



# MEET OUR GRADUATES

Join us for a monthly zoom talk given by one of UKZN's high-flying graduates of the College of Agriculture, Engineering and Science.

- Learn from your peers.
- Listen and ask questions.
- Find out how to navigate successfully in the modern world.

## SPHUMELELE NDLOVU

talks about

### THE GLASS HALF FULL - "How to Embrace Rejection and Rise Above Criticism"

via  
ZOOM

Monday  
6 December

@  
18h00

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to join Dr Ndlovu as he shares his journey of "Aiming for the Stars".

#### ABOUT THE SPEAKER:

**Dr Sphumelele Ndlovu** hails from outside Pietermaritzburg in a small village called eMaswazini, near Elandskop. His deep interest in physical science and mathematics came out of the dire conditions he found himself in, in high school. Early in his matric year, 24 of the school's 28 teachers walked out, leaving him and his peers to teach themselves. He became the mathematics and physical science teacher, as he had some experience in using the formulas.

UKZN's Science Foundation Programme together with the National Student Financial Aid Scheme enabled him to pursue a Bachelor of Science in Applied Mathematics and Physics, after which he completed his Honours and Master's degrees. While he was doing his MSc, he worked as a Physics lecturer at the University of KwaZulu-Natal. He applied for and was awarded a Professional Development Programme position for PhD studies under the Space Geodesy Programme at Hartebeesthoek Radio Astronomy Observatory, a facility of the National Research Foundation.

Ndlovu is now one of five directors at Indabuko Institute, where he is currently the Acting Managing Director. His role entails developing research proposals for funding requests in order to support the company's ongoing research and development on energy solutions. His work with the institute came after his selection as one of the 400 young scientists across the globe who participated in the 2016 Lindau Nobel Laureate Meeting in Germany.

Ndlovu was raised by a single mother who sold chickens to provide for him and his brother, an experience he says propelled him to write *Aiming for the Stars*, a memoir of a village boy who plucked his science dream from the sky.