (in Sept) ... and slightly before (picking up from Aug) ...
- >>

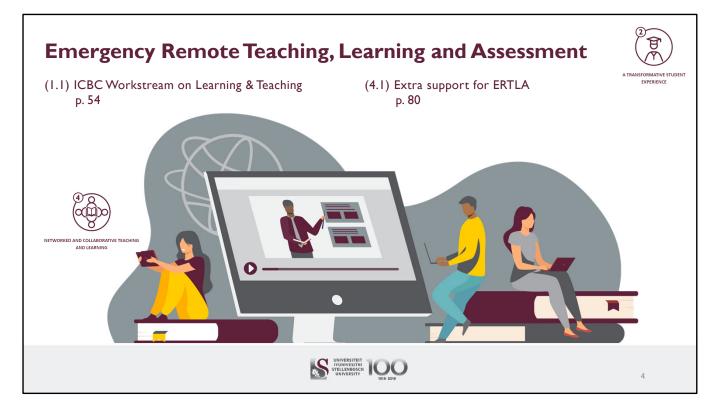


- 2020 will rightly be remembered as especially challenging.
- What started off as a proverbial "year of perfect vision" soon turned into one fraught with uncertainty when the coronavirus pandemic struck.
- Min Blade Nzimande said on Thu last week (26 Nov) the pandemic had a "huge impact" on the entire Post-School Education and Training (PSET) sector.
- I concur. We needed acuity of vision to hold firm and stick to our strategic direction and operational goals.
- All our priorities were reduced to (1) Completing Academic Year 2020; and (2) Ensuring SU's sustainability (financially & otherwise)
- Happy to report on our progress in this regard to Council >>

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- As in my previous reports to Council, this report again contains detailed feedback on the agile institutional management processes that had flowed from the coordinated and integrated work of our Institutional Committee for Business Continuity (ICBC).
- Read more about the activities of the ICBC and its substructures in the reporting period on pp. 54–57 of the COUNCIL BUNDLE
- I have been greatly encouraged by the innovation and nimbleness of our staff

 both academic and support staff who have been walking extra mile after
 extra mile to keep our academic project on track.
- We are immensely grateful for their dedication, hard work and sacrifices this year AND THANKS TO COUNCIL FOR ITS SUPPORT.
- >>

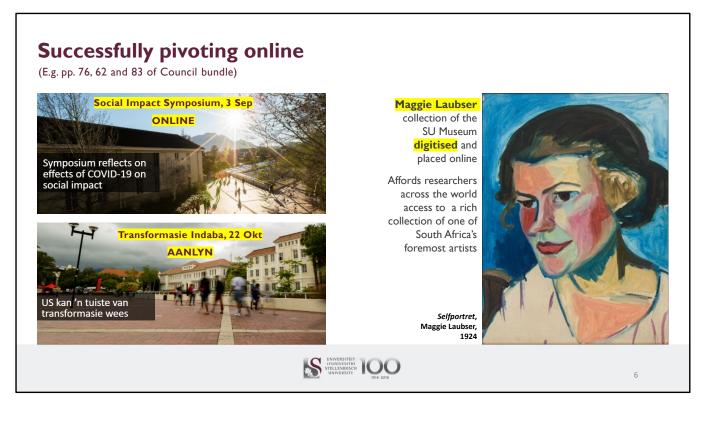


(1.1) ICBC Workstream on Learning & Teaching, p. 54

- Although more students were allowed to return to campus under lockdown level 1, faculties decided to stick to online mode for the remainder of the year due to restrictions on No. of people in venues & physical distancing
- Students will be receiving free data until the end of the year.
- Sit-down invigilated examinations in Nov and Dec for some students.
- (4.1) Extra support for ERTLA, p. 80
- We are fortunate to have received substantial funding to support emergency remote teaching, learning and assessment (ERTLA) at SU.
 The funders are the Michael & Susan Dell Foundation, the Oppenheimer Memorial Trust and the Harry Crossley Foundation. Grateful to them.
- The aim is to ensure that our students have the best possible support for academic success in the 2020 academic year, which has been severely affected by COVID-19.
- The funding enabled us to embark on **extraordinary interventions** to offer students wide-ranging academic and psychosocial support.
- This is being rolled out collaboratively by 14 environments at SU (all our faculties except Military Science, along with the Division for Learning and Teaching Enhancement, the Centre for Teaching and Learning, the Centre for Learning Technologies, the Language Centre and the Centre for Student Counselling and Development).
- Very innovative work being done by staff both academic and support and this is already being written up and reported on for instance at this year's Scholarship of Learning and Teaching conference.
- Bodes well for the future >>

