

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Drakenstein Municipality and Stellenbosch University

RECOGNISING:

That Drakenstein Municipality consists of the component towns of Paarl, Wellington, Saron, Gouda and Simondium which are of national and international renown.

That Drakenstein Municipality is blessed with many advantages, such as its historic nature, its central and important position in the Cape Winelands, its sporting facilities and achievements, its temperate climate and natural beauty and its vibrant and diverse communities; but also

That Drakenstein Municipality remains a divided municipality, with a legacy from the past that manifests itself in grave and pressing socio-economic problems, infrastructure backlogs, ecological problems, and great disparities between the wealthy and the poor.

That Stellenbosch University, with its extensive knowledge base, its vision to be an active role player in the development of South African society, its quest for greater

relevance, its commitment to rural development through its HOPE Project and its focus on student success and the promotion of diversity and sustainability plays a key role in the development of human potential in Drakenstein.

**DRAKENSTEIN MUNICIPALITY AND STELLENBOSCH
THEREFORE HEREWITH EXPRESS THEIR UNDERSTANDING**

That they will work jointly towards a better life for the inhabitants of Drakenstein Municipality, and work jointly so that Drakenstein can meet its responsibility to address the challenges it faces.

That the collaboration under the auspices of the Rector and Vice-Chancellor of the University and the Executive Mayor of Drakenstein will be undertaken so that Drakenstein will be able to address its responsibilities and challenges.

That addressing the problems and optimising the opportunities of Drakenstein can best be done by adopting the core principle of sustainability in all spheres of activity, whether educational, social, economic, technological, infrastructural or ecological.

That they will pursue international interaction and initiatives to their mutual benefit.

**ACCORDINGLY, DRAKENSTEIN MUNICIPALITY AND STELLENBOSCH
UNIVERSITY HEREWITH COMMIT THEMSELVES:**

To a vision of Drakenstein Municipality as a sustainable municipality and to a mission of **“Reinventing Drakenstein”**.

AND AGREE:

To pursue this vision and mission collaboratively through continuing and formalising cooperation within their respective structures.

To work in a non-partisan manner with local business and industry, and with non-governmental, educational and community organisations towards sustainable local economic development.

To draw on the intellectual capital available in the University and on the civic infrastructure of the Municipality in capacity-building and addressing the development needs of the Municipality.

To set up joint projects that is required and feasible; and

That these initiatives will form an integral part of the Integrated Development Plan of Drakenstein Municipality.

**Signed and sealed at Paarl, Western Cape, Republic of South Africa on the 26th day of
January 2011**

COUNCILLOR CHARMAINE MANUEL
Executive Mayor of Drakenstein
Municipality

PROFESSOR H RUSSEL BOTMAN
Rector and Vice-Chancellor
of Stellenbosch University