

Newly appointed Director IT: Vaal Triangle Campus

ITHOME
NEWS
MAY

INTRODUCE

Motlokwe Thobejane

<http://services.nwu.ac.za/ithome>

SEE
CAREER PATH
SUCCESS STORY

REVEALING
BIGGEST
ACHIEVEMENTS

APPRECIATION
AWARDS

MOTIVATION
TUESDAY INITIATIVE

PERSONAL BACKGROUND
AND RELAXATION

Aim: to make an appreciable contribution...

Meet Motlokwe Thobejane, newly appointed Director IT: Vaal Triangle Campus

Besides VTC's IT director, Motlokwe Thobejane is "co-founder of Mohlotlo Thuto Foundation. He is a blogger, and also United Nations (UN) Volunteer. Motlokwe is an IT specialist and holds a Master of Philosophy (MPhil) in Informatics. He is passionate about writing, education and youth development." On 2 March 2018, one month after he joined IT on 1 February, Motlokwe Thobejane appeared on an episode of BUAtv where the focus was on Information Technology. He gave invaluable information with regards to why the IT department is doing so much more than meets the eye... To view this episode, visit: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GtelB3PwX1I> Let us take a peek into the world of Motlokwe Thobejane, as we trace his life journey and career path.

ness. I have plied my trade across diverse environments and industries, at companies like British American Tobacco (BAT) as Infrastructure/Application Support Analyst (Stellenbosch); ArcelorMittal as System Analyst (Saldanha Bay); SASOL as Lead Network Analyst (Sasolburg); EMC (now Dell-EMC) as Implementation Specialist (Bryanston), and Accenture as Cloud Technical Architect Manager (Woodmead), before joining the NWU." Motlokwe revealed that he had always been interested in IT and shared how his educational path had prepared him for his new position: "I studied BSc: Computer Science (University of Limpopo), did my BSc Honours: Information Systems (UNISA), and continued with an MPhil: Informatics (University

are building a high-performance IT team, achieving operational excellence, stakeholder engagement, and customer service excellence.

Personal background...

Motlokwe grew up in Morapang, Sekhukhune in the Limpopo province. His schooling started at Mpetjie Primary School and he attended various high schools – Tekanang, Makuane, and Lesailane (where he passed matric in 2003). His favourite pastimes include teaching and mentoring learners through his NGO *Mohlotlo Thuto Foundation (MTF)* and occasionally writing for *News24Voices*. To relax, he plays with his one-year-old son, Boikgatsho, watches soccer, reads, and enjoys various types of music, mainly local.

Biggest achievement

Motlokwe Thobejane received the EMC (now Dell-EMC) Global Community Service Award in 2014 for his volunteer work with the non-profit Mohlotlo Thuto Foundation, which he co-founded. He was chosen from a host of international candidates. In the article on the *ITWeb website*, Motlokwe states: "Given the socio-economic, educational, and youth unemployment challenges facing South Africa, I decided to be part of the solution by establishing an educational structure like Mohlotlo Thuto. As part of our implementation framework, we enable and grow young people to become change agents that foster the objectives of our foundation".

Appreciation awards

In an effort to demonstrate recognition of the achievements of his team, Motlokwe started this initiative as an important vehicle to build trusting relationships among team



Career background...

Starting a new job is tough, no matter how you slice it. When asked whether he was excited about his new position he responded: "Yes – to make an appreciable contribution to ensuring that NWU IT is fulfilling its vision to becoming the enabler of University core busi-

ness. Currently, I am broadening my IT career by pursuing a PhD in IT Management with the University of Johannesburg (UJ)." His motivation sprouts from a drive to help his team, and to help them achieve what they prioritise as important. He is a firm supporter of trust and respect, and feels that the areas he wants to focus on

members and to start appreciating everyone's efforts. The initiative kicked off in February of this year, and at the moment it is only for Vaal IT members. However, Motlokwe has expressed the hope to expand it to include the whole of NWU IT.

He further explains that the outcome should result in "bringing strength and appreciation as well as trust among us, create a vibrant and energetic atmosphere, and steer towards a sense of pride for being part of this team and the University at large".

The appreciation award is a monthly event at the Vaal Campus. "Our Chief Director IT: Boeta Pretorius is our resident guest who attends our sessions virtually every month. We also invite other members of senior management (DVC, Executive/Deputy Deans, etc.) to join us on a monthly basis." He also states: "Thus far I'm happy that the colleagues understand what it is that we intend to achieve. They understand that it is not to create a competition among them, but a platform to appreciate and strengthen the relationship of the team members, in an atmosphere where everyone can feel appreciated..."

The Appreciation Award winners thus far are:

- Robert Azwidowi - February
- Lorika Jansen – March
- Nkululeko Khomo - April

Motlokwe also started an initiative called Motivation Tuesday – which provides members of the team the opportunity to share a motivational message, be it in the form of a short video clip, audio, song, article, blog entry, or the like. It started with the Vaal IT team, and now all three campuses are taking part.



Mohlotlo Thuto Foundation

news24voices

- NEWS24
- WHO'S WHO SA
- CONTRIBUTORS A-Z

Home / [Motlokwe Thobejane](#)

Motlokwe Thobejane



Motlokwe Thobejane is a co-founder of Mohlotlo Thuto Foundation. He is a blogger, poet and also United Nations (UN) Volunteer. Motlokwe is an IT specialist and holds Master of Philosophy(MPhil) in Informatics. He is passionate about writing, education and youth development.

[Follow @motlokwe](#)

Recent Posts

Enjoys writing for News24Voices

VIEW OUR FILE

Johannesburg, 18 Sep 2015
Read time: 1 min 50sec

Motlokwe Thobejane, an Associate Delivery Specialist at EMC Southern Africa, has won the 'Motivator Award' in EMC's international Community Service Awards programme.

Thobejane was chosen from a host of worldwide candidates in recognition of his volunteerism in 2014 as co-founder of the non-profit Mohlotlo Thuto Foundation.

Sonelia Du Preez, Country Marketing Manager of EMC Southern Africa, says: "We are extremely proud of Motlokwe and his achievements. Only a handful of individuals throughout the global EMC community receive this accolade every year, so it is an immense honour to earn this recognition. It is richly deserved on Motlokwe's part, and we wish him everything of the best as he continues to give back to less fortunate communities."

EMC fosters a culture of giving back by recognising employees who make exceptional contributions in their communities. Established in 2009, EMC's annual Community Service Awards (CSA) recognise employees for their contribution to communities outside of campus supported by the company at the corporate level.

The Mohlotlo Thuto Foundation fosters and advocates academic excellence, supporting :

Global Community Service Award