Press Release

FNB AND THE UNIVERSITY OF LIMPOPO RECOGNISE TOP STUDENTS

Polokwane; 5 April 2013 - Last night the University of Limpopo (UL) in partnership with First National Bank (FNB) hosted the Vice-Chancellor's Accountancy top achievers awards to recognise students who excelled in the School of Accountancy (SoA).

Attended by Hon. Mduduzi Manana, Deputy Minister of Higher Education and Training, the annual five year sponsorship agreement saw the institution's best Accountancy students walking away with trophies and cash prizes ranging from R1 000 to R14 000.

Kgosi Ledimo, FNB CEO of Provincial, Local Government, says, "We are positive that we have been able to add more value and efforts in the development of skills in the accounting within our communities. By partnering with the University of Limpopo the possibilities have proven to be endless and we've been able to witness 10 students in 2011 and 19 students in 2012 respectively graduating in top honours since the partnership."

FNB's support contributes to skills development and complements the collaboration between the University and the South African Institute of Chartered Accountants (SAICA) through the Thuthuka Project. This project is an effort to address skills scarcity in the Chartered Accountant (CA) fraternity by identifying talented individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds and providing them with the opportunity to become chartered accountants.

"FNB's continuous support of these prestigious awards since 2010 continues to inspire and contribute to the efforts of the University to identify and nurture talent from the rural areas of Limpopo and provide these students with access to a quality education and an opportunity to qualify as Chartered Accountants. This will also enhance financial skills development and address skills scarcity in the accountancy fraternity much needed by the Country and the Province of Limpopo," concludes Prof Mahlo Mokgalong, Vice-Chancellor and Principal of the University of Limpopo.

A list of winners and photographs will be available on request.

Ends.

***Notes to Editor**

The University Of Limpopo Vice-Chancellor's Accountancy Students top achievers awards is supported by FNB with a 5 year sponsorship agreement which commenced in 2011. This year's overall winner is Thato Kunene, a final year Bachelor of Accounting Science (BAccSc) student. He made a strong showing as he swept five awards, namely; overall best student in third year, best student in Auditing 351 & 352, best student in Management Accounting 350 and best student in Financial Accounting 350. For his academic prowess, Kunene walked away with R14 000, thanks to FNB. He was also awarded extra R46 000 courtesy of Independent Regulatory Board for Auditors, UL Student Representative Council and the Office UL Vice-Chancellor.

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