EXTRACT FR	DM STATEMENT
	R OF HIGHER EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND INNOVATION, DR BLADE NZIMANDE ON IS IN THE POST SCHOOL EDUCATION AND TRAINING SECTOR IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19 26 November 2020
It is illur compar multiple parame researci to teach flexibly It is clea standar	e academic year and the extended academic year inating to note that a number of universities are pointing to better student performance in ion to previous years. We have interrogated the reasons for this performance and found contributory factors. Although more careful assessment across all teaching and learning ers must still be done, especially after the completion of the 2020 Academic year, initial indicates positive impact in many cases in respect of (i) the multimodal, blended approach ing and learning, (ii) opportunities provided to students to learn in different ways, more nd at their own pace, and (iii) multiple assessment methods. 'that blended and multimodal learning, including digital and online learning must become a part for the future higher education system. In this regard I intend next year to set up a al Task Team to help us develop strategies to make online learning a reality in our sector.
	5

- Min Blade Nzimande last week highlighted reports by a number of universities that student are doing better than previous years.
- We obviously need to determine this for ourselves, in due course, after the coming exams. But none the less ...
- Three possible contributory factors identified:
 - 1. the multimodal, blended approach to teaching and learning;
 - 2. opportunities provided to students to learn in different ways, more flexibly and at their own pace; and
 - 3. multiple assessment methods.
- The Minster concludes with anticipating that blended and multimodal learning will become "a standard part" of the higher education system in future
- That's also how we see it, and we are well underway
- Not just in learning and teaching, but also in other functions, we successfully pivoted online ...
- >>



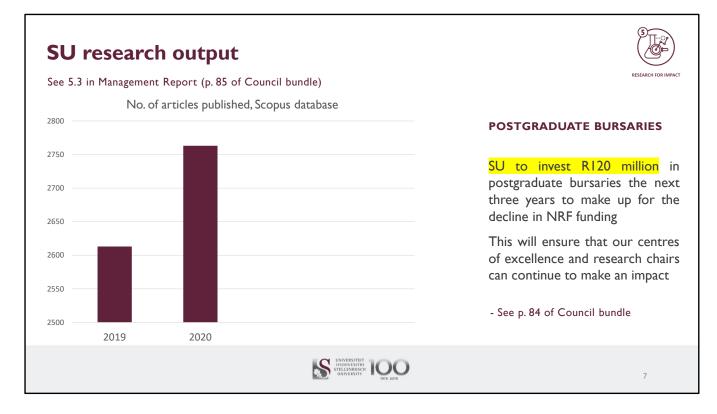
• COVID-19 restrictions caused many difficulties for universities across the globe, and SU is no exception. But we are fortunate that the organisers of many of the events planned at the University this year were able to successful pivot to online gatherings – ensuring that we continue with our role in society. For instance:

[TOP LEFT ON SCREEN] Social Impact Symposium

- The Division of Social Impact (DSI) hosted its annual Social Impact Symposium online on 3 September.
- Staff and students explored the effect of COVID-19 on our social impact activities.
- One of SU's major collaborations has been through the #StellenboschUnite aid action group, which was founded at the start of the pandemic to assist communities affected by the crisis.
- (Other partners in this initiative are Stellenbosch Municipality, Visit Stellenbosch, the Stellenbosch Civil Advocacy Network (SCAN) and the Greater Stellenbosch Development Trust.)
- SU contributed just over a third of the total financial donations received by #StellenboschUnite. More than 33 000 food parcels and nearly 100 000 litres of soup were distributed to vulnerable households and individuals.

