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Brig Gen Lawrence Mbatha and Prof Samuel Tshehla hand a Military Academy Code of Honour to each first-year student on parade. Photo: Maj Engela Meintjes

## New students welcomed to Military Academy

New students were recently welcomed with pomp and circumstance to the Military Academy in Saldanha.

Seventy-nine new first-year students (MA19) from all arms of services were welcomed to the base on Thursday 25 January.

The welcoming parade was led by the SA Army Band Western Cape.

The academy was honoured to have the Chief Human Resources, Lieutenant General Norman Yengeni, as well as several high ranking SANDF officials present.

Brigadier General Lawrence Mbatha, Commandant of the academy, welcomed the first years to the unit and highlighted some of the important aspects of their three years of study. He also reminded them that they were to gain knowledge for the South African Defence Force (SANDF) and become highly intelligent personnel, thought leaders whose careers are characterised by well reasoned and astute decisionmaking.

Mbatha expressed profound appreciation to the Stellenbosch University (SU) for its remarkable partnership with the academy, which ensures the latter remains one of the most highly recognised tertiary institutions in the country. The Military Academy is recognised as the ninth best in the world.

At the parade, the Dean of SU's Faculty of Military Science, Professor Samuel Tshehla, read the Military Academy Code of Honour to the students. It serves as a guide to military students while at the academy, each received a copy on parade.