Dear Students

I would like to welcome you to the Faculty of Education in 2018. My vision for the Faculty of Education is to make it the Faculty of Choice – a place where staff and students can fulfil their career aspirations. We are located on the beautiful Groenkloof Campus, which is home to more than 3 500 Bachelor of Education students. Of them, approximately 800 graduate and enter the teaching profession annually.

The Faculty of Education is ranked among the top 250 in the world. On the QS World University Rankings, we are rated as the top education faculty in South Africa based on the number of NRF-rated researchers. The Faculty is internationally recognised for its academic standards and its research citations. Our programmes are strengthened by our partnerships with other departments and faculties within the University of Pretoria. Students are strongly encouraged to pursue honours, master’s and PhD qualifications as soon as they obtain their undergraduate qualification. It is gratifying to know that as soon as our students graduate, they are offered appointments.

Our facilities are world-class and the infrastructure we have, supports our vision to pursue excellence in teaching and learning. Students are taken seriously and they will find that we offer a supportive environment in which they can pursue their professional and personal dreams as they prepare to step into the workplace with competence and professionalism anywhere in the world. In pursuit of teaching excellence, the Faculty supports the University’s hybrid teaching and learning model, which offers an optimal blend of face-to-face and virtual (or online) learning opportunities to students. This model offers a range of virtual learning tools and products, which includes YouTube videos, mobile apps and narrated PowerPoint presentations.

The Faculty produces teachers who are technologically literate and are able to respond to the rapidly changing teaching environment in schools. The aim of the FLY@UP campaign is to ensure that students take responsibility to complete their degrees in the minimum duration period indicated for each programme. FLY stands for ‘the Finish Line is Yours’. The BEd degree is the best option for those who want to be fully qualified, professionally registered teachers. If you are passionate about teaching, consider one of the following programmes: Foundation Phase (Grade R to 3), Intermediate Phase (Grade 4 to 6) or the Senior and Further Education and Training Phase (Grade 7 to 12). The Foundation Phase is perfect for the teacher who enjoys being with younger children; a teacher who wants to help to develop these children in these formative years. The Intermediate Phase teacher specialises in specific subjects and is able to address the developmental and remedial needs of a child. The Senior Phase and Further Education and Training Phase qualification offers a teacher accreditation in the widest range of subjects.

Thereafter a BEd teacher can pursue a BSc Hons or BA Hons in their field of specialisation. With these qualifications, an education student can also study towards a master’s or doctoral degree in their field of specialisation. From their second-year onwards, education students will obtain practical teaching experiences in Pretoria schools. By the time they reach their fourth-year, they will spend fourteen weeks at specific schools. The teachers that graduate from the University of Pretoria are employed the fastest of all the universities in SA. It is because they are well-prepared professionally and they have in-depth subject knowledge. Our students are adaptable and have the knowledge and ability to cope with changing curricula and societal needs, and they are also highly creative and confident.

May the Faculty of Education at the University of Pretoria be your Faculty of Choice. If you have a passion for learning and if you wish to enter the teaching profession, my staff and I are committed to ensuring that you are able to pursue your dreams to obtain an excellent qualification – one that will lead to a rewarding career.

Prof Chika Sehoole, Dean