

Rector calls on graduates to drive the nation to greater heights

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Dr. Tjama Tjivikua, Rector of the Polytechnic, has challenged the institution's latest cohort of graduates "to seek the path to greatness through sustainable innovation" during his address at the institution's 16th graduation ceremony at the Safari Conference Centre.

Speaking under the Polytechnic's theme for 2011: "Towards Sustainable Innovation," the Rector encouraged the graduates to explore and invent solutions to age old problems that the world has thus far failed to fix. He emphasised that the country's hopes of becoming a fully fledged knowledge-based economy and technology-driven nation by 2030 hinged on sustainable innovations that will sustain the country in the face of global challenges such as economic recessions and high unemployment rates.

"You may be cash poor, but I am sure you are idea rich and full of hope to create a new and more equitable world through sustained innovation. Sustainable innovation requires remodeling of the education system, which forms the character of human capacity and plays a critical role in reshaping and reconstructing national economic competitiveness.

"A weak educational system will not foster a strong and cohesive identity and citizenship which is inclusive and respectful of diversity," he said.

It is for these reasons, he said, that the Polytechnic, as an institution of higher learning with a mandate of nurturing graduates to become problem solvers to global challenges, is continuously strengthening its mechanisms to equip graduates with the skills



Dr. Tjama Tjivikua

and competences needed to drive the country to greater heights through the application of sustainable innovation in different sectors of the economy.

Tjivikua announced that the Polytechnic was ready to avail its resources and facilities such as the library, the Namibia Business Innovation Centre (NBIC) and the Centre for Entrepreneurial Development (CED) to the graduates for their future use.