

# Nano Satellites Africa

A Collaborative Vehicle for Socio-Economic Development

### The people making this happen



















### In only 32 months...

45 postgraduate students registered

South Africa, Lesotho, Namibia, Angola, Zimbabwe, Kenya, Nigeria, Uganda, Tanzania, Cameroon, DRC, Ghana, Ruanda, China

One nano satellite completed ZACUBEI

Another nano satellite under development



More than 6000 learners reached in community development programme

30 graduates over three years

10 engineers-in-training in professional development programme

#### ... Academic Output ...



9 peer reviewed journal papers

40 peer reviewed conference papers

21 invited conference presentation

#### ... Science and Technology Output ...

Flight ready August 2011

Development time 10 months



ZACUBE01 Our IU CubeSat Mission Space Weather payload

# Our CubeSat programme



#### Characterizing the SuperDARN Field-of-View



#### SuperDARN

SuperDARN is an international collaboration of HF radars in the polar regions that measure interactions between the solar wind and the Earth's magnetic field



As the Cube passes through the FoV of the radar it will emit a 14MHz signal that will be received by the radar.

This signal will allow an accurate characterization of the angle of arrival capabilities of the radar



### ... Intellectual Property Output ...

Market opportunities provided by industry partners





S-Band and UHF transceiver by end of 2012

S-Band Transmitter (QPSK 2Mbps) and patch antenna

Technology developed by F'SATI team Marketing & distribution by Industry Partner

# The F'SATI programme

- Institute launched at CPUT on 28 February 2008
- Nano-Satellite programme launched 9 November 2009
- Dual Masters
- Dual Doctorate





# **Our Programme Structure**



# Academic Programme

#### Areas of Specialization:

- Satellite Systems Engineering: Communications
- Satellite Systems Engineering: Power Systems
- Satellite Computer and Software Systems
- Space Weather









### Key elements: National alignment



#### Human Capital

(Centres of Excellence, SA Research chairs initiative, professional development program, etc.)

Knowledge Infrastructure

(Universities, Science councils, state-owned enterprises, global projects, etc.)

### Key elements: National alignment

- 10 Year innovation plan aims to achieve by 2018:
- -Increase SET (Science Engineering Technology) higher education students to 35% (28% in 2005)
- -Graduate more than 3,000 SET PhD students/year (561 in 2005)



-Independent earth observation high-resolution satellite data available for all of Africa from a constellation of satellites designed and manufactured in Africa

### Key elements: An immersed environment

200m<sup>2</sup> of FM integration of which 20m<sup>2</sup> class 100k clean room



Over Im Euro invested in test and prototyping equipment and infrastructure

#### Our Facilities in 1000m<sup>2</sup> dedicated building

### Key elements: roadmap of missions

Engineering Model to be presented at IAC 2011 in Cape Town



Technology demonstrator

Amateur and Science payloads

Our flagship 3U CubeSat mission

- allowing the next phase of students an opportunity to work on a real mission -

#### Key elements: From Schools to Higher Education



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#### National Space Science awareness initiatives

CubeSat demonstration – our 3U model in the foreground



Eager learners – the future space cadets

Afri-Cansats exhibit

The successful launch of our first Afri-Cansat – secret payload

Afri-Cansat launch vehicle separation

Government: Financial & Institutional support

NRF is the primary research support agency



Government: Financial & Institutional support



#### science and technology

Department: Science and Technology REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA DST has developed a 10 year Innovation Plan with Five Grand Challenges that includes Space Science and Technology

Government: Financial & Institutional support

DTI is the custodian of the SA National Space Policy



Government: Financial & Institutional support



# higher education & training

Department: Higher Education and Training REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA DST and DHET are responsible for building skills base in Science and Technology

#### Government: Financial & Institutional support





Academia: leveraging competencies & mobility of knowledge





#### Joint degrees, research collaboration, student exchange

Industry: Industrialization of IP and employer



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#### **Evolutionary network**

Expanding the Academic network

University of Florida

Ghana Atomic Energy Commission

> Nairobi University (Kenya)

California Polytechnic State University **UNIVERSITY OF ZAMBIA** 

Ghana Telecom University College

Polytechnic of Namibia

North Carolina A&T State University

Mbarara University of S&T, Uganda

University of Zambia, Zambia

University of Buea, Cameroon

# Challenges to collaborative programmes

- I. Attaining government buy-in
  - Alignment with national strategy
  - Academia can drive the agenda
  - Show the socio-economic benefit

#### 2. Limited or no local resources

- Causes inequitable geographic distribution of technology and knowledge base
- Mobility is therefore necessary

#### 3. Local seeding of expertise

- Empowerment of local champions to drive initiatives
- 🖗 Grow your own timber

# Addressing these challenges

- I. There is a continent wide endorsement of (space) science and technology
  - African Ministerial Conference on Science and Technology (AMCOST)
  - