

MEDIA ADVISORY



The University of Limpopo, in collaboration with African Rainbow Minerals, is strengthening teaching, research, and infrastructure development

20 April 2026 – In 2025, the University of Limpopo (UL) and African Rainbow Minerals (ARM) entered into a five-year Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) aimed at strengthening collaboration in teaching, research, infrastructure development and student support within the Faculty of Science and Agriculture at UL.

The MoU brings together the Department of Geology and Mining and the Department of Geography and Environmental Studies at UL, reflecting a shared commitment to advancing Earth Sciences education and research in Limpopo Province and across South Africa.

As part of this partnership, African Rainbow Minerals, a diversified South African mining and minerals company, has committed R5 million towards the development of key laboratory infrastructure in the University's new Earth Science Building. This initiative represents a significant investment in scientific infrastructure at UL and contributes to:

- Enhancing the quality of teaching and learning in Earth Sciences
- Supporting postgraduate research and innovation
- Improving student access to modern analytical and computational tools
- Developing industry-ready graduates aligned with the needs of the mining sector

- Advancing regional development through skills development in a mining-intensive province

At the launch and unveiling of the African Rainbow Minerals-supported laboratories, the Vice-Chancellor and Principal of UL, Dr Jeffry Mabelebele, together with the Chief Executive Officer of ARM, Mr Phillip Tobias, will celebrate this successful collaboration with the private sector in advancing mining-focused education, while showcasing the upgraded teaching and learning infrastructure.

African Rainbow Minerals (ARM) Laboratories

a) ARM Microscope Laboratory

This laboratory is equipped with approximately 24 petrographic microscopes, supporting practical training in mineralogy and petrology. It provides students with hands-on experience in mineral identification and rock analysis, essential skills in geology and mining.

b) ARM Research Laboratory

This dedicated computer laboratory is designed for postgraduate students. The facility is equipped with desktop computers and specialised geological software applications, providing a focused environment for teaching, data analysis, and advanced research.

c) ARM Computer and Innovation Laboratory

The facility, equipped with 80 desktop computers, is dedicated to undergraduate students. It provides a robust digital learning environment that enables students to engage in mining-specific modelling and simulations, supporting both practical training and advanced academic work.

Event Details

Date: Wednesday, 22 April 2026

Venue: University of Limpopo, Earth Science Building

Time: 08:00 for 08:30

Click [HERE](#) to RSVP

About the University of Limpopo (UL)

The University of Limpopo (UL), established in 1959 as a college, has evolved into one of Africa's most innovative universities, offering competitive and industry-relevant qualifications.

Its Programme Qualification Mix (PQM) is designed to respond to the developmental needs of communities while reflecting academic excellence and innovation.

The University comprises four faculties and serves a student population of over 24,000, including both undergraduate and postgraduate students. www.ul.ac.za

About African Rainbow Minerals (ARM)

African Rainbow Minerals (ARM) is a diversified mining and minerals company with operations in South Africa. ARM mines and beneficiates iron ore, manganese ore, chrome ore, platinum group metals (PGMs), nickel and coal and also has a strategic investment in gold through Harmony Gold Mining Company (Harmony). www.arm.co.za

Enquiries

Name: Johannes Selepe

Email: Mosela.selepe@ul.ac.za

Mobile: 076 089 9452

Name: Betty Maloka

Email: betty.maloka@arm.co.za

Mobile: 082 259 7035

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