

Dear Debby Derry,

Below here is our congratulatory message to your institution:

***The Faculty of Health Sciences at Walter Sisulu University congratulates the Mandela University in establishing a medical school. It is our wish and hope that the NMU medical school will add value to the existing programs of the university. The medical school will have to carve and mould its own unique image within the South African academic medicine space in order to deliver a unique program taking into account the identity of the local population to deal meaningfully and effectively with the local disease profile but with a national and global outlook. The foundation degree in medicine ought to have a curriculum that is broad enough to allow for the graduate in medicine to serve the population, as well as to stimulate the graduate to leap easily into any chosen field of specialization within the bouquet of available medicine specialties and sub-specialties in South Africa.***

***Training in medicine is always transformative. It is our wish and hope that the doctors emerging from this medical school will continue in that tradition of being transformed and in turn they are expected to transform the society in which they will be serving.***

***There are high expectations accorded by society to medical schools, their students, the staff and graduates. The medical students and staff should always be mindful of this, in their daily activities. These further demands humility always when the medical school and its students deal with the public. Medical students and their teachers/trainers use members of the public to learn, to do research and to perform other engaged activities. The public agree to participate in all these activities without asking for anything in return. This we must never forget. The only way the medical students and staff can repay the public is to treat them with utmost dignity, employing the highest-level of ethics, at all times.***

***It is our wish and hope that this new medical school will be exemplary to all other medical schools in the Republic.***

***Congratulations!***

***Prof AJ Mbokazi***

***Dean: Faculty of Health Sciences, Walter Sisulu University."***