[BOTTOM LEFT ON SCREEN] Transformation Indaba

- SU's third Transformation Indaba was held online on 22 October. The annual event creates an
 opportunity for University stakeholders to reflect on and discuss issues of transformation.
 [RIGHT ON SCREEN] Maggie Laubser
- The Maggie Laubser collection of the SU Museum was digitised and placed online in the reporting period
- This affords researchers across the world access to a rich collection of one of South Africa's foremost artists

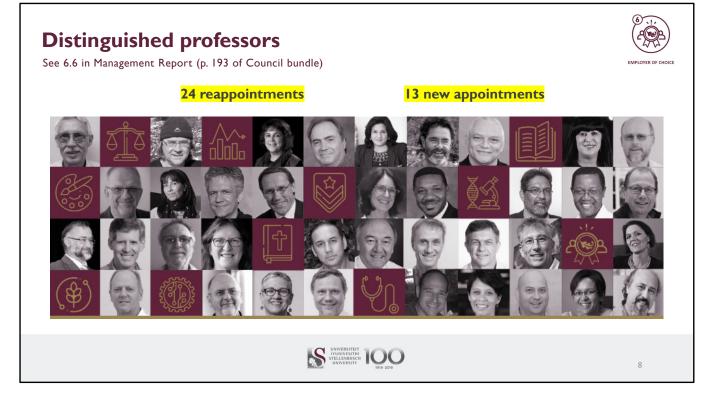


[ON SCREEN, LEFT]

- Speaking of research, according to data extracted from the Scopus database, SU research productivity (number of articles published) for 2020 to date is higher than for last year.
- In 2019, a total of 2 613 articles indexed in Scopus were published from January to October, compared to this year's 2 763.
- The more than 300 COVID-19-related articles by SU-associated authors picked up by our PET Library and Information Service on Google Scholar April to Oct probably has something to do with this.

[ON SCREEN, RIGHT]

- And to ensure that we continue conducting "research for impact", we have decided to invest
 - R120 million in postgraduate bursaries over the next three years.
- This will make up for the recent decline in bursary funding from the National Research Foundation (NRF).
- The bursaries will also ensure that our centres of excellence and SARChI chairs continue to deliver highly qualified postgraduates to industry, and still conduct relevant research in service of society.
- The bursaries will be available on a competitive basis to any student in South Africa who is interested in studying at SU.



- Our top academics produce the output that makes us a leading researchintensive university.
- As you can see, we recently reappointed 24 distinguished professors and made 13 new appointments.
- The title was created in 2014 to recognise our best academics who reach the pinnacle of achievement in their careers.
- They are leading researchers with international stature in their fields, as well as top achievers in higher education in terms of research and publications, postgraduate study leadership, learning and teaching, and transformative social impact.
- >>



- It is a pleasure to report that notwithstanding all the challenges we have had to face this year, SU has further cemented its place internationally.
- Over the past three months, SU achieved the remarkable feat of being listed among the world's top universities on three different international rankings.
 - Shanghai rankings
 - Times Higher Education
 - The US News & World Report
- While our focus is on academic and research excellence, we appreciate the importance of rankings in the overall perception of an institution's standing.
- At the same time, I know it is a complicated and often controversial matter.
- The matter was explored in depth in a report that served at the previous Council meeting (21 Sep). You will find a link to a version of the report that we shared with Senate on p. 52 of the Council bundle. It makes for very interesting reading.
- Speaking of which ... >>

SU in the news

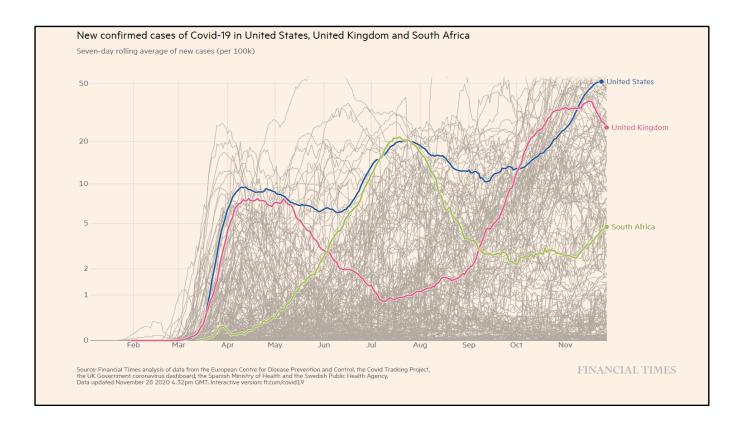
See 1.4 in Management Report (pp. 58-59 of Council bundle; with op-eds and columns on pp. 91-98)

