Media Advisory - Unisa to host the inaugural Simiso Nkwanayana Memorial Lecture
Approved for public release
Date: 06 October 2023

The University of South Africa (Unisa)'s KwaZulu-Natal Region in partnership with the South African Communist Party (SACP) will host the Inaugural Simiso Nkwanyana Memorial Lecture on Monday the 9th of October 2023 at Inkosi Albert Luthuli ICC Complex. The Minister of Higher Education, Science, and Innovation Dr Blade Nzimande will present the lecture.

Simiso Nkwanyana was a student leader who was also one of the founding members of the first Students' Representative Council (SRC), which was established in 1996 at Unisa. A popular student leader with a strong and loyal following in KwaZulu-Natal Region and beyond. Nkwanyana was, moreover, a driving force in the South African Communist Party and in the broader progressive alliance movement led by the African National Congress (ANC).

The annual lectures will be held to commemorate the life and death of Simiso and to celebrate his courage and leadership as a political activist. The lecture will also celebrate him as an intellectual whose courage was on the battlefield of ideas, and whose greatest contribution was the intellectual contribution he made to the student.

 In keeping with the spirit of renewal and transformation, the university paid homage to Nkwanyana by naming the Durban Regional Hub building after him in 2019. As the university is celebrating 150 years anniversary, hosting the Simiso Nkwanyana Memorial Lecture is a fitting tribute to all past and present student leaders at Unisa.

Members of the media are invited to attend and cover the event as follows:

Date: Monday, 9 October 2023
Venue: Hall 3A, Inkosi Albert Luthuli ICC Complex, 45 Bram Fischer Rd, Durban, 4001.
Time: 16:00

 /Ends.

ISSUED BY UNISA MEDIA AFFAIRS

For enquiries, please contact Senior Media Officers Tommy Huma on 072 218 6197 / 012 429 3981 / humatm@unisa.ac.za OR Edgar Rathelele on 063 731 5456 / 012 429 3981 / ratheme@unisa.ac.za