



**POLYTECHNIC OF NAMIBIA**

**WELCOME REMARKS**

**BY**

**PROF TJAMA TJIVIKUA**

***RECTOR: POLYTECHNIC OF NAMIBIA***

***AT***

**THE 1<sup>ST</sup> RESEARCH DAY 2013 - ORGANISED BY THE COMBINED  
SCHOOLS OF MANAGEMENT AND ECONOMICS AND FINANCE**

**14 AUGUST 2013**

**08:00**

**AUDITORIUM 1**

Ms Evangelina Nailenge (*Director of Research – Bank of Namibia*)

Prof Alaphia Wright (*UNESCO – Country Representative*)

Representatives from UNAM and IUM

Management, Staff and Students

Members of the Press

Ladies & gentlemen

A very good morning to everyone and thank you for joining us at the 1<sup>st</sup> Research Day 2013 organised by the combined schools of Management and Economics and Finance.

In promotion of research activities at the Polytechnic/UST, there is an institutional requirement that each school should host a Research Day for their faculty, staff and students. The two schools and the Harold Pupkewitz Graduate School of Business (HPGSB) have therefore decided to hold their Research Day today in fulfilment of that requirement. Some of the schools have already had theirs and others will very soon follow suit. And I am glad to note on the programme that paper presentations are not limited to only academics but also students.

Ladies and gentlemen, you will agree with me that the country has its research imperatives indicated in both Namibia Development Plan (NDP4) and Vision 2030. Both of these national plans aim at addressing, among others, high and sustainable economic growth, employment creation and improved income equality.

I am informed by the schools that, they have geared their research niche areas towards addressing these national needs and they include:

- **Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Service quality** – to address the reduction of SME Infant mortality rates and improve service culture
- **Economic development** - to address poverty alleviation and sustained economic growth strategies
- **Project management** - to address the Private & Public sector projects management

Ladies and gentlemen, someone whispered in my ears some few days ago in town, when they asked whether I knew my new name? I said no! “People are calling you, Mr Transformation”, s/he said. In as much as I hate nicknames, being called Mr Transformation is something I am not worried about. Because, transformation means change and I am definitely a man who believes in change.

Colleagues, I am assuring you that it is no longer a rumour. The name will change and by the beginning of next year we shall be ushered into a new dawn of History. A University of Science and Technology (UST) will be born. A move which you all know did not come easily. It is through your hard work, commitment to quality, dedication and our joint vision which has resulted in this notable achievement. And I am glad that you are ready to do even more. You should also note that the name change has its own challenges as well and one of them is obviously Research. We need to arm ourselves to improve our research output. We need to emphasise research relevant to economic imperatives as a university of technology. -

I am in agreement with Carl Sagan when he said “Somewhere, something incredible is waiting to be known”. We will therefore continue digging through research to unearth the hidden truth.

Let me wish you a useful Research Day.

Thank you.