

## Dear

Thank you to our alumni and friends who responded to our June appeal for scholarship funding. We are always so proud of the way in which our law community responds to the need to ensure that the next generation of law students have the best experience and achieve strong results.

We all come to the study of law for so many different reasons. For some of us the knowledge that we would engage with law seemed to be irrefutably embedded in our DNA. For others, it was perhaps a more meandering journey. And for very many, particularly in South Africa, it was a way of strengthening activism and ensuring a robust engagement in society and justice. Our current students come to us with the same passions, determination, and a wide range of reasons for pursuing their LLB. I would like to share one student's story.

Mulanga Mughivi is a 22-year old *Excellence in Law* scholarship student who comes from Pietermaritzburg in KwaZulu Natal. Mulanga talks about what this scholarship means to her. In her own words:



I am a proud recipient of the Excellence in Law Scholarship. Many people have asked me the question: Why Law? I found myself struggling to answer the question because unlike most people I did not have this brilliant or mind-blowing explanation as to why I study law. In all honesty I was not good at visualising myself doing anything in particular. And so, with some retrospection, I came to the realisation that my reasons for pursuing Law have

layers to them. First, it's about the giants on whose shoulders I stand, including Justices Yvonne Mokgoro, Mandisa Maya and Ruth Ginsberg. Second, it's about the work that I did through my non-profit organisation which pushed me daily to get out of my comfort zone and fight for the young girls who will soon become women in our society. A lawyer, to me, is more than someone with a fancy car or a big house but is someone who answers their generational assignment to fight the injustices that women face on a daily basis.

2020 was a difficult year - trying to complete a degree and trying to survive a

global pandemic was not at all easy. There was also uncertainty about what 2021 had in store for me. But this scholarship has provided me with security and stability and, more than anything, it has kept me sane. This scholarship was my literal light at the end of the tunnel. After many rejections, many unanswered prayers and emails and applications, this scholarship gave me a fighting chance when I had lost all hope. And for that I will always be grateful. Thank you.

Our students come to the study of Law for so many different reasons. If you would like to hear from some of the other recipients about how the Faculty's donor-funded scholarships change everything for them, have a look at some of **our great video shorts on youtube**.

Join us in building the Law Scholarship Fund so that we can give these future lawyers the very best chance to fulfil their exceptional potential.

Your gift to the Fund will change someone's life.

Thank you again for your ongoing support,

Danwood

Professor Danwood Chirwa | Dean of Law



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