SU generated the most newsclips of all SA universities in Oct

Also tops in 'research and innovation' category



- We've been in the news a lot, as usual ... and for the right reasons!
- According to media monitoring agency PEAR, SU generated the highest number of newsclips of all South African universities in October
- The subset "research and innovation" was the main contributor
- In this time of COVID-19, our experts continued to provide the media with valuable content and comment, further cementing the University's reputation as an innovative and socially responsible institution.
- On screen, you can see some of our stories that made headlines. Find a more complete list in my Management Report
- Speaking of news, what's the latest re. COVID-19?
- >>



- Here we see a graph of new confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the US, UK and SA ... updated Saturday. An average of new cases per hundred thousand of the population
- We see South Africa on the rise again ... sharply so.
- Warnings of another wave of infections ...
- When South Africa went down to Level 1 in September, we decided to err on the side of caution, and not rush the process of returning staff and students to our campuses. This was based on our assessment of what was practicable within the facilities and human resources capacity of the University.
- All things considered, the decision to continue with emergency remote teaching, learning and assessment (ERTLA) for the rest of the academic year turned out to be a wise one.
- So, is there a way out of the predicament in which the world finds itself?
- >>

Compa	iny	Туре	Doses	How effective*	Storage		and a start of the	
	xford Uni- straZeneca	Viral vector (genetically modified virus)	×2	62-90%	Regular fridge temperature	1		
● М	loderna	RNA (part of virus genetic code)	×2	95%	-20C up to 6 months		-	
	fizer- ioNTech	RNA	x2	95%	-70C		20000019 200000-19	3
	amaleya Sputnik V)	Viral vector	×2	92%	Regular fridge temperature			
orelim	inary phase	three results, not	t yet peer-	-reviewed				
ource: Re	espective comp	anies, WHO			BBC			-

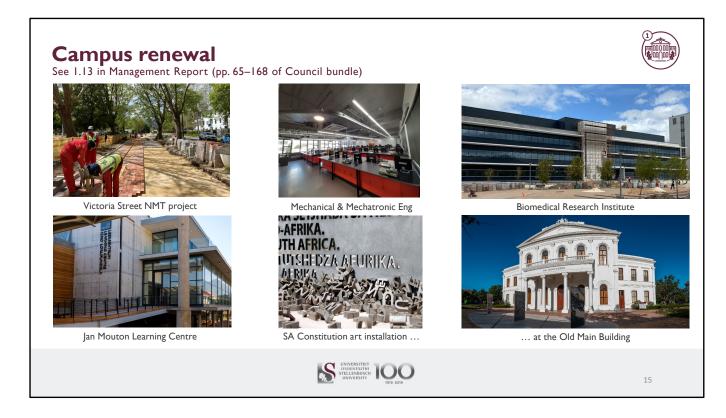
- The whole world is pinning its hopes on a vaccine
- Hundreds in development
- Promising news lately. Here's how the frontrunners are stacking up ... [ON SCREEN]
- For us, the question is not when will vaccines be rolled out, but when we in SA will get sufficient access to it ...
- Hopefully at some point next year ... sooner rather than later >>

'Early' (return to near full campus activity)	'2020 B' (status quo continues)	A THRIVING STELLENBOSCH UNIVE
CHARAC	TERISTICS	l i
Programme disruption at least until Feb 2021; Nearly all students return at start of 2021 academic year	Programme disruption at least until Jul 2021; Not all students return to campus for first half of 2021	
TEACHING AND L	EARNING IMPACT	1
Hybrid learning from March (substantial face-to-face); Assessments face-to-face (F2F)	ERTLA from March to end of H1 (first semester); Assessments online	
ENROLMENT, RETENTIO	N, STUDENT OUTCOMES	1
Retention and progression improves; Enrolment & financial aid adversely affected	Retention problems and progression risk; Enrolment & financial aid adversely affected	
RESE	ARCH	1
Risk of PG student pipeline contracting; Research possibly slows as contracts decline	Risk of PG student pipeline contracting; Research possibly slows as contracts decline	
FACULTY	/ & STAFF	
Return to campus; Health and wellbeing improves	Work from home continues; Strain because ERTLA continues and is augmented	

