

SPEECH

**EXECUTIVE MAYOR – MANGAUNG LOCAL
MUNICIPALITY**

AT THE INAUGURATION

CEREMONY

OF

**DR FRANKLIN SONN AS CHANCELLOR AND
PROF FREDERICK FOURIE AS VICE-CHANCELLOR
OF THE**

UNIVERSITY OF THE FREE STATE

MAY I ON BEHALF OF THE MANGAUNG CITY COUNCIL AND ITS COMMUNITY JOIN THE REST OF THE PEOPLE IN CONGRATULATING THE THE COUNCIL AND STUDENTS OF UNIVERSITY OF THE FREE STATE IN THE APPOINTMENT OF DR FRANKLIN SONN AS A CHANCELLOR AND PROF FREDERICK FOURIE AS VICE CHANCELLOR.

UNIVERSITIES AND OTHER HIGHER INSTITUTIONS OF LEARNING HAVE BECOME CRUCIAL IN OUR ATTEMPT TO CREAT A BETTER AND CARING SOCIETY.

THE KIND OF STUDENT THAT OUR NEW DEMOCRACY NEEDS IS NOT ONLY THE ONE THAT IS INFORMED AND EDUCATED BUT WE NEED THOSE THAT ARE “TRANSFORMED” IN THAT IN ADDITION TO THEIR ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS THEY EMBRACE AND SHARE THE VISION OF A COUNTRY THAT IS PEOPLE-CENTERED – THAT IS BASED ON EQUITY, JUSTICE AND FAIRNESS – THAT IS NON SEXIST, DEMOCRATIC AND PROSPEROUS.

THE UFS HAS OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS BECOME RELEVANT IN THAT REGARD – WITH GOOD COMMUNITY BASED PROGRAMS – AND PROGRAMMES TO MEET THE CHALLENGES OF OUR NEW DEMOCRATIC DISPENSATION.

HAVING MET DR FRANKLIN SONN MORE THAN A DECADE AGO – AND HIS CONTRIBUTION TO THIS COUNTRY, I BELIEVE THAT HIS LEADERSHIP, INSIGHT AND EXPERIENCE IS THE RIGHT DOSE OF MEDICINE AT THE RIGHT TIME TO CATAPULT THIS UNIVERSITY TO A NEW LEVEL ON THE “ENLIGHTENED PATH:.

PROF FOURIE HAS OVER THE YEARS CONTRIBUTED IMMENSELY TO THE UNIVERSITY AND HIS EXPERIENCE INSIGHT – BUT PARTICULARLY HIS “HEART” I BELIEVE GIVES US THE COMFORT THAT UNDER HIS LEADERSHIP – THIS UNIVERSITY WILL FULFILL ITS MANDATE AND EXPECTATIONS OF OUR PEOPLE.

WE CONGRATULATE DR SONN AND PROF FOURIES AND WISH THEM A
CHALLENGING AND FULFILLING TENURE IN THE LEADERSHIP OF THE
UNIVERSITY.

WITH THOSE FEW WORDS

I THANK YOU