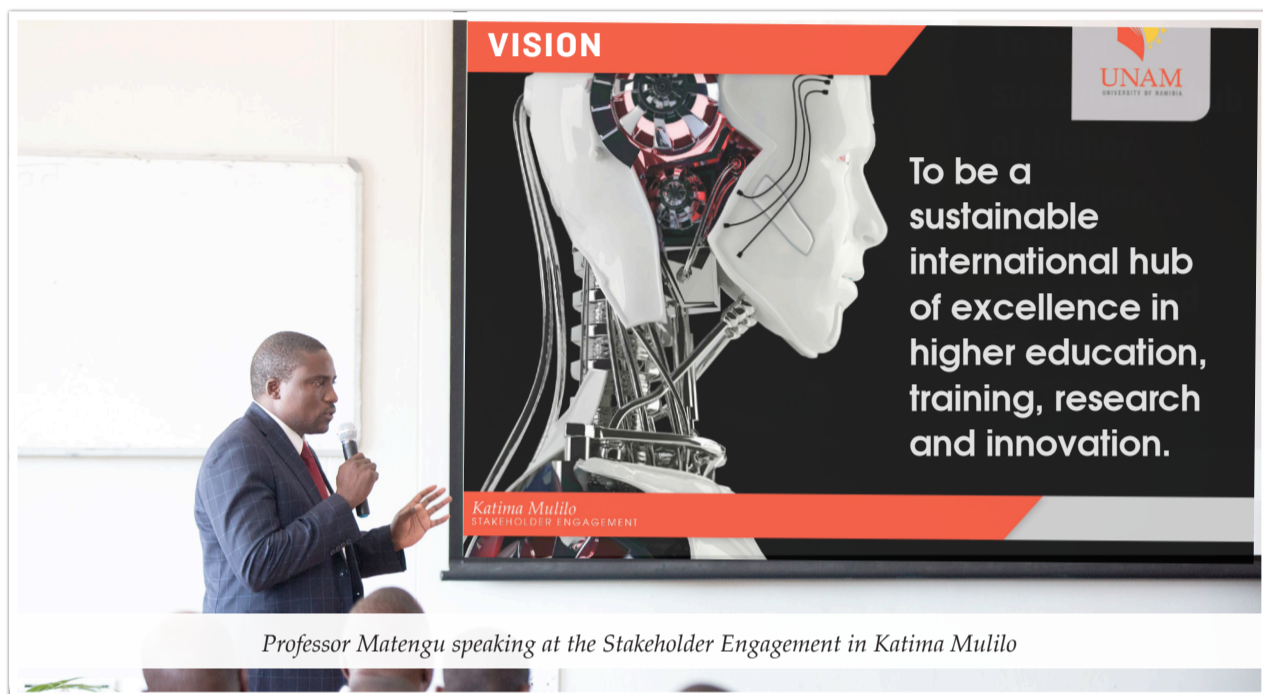


## Vice Chancellor embarks on country wide stakeholder engagements



Professor Matengu speaking at the Stakeholder Engagement in Katima Mulilo

Barely a year in office, Professor Kenneth Matengu, the UNAM Vice Chancellor, begun engaging various external publics across the country. The aim is to share the new envisaged vision of the university, whilst ensuring that it remains sensitive to the needs of different communities where the university operates.

Thus far, the Vice-Chancellor has had insightful engagements with community members and captains of industry from Rundu, Katima Mulilo, Ongwediva and Keetmanshoop. More engagements are lined-up.

"UNAM has experienced exponential

growth over the years, both in infrastructure and manpower, so, now is the right time to drive research for innovation and development", remarked Professor Matengu at one of the engagements.

With more than 300 Doctorate holders at UNAM, the highest in the country, the Vice Chancellor is convinced that UNAM is uniquely positioned to solve many of Namibia's developmental challenges through translational research. In line with that, a process of reviewing UNAM structures, processes and values with hopes to re-align them to a new UNAM agenda, metaphorically called, "the UNAM We WANT", has begun.

## Physics Lecturer attends Global Young Academy of Scientists

UNAM Physics Lecturer, Dr Michael Backes, is among 160 early-career scientists and scholars from 67 countries, who recently convened in Halle, Germany at the Global Young Academy's 2019 Anniversary Annual General Meeting (AGM) and International Conference of Young Scientists.

"Re-Enlightenment: Truth, Reason and Science in a global world" was the theme of the meeting.

This five-day event brought together over 160 distinguished early to mid-career scientists and scholars, senior scientists, and science administrators

from around the globe to address the relationship between science and society, the role and limits of science in today's globalized society. The conference was held at the German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina.

Highlights of the conference include:- 29 April - Local cooperation with Leibniz Institute for Economic Research Halle and the International Network of Government Science Advice (INGSA) on a Science Advice Workshop;

Opening welcome by Leopoldina President Jörg Hacker; Introductory Panel on Re-Enlightenment and reception at Halle City Hall; Key-note speeches by Vladimír Čučka, Director General of the EU Joint Research Centre, and Martin Frick, Senior Director for Policy and Programme Coordination at UNFCCC - Climate Change; Panel discussion on the history and future of science academies including key-note by Ismail Serageldin, Founder of Bibliotheca Alexandrina.

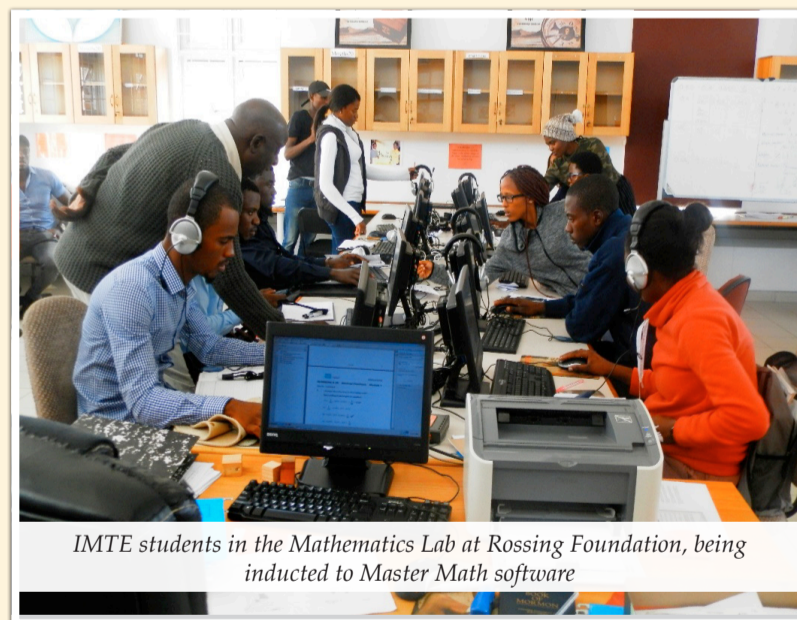


## Experiential Learning trip in the Erongo region

The full-time students of the third year Diploma and second year Bachelor of Education Honours Degree in the Department of Lifelong Learning and Community Education, doing a module titled: Integrated Media and Technology for Adult Education, visited different organisations in Erongo region, recently.

The purpose of this excursion was to afford students an opportunity to align theory to practice and to understand the use of these media technologies in real world contexts. Under the leadership of their Educational Technologies Lecturer, Sadrag Panduleni Shihomeka, who has extensive experience in teaching and researching educational media and technologies, they visited various organisations.

The organisations are in different sectors such as: mining, education, port management, community development/engagement, and so on. Organisations visited for a duration ranging from 2-4 hours were: NAMPORT Walvis Bay, NIMT (Arandis), COSDEC and COSDEF (Swakopmund), Rossing Uranium Mine (Arandis), Rossing Foundation (Swakopmund) and the Desalination



IMTE students in the Mathematics Lab at Rossing Foundation, being inducted to Master Math software

Plant, some 35 kilometres from Swakopmund en route to Henties Bay.

At these organisations, students were inducted to various activities taking place at these organisations and how they make use of appropriate technologies to produce or offer their products or services. Some of the interesting media and technologies that they came across during this eye opening trip, are: the use of breathalyzers, biometric systems, radio, TV, CCTV, video/teleconferencing facilities, e-learning software (Master Math), two-way

radios, BRT, sign and billboards, reverse osmosis membranes, social media: WhatsApp and Facebook.

According to George Kaliteke, one of the students, the excursion was "an overwhelming experience but very impactful in the sense that, these organisations are more digitized than my pre-conceived misconceptions"

"I recommend other students to have the same tour like us, so that they will be able to link theory to practice" narrates another student, Elizabeth Nghidishange.