



# NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF LESOTHO

***MEDIA RELEASE – NOVEMBER 05, 2018***

---

## **NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF LESOTHO LAUNCHES INNOVATION HUB**

The National University of Lesotho will launch an **Innovation Hub** during the **NUL Week** at the main campus at Roma. The NUL Innovation Hub was sponsored to the tune of M1 000 000 by Metropolitan Lesotho to secure space and buy equipment that will incubate a range of products that can add value to our ordinary daily lives as a nation. Developed from research by NUL staff and students, some of these products have been developed into prototypes that have already hit the market and need to be nurtured into businesses that can generate income.

Faculties will be showcasing their various programmes, research work and innovations during NUL Week which will take place for two days running from the 14<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> November, 2018.

### **Event name : NUL Week & Launch of Innovation Hub**

**Date : 14 – 15 November, 2018**

**Time : 9.00 a.m. to 4.00 pm**

**Venue : Netherlands Hall**

In an effort to position itself as a premium University in Lesotho, NUL took a deliberate decision to rate developing industries and private sector through entrepreneurship as one of the main goals in its 2015- 2020 Strategic Plan. The decision was taken in an environment of high graduate unemployment that the Head of State and the Chancellor of the University, His Majesty King Letsie III, termed a national crisis. It is in this context that NUL has established the NUL Innovation Hub which is meant to provide an impetus for job creation in Lesotho by incubating businesses! The opening of the NUL Innovation Hub takes place at a time when innovation and entrepreneurial initiatives are taking root at the University.

The NUL Innovation Hub is an optimistic endeavour of NUL that aspires to convert the text-book and laboratory based knowledge and raw ideas into successful start-ups and blooming businesses. In that sense, the Hub is expected to play the role of a bridge between classrooms and the outside world. It will prepare the crude business ideas to face the uncompromising challenges of the real marketplace so that they don't crash under the ruthlessness of their competitive territory. The target is to change the Basotho community from being consumers to producers, to make an average Mosotho youth a job creator, rather than a job-seeker. And we strongly believe that it is possible.

Therefore, the university would appreciate the honour of your presence at the official launch of this unique project in Lesotho.