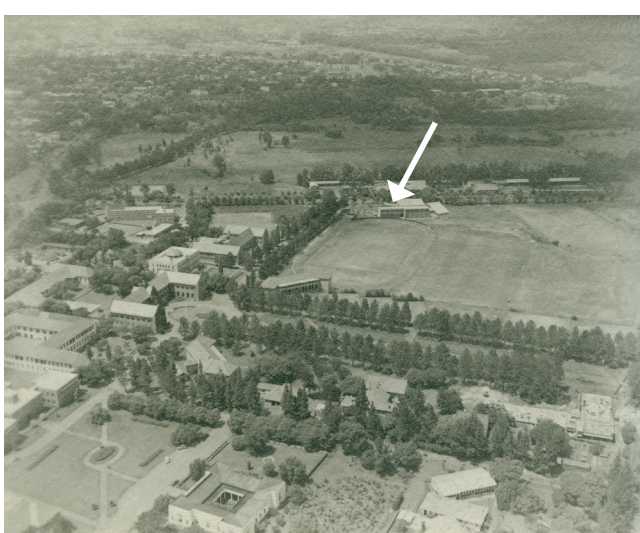


TIMELINE

'THEN & NOW'

Although the TUC Athletics Club was already established in 1918 there was a shortage of sporting facilities available on the campus and students had to make use of other facilities in Pretoria. With the increasing success of the athletics team, the demand for a University athletics track intensified and students continued to voice their frustrations. The students' unhappiness eventually resulted in the establishment of an athletics track on the main campus.

1948



The first Athletics Track was opened in 1948 on the UP main campus and was located where the Musaion and Aula currently are.

With the ever increasing number of students on the main campus the need arose to increase the campus size as well as the number of academic facilities and services offered by the University. The Club had been happy with the facility and location but when the facility was flooded in 1958, the University management then made the decision to move the Athletics Club and track to the sports precinct at the 'Proefplaas', which was already purchased and allocated to sport in 1920.

1963



The building of the new athletics track on the LC de Villiers sport campus started in 1960 (next to the rugby stadium) and was made available to the Club in 1963. Although it was a grass track, it was of the finest in the Country.

In 1972 the Athletics Pavilion was official opened.

2006



The growth and expansion of the University was accompanied by the modernisation of both academic and sport facilities.

The next essential upgrade required by the Club Management and athletes was the upgrading of the grass track to a synthetic track.

The new upgraded ABSA Tuks stadium and synthetic track was completed in June 2006, in time to host the FASU Games. In 2008, the UP Centenary Year commenced with the official opening of the ABSA Tuks Athletics Stadium on 2 February.



In addition to the Club's track facility upgrades, a new grass track was required for athletes to train on. This grass track replaced the softball field adjacent to the "proefplaas". The grass track included synthetic track run-ups for long jump, high jump, and pole vault in addition to several 60 m runways.

2016



In 2016 the existing synthetic track was upgraded to a Mondo track, similar to the track that was used at the Rio Olympics in August 2016. The new Mondo track was officially opened at the Bestmed Tuks Athletics Stadium on Saturday 11 June. This was the first of its kind in the country. The Mondo track, as opposed to the previous track, is waterproof and can therefore not suffer water damage.