



## GLOBAL WARMING AND ITS EFFECTS ON THE ENVIRONMENT DEBATED AT LECTURE



**Professor Timothy Fasheun (front row second right) and Dr Ntokozo Makoba (back row far right) with Masters students.**

Climate change and the emission of greenhouse gases into the earth's atmosphere were topics discussed as Public Governance lecturer Dr Ntokozo Makoba recently held a lecture on sustainable development at UKZN's Westville campus.

The lecture focused on how a lack of emphasis on sustainable development has resulted in climate change.

'Development is important for economic growth for any country. However evolution and human greed have led, to a large extent, the depreciation of the earth that we live in and its biodiversity,' said Makoba.

Also at the event was guest lecturer Professor Timothy Fasheun, the founder of Timothy Fasheun Group Environmentors, an organisation that aims to promote sustainable development by training, mentoring and offering services on integrated environmental management systems.

Fasheun spoke on how industrialisation had led to greenhouse gases which have caused the earth to overheat, severe cyclones and winds, famine, floods, droughts, forest fires and coastal soil erosion.

'The problem is that we are putting too much carbon dioxide, methane and nitrogen oxide into the atmosphere.'

'Greenhouse gases serve like a blanket over the earth's atmosphere, causing heat to be trapped just like when you are cold you cover your body with a blanket, the heat coming from your body will be retained by the blanket, keeping you warm,' said Fasheun.

Makoba believes there needs to be a relationship with both government and industry professionals in the subject matter as this will provide awareness to students of the various careers that exist in the public sector and help postgraduate students in finding possible areas for their research.

'Teaching and learning takes place in various ways and in many platforms. The focus in academics is on the theoretical aspects whereas in government one finds professionals who are practicing what academics are teaching.

'The involvement of the professionals from government is a crucial aspect of learning and of obtaining the status quo and sometimes the policy direction of government where certain subject matters are concerned,' she said.

Makoba's Masters in Public Administration students, Mr Sithembiso Cele and Ms Lungile Mbatha agreed the lecture had been very informative, touching on several issues students needed to be aware of, especially for research on topics such as climate change.

'Climate change is very important as we are studying the sustainable development model and the most critical element is the environment which was neglected previously as the focus was mainly on the economic and social aspect of sustainable development,' said Mbatha.

'We have damaged the environment and that has led to climate change. I think it is important for us to understand the consequences of climate change,' she added.

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