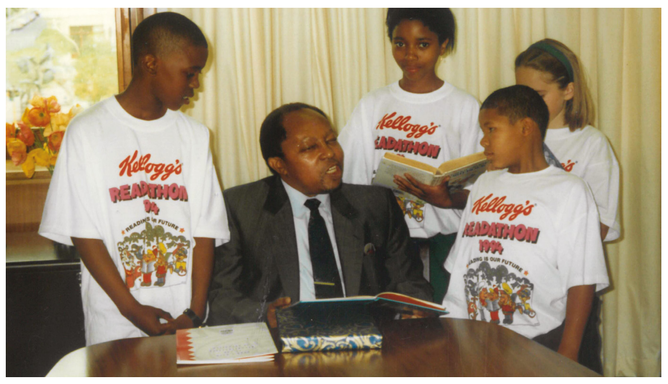


Sibusiso Mandlenkosi Emmanuel Bengu | Class of 1975

Subusiso Bengu was a South African academic and politician. He began his career as a teacher, but amidst the growing political tensions and dangers of the apartheid system, he left the country and went into self-imposed exile, settling in Geneva, where he served as Secretary for Research and Social Action (1978–1991) at the Lutheran World Foundation. Upon his return to South Africa after the end of apartheid, he became the first black Vice-Chancellor of the University of Fort Hare (1991–1994). Elected to the National Assembly in 1994 as a representative of the African National Congress (ANC), he was appointed Minister of Education (1994–1999) by Nelson Mandela, leading reforms to dismantle the legacies of institutionalised racism in the schooling system.


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Sibusiso Bengu served as the first black Vice-Chancellor of the University of Fort Hare. He is pictured here in 1991 with Oliver Tambo, former President of the ANC and the then President of the ANC, Nelson Mandela.



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Appointed by Nelson Mandela, Sibusiso Bengu served as South Africa's first post-apartheid Minister of Education (1994–1999), in the African National Congress-led Government of National Unity.



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Following his ministerial tenure, Sibusiso Bengu served as Ambassador to Germany (1999–2003). Here, he is pictured at the groundbreaking ceremony for the South African Embassy in Berlin in 2002.

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