

Friday, May 28, 2021
14:00 to 15:00



**Guest Speaker:
Dr McLean Sibanda**

**The NWU DVC - Research & Innovation, cordially invites
you to a Fireside chat**

Theme:

Africa's Innovation and Entrepreneurship Ecosystem

Welcome & Background: Dr Janine Chantson, Chief Director - TTIS

Speakers: Prof Frans Waanders
Acting DVC Research & Innovation

Dr McLean Sibanda
Managing Director Bigen Global Ltd (Mauritius)

Poll & Announcement of Winner

Answer and Question Session

Closing Remarks

ZOOM

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A seasoned C-Suite Executive, Dr. McLean Sibanda is the Managing Director of Bigen Global Limited (Mauritius), leading infrastructure development specialists. He has held senior and executive positions in private and public sector. He was CEO of The Innovation Hub (2011-2018), where he oversaw its repositioning to focus on innovation. A patent attorney by training, and an innovation and intellectual property expert who is passionate about Africa's socio economic development, he has consulted for Southern African Development Community (SADC), African Union (AU), World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO), and Governments of Eswatini, South Africa and Tanzania. He was the lead drafter of South Africa's Intellectual Property Rights from Publicly Financed Research and Development Act, 2008. He has served on a number of continental and international boards, and currently serves on various private sector boards. He is a visiting lecturer at [Africa University](#) (Mutare, Zimbabwe), where he lectures on Innovation and Entrepreneurship to Masters in Intellectual Property Management students. In 2020 UNISA conferred an Adjunct Professorship on Dr Sibanda.

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