- The ICBC has been considering two scenarios for 2021.
- On the <u>left</u>, an EARLY return to near full campus activity, with almost all students returning at the start of the 2121 academic year in March
- On the <u>right</u>, 2020 B, that is, the current status quo continues, with not all students returning for the first half of 2021.
- We see the implications unpacked in terms of the impact of each scenario in various dimensions
- We are going with the scenario on the left an EARLY return to near full campus activity depending on circumstances.
- That would mean more hybrid learning than ERTLA
- · Student retention and progression improves
- Though there are still risks to research
- · But staff return to campus, with their health and wellbeing improving
- We'll see ...



- In the meantime, the pandemic is by no means over.
- The Minister (Dr Blade Nzimande) last week (26 Nov) expressed concern about cluster outbreaks at HEIs in the Eastern Cape and KZN and warned that more cluster outbreaks are expected, across other provinces and institutions.
- He also appealed to students and staff to "stick to preventive measures including wearing of masks, proper hand-washing, avoiding handshaking and social and physical distancing."
- We have been conducting campaigns on social media and on our campuses to drive home this message
- · What else has been happening on our campuses?



- Those of you who went on the tour this morning, or just came in for this meeting would have noticed that our campus is being spruced up in a big way. Facilities Management are doing a great job.
- Exciting developments like the Victoria Street non-motorised transport (NMT) project
 - A first of its kind on our Stellenbosch campus, the project will provide pedestrian pathways, tactile paving for persons with impaired vision, and bicycle lanes – all in one.
- At Engineering, a renovated Mechanical and Mechatronic building
- The fantastic new **Biomedical Research Institute** on our Tygerberg campus is coming along nicely
- The Jan Mouton Learning Centre next to the Neelsie is 99% complete
- En die **Ou Hoofgebou** spog met 'n nuwe kunsinstallasie. On 4 November, we unveiled an art installation to celebrate the Constitution of South Africa. It forms part of our drive to make Stellenbosch University a more inclusive institution.
- We strive to provide not only the best facilities but also a place where our staff and students can feel at home.
- >>



- Speaking of our students, we aim to provide them with transformative experience, preparing them to enter the future with confidence. A few highlights:
- [TOP LEFT] As Council knows, the Michael and Susan Dell Foundation has pledged R191 million over five years for wrap-around support to 1,000 undergraduate students from low-income backgrounds. Council undertook to match the top-up scholarship component of the package, which amounts to R75 million – thanks again. I can now report the selection of the first cohort of Dell Young Leaders has started.
- [BOTTOM LEFT] 76 of our **top students** across various categories received excellence awards last month for academics, leadership, social impact, culture and service provision.
- [TOP RIGHT] The post-COVID-19 world will require significant innovation and entrepreneurship to adjust to our new normal. Preparing Maties to be part of the solution, Innovus and the LaunchLab regularly host events aimed at stirring the entrepreneurial spirit in our students.
- [BOTTOM RIGHT] And in news that broke after we submitted the Management Report, we got approval from SAQA (the SA Qualifications Authority) to offer a four-year **Bachelor's degree in Data Science** from next year – a multidisciplinary programme based on inter-faculty collaboration – between Economic and Management Sciences, AgriSciences, Arts and Social Sciences, and Science. It's the only course of its kind in the country.
- Now, our students face tremendous challenges, as do our staff, so it is important to support them ... >>

Psychosocial support to students and staff

(See Introduction to and 6.1-6.4 in Management Report (pp. 52 and 86-87 of Council bundle)



STUDENTS:

- Our Centre for Student Counselling and Development provides free and confidential individual and group counselling.
- Also academic assistance and development, emotional and emergency support (including a 24-hour helpline)

STAFF:

- The Employee Wellness Unit of our Human Resources Division provides ongoing support to staff.
- Staff and their families now also have access to an anonymous online health and well-being programme.

