



NWU expands into Africa

University has reached an agreement with African states to deploy training on continent

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THE North West University will soon be able to share its expertise in various fields of study with other countries on the African continent.

This comes after the university management at its Potchefstroom Campus reached an agreement with the United Kingdoms of Africa (UKA) on the possible deployment of the NWU's training enterprises in various African countries.

Fields that will be covered are law, nursing, theology, policing, education and various short courses have been identified.

NWU Potchefstroom Campus rector Prof Herman van Schalkwyk and his two deputies, Prof Fika-Janse van Rensburg and Prof. Rantooa Letšosa, met with the king of UKA, King Zie Jean Gervais in Mossel Bay recently to launch this historical co-operation agreement.

His Majesty, King Zie, is the permanent secretary general of the Forum of Sovereign and Traditional Leaders in Africa and is based in the Ivory Coast.

The UKA has a great deal of influence at various levels of government all over Africa, and regards the promotion of education, development of the youth



COOPERATION: Potchefstroom campus rector Prof Herman van Schalkwyk, his vice-rectors, Prof Fika Janse van Rensburg, right, and Prof Rantooa Letšosa, left, King Zie and Africa Vision Foundation president Hennie Hanekom.

and skills development as their responsibility and priority.

Following 10 days of negotiations, it was decided that the NWU was fully geared to undertake this important task.

Van Schalkwyk said the intended agreement would involve the NWU as the UKA's tertiary arm with regard to teaching-learning programmes (short courses and degree programmes), research programmes including masters and doctoral programmes and com-

munity engagement by means of the application of expertise.

"The focus will initially be on the royal houses of Africa. The NWU's technology with regard to open distance education programmes will be deployed at various royal quarters in the relevant regions," Van Schalkwyk said.

"This agreement is another example of how the NWU and its expertise can make a real difference in Africa," Van Schalkwyk said.

King Zie and his administrative

organisations, the Africa Vision Foundation, the Righteous Funds of Africa and Trade for Development, indicated during the discussions that the UKA does not want to function in opposition to the political structures of Africa, but rather be an accompanying entity alongside the government structures to be of service in the development and rebuilding of the African continent.

The programmes are expected to start soon.

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