

To: National Media

From: Unisa Library

Dated: 4 September 2017

MEDIA RELEASE

Re: Unisa Library supports reading at Correctional Facilities during National Book Week 2017

In a drive to inculcate a culture of reading, and to contribute to National Book Week (3 – 9 September), the Unisa Library will visit three (3) Correctional Facilities on 7th and 8th September 2017. The visits aim to support reading initiatives among but not limited to Unisa students who are incarcerated **at the following** Correctional Centers:

1. **Breede River in the Western Cape (on 7 September from 10:00 to 13:00),**
2. **Losperfontein in Brits near Rustenburg (on 7 September from 09:00 to 11:00) and**
3. **Zonderwater in Cullinan (on 8 September from 09:00 to 11:00).**

The Unisa Library, in collaboration with the *Inside Out Outside In* book project, will also donate books to the Correctional Facilities' libraries and engage with inmates on their various reading and book initiatives.

National Book Week is a successful reading campaign run by the South African Book Development Council (SABDC) in partnership with the Department of Arts and Culture, initiated in 2010 to inculcate a culture of reading for every South African. Some of the key objectives of the National Book Week include:

- to promote reading as a critical part of South African development; and
- to celebrate books as instruments for education, culture, heritage and economic progress

A memorandum of understanding was signed between UNISA and the Department of Correctional Services in order to ensure support for inmates who want to pursue their studies. In this regard, the Unisa Library will contribute to the MOU through supporting a reading culture in correctional facilities.

Members of the media are invited to join the activities at the above mentioned Correctional Facilities. For more information, contact **Natalia Molebatsi, Marketing Coordinator at Unisa Library on 0842882338 / 012 429 6977 or email her on molebn@unisa.ac.za**

END