BOTH STAKEHOLDER GROUPS:

- A Policy on Staff and Student Mental Health is in development.
- We have a shared responsibility to stand by each other in difficult times ... >>

Forward together against gender-based violence (GBV)

See 2.1 in Management Report (pp. 173–175 of Council bundle)

- Joint anti-GBV working groups completed work and published report
- Confirms our zero-tolerance approach to GBV
- Reaffirms SU's commitment to equal rights and social justice for all
- Contains recommendations on (1) values and principles; (2) procedures and processes; (3) residences and structures; (4) mental health & alcohol/substance abuse; (5) training and awareness; (6) safety and security
- Action plan being drawn up and discussed
- Curbing GBV the joint responsibility of entire University community
- Thanks to Senior Director: Student Affairs Dr Choice Makhetha for leading the process, and everyone else who participated
- We remain committed to collaborating with all our staff and students to intensify the institutional efforts against GBV





- We also have a shared responsibility to combat gender-based violence (GBV) on our campuses.
- That is why set up **joint** anti-GBV working groups last year, and earlier this year they completed their work and published a report
- Action plan being drawn up and discussed
- We remain committed to collaborating with all our staff and students to intensify the institutional efforts against GBV

December graduation ceremonies

See 4.4 in Management Report (p. 185 of Council bundle)

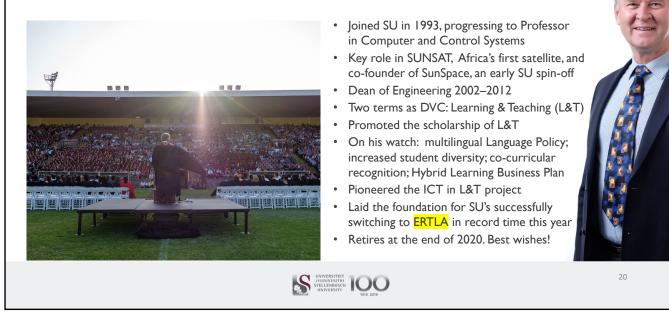
- 14–16 Dec 2020
- Hybrid model to comply with COVID-19 regulations:
 - I2 small physical ceremonies (four per day) in the Endler Hall
 - Doctorates (including Mar/Apr 2020)
 - Honorary doctorates
 - Chancellor's Awards
 - Chancellor's Medal
 - Faculty-specific online ceremonies
 - Graduands to receive qualifications in absentia



- As we meet here today, preparations are underway to celebrate the academic achievements of thousands of students who will be graduating in two weeks' time
 - We will have small face-to-face ceremonies from 14 to 16 December, as well as faculty-specific online ceremonies.
 - A highlight of the year. Looking forward to it.
 - >>

Prof Arnold Schoonwinkel

See Introduction to Management Report (pp. 155 of Council bundle)



- Prof Arnold Schoonwinkel will be retiring at the end of the year, so this is his last Council meeting. I think a brief tribute would be in order ...
- Arnold graduated from SU in 1981 with a master's in Electrical and Electronic Engineering ... went on to do his PhD at Stanford ... in Aeronautical and Astronautical Engineering
- He joined SU as a staff member in 1993, where he would become a core member of the team that built Africa's first locally developed satellite ... SUNSAT, successfully placed in orbit in 1999.
- Dean of Engineering 2002–2012
- Then two terms as DVC: Learning & Teaching
- Laid the foundation for SU's rapid switch to ERTLA
- Retires at the end of 2020 will be sorely missed!
- Arnold, our sincere appreciation for your sterling contribution, over many years in various capacities, to the success of our institution and the development of our students and staff. We wish you all the best.
- He will take us through his Management Report later >>



- Thank you for Council's support in 2020.
- In a year fraught with major challenges that had a significant impact on our activities, SU has managed to surmount the hurdles in our way through innovation and sheer hard work.
- It would seem that the end of the COVID-19 challenge is not in sight yet. However, with the lessons we've learnt, I am convinced that we are well equipped to remain focused on our strategic objectives.
- Proud to be part of Team Stellenbosch University!
- Chair, with your leave. I will now take comments and questions for 10 minutes