

Welcome and Introduction of Minister of Education

Great pleasure to publicly welcome the Minister of Education, DoE official and officials of SANTED

Gratitude for taking time off busy schedule to spend one and half days with us

Not all Ministers of Education have expertise on education issues, and frequently their experience is limited to having been learners and students

Fortunate to have a Minister who is herself an educationist and comes from a family which has a proud lineage in education

Mention the late Prof. ZK Matthews who was an outstanding scholar at Fort Hare in the 1950's an a leading opponent of Bantu education and inspired the Freedom Charter and Congress of the People of 1955

The Minister has been a teacher in the UK, an academic at the UNIBO and also at UCT and has been associated with HE in many different ways

Also fortunate to have a Minister who has deeply grasped the challenges of higher education post the restructuring and reorganisation of the early 2000 period

- need to consolidate and ensure continuity and consistency of policy with out fear of initiating policy changes where these are necessary**
- Need to fund HE more adequately**

Has been a strong advocate and championing of more adequate funding of universities

- capital infrastructure funding**
- access and foundation**
- centrality of and learning and teaching and curriculum**

Advocate of African languages in HE

Hence the invite to her to this evening address the issue of African languages at universities.

With this brief introduction my pleasure to invite the Minsiter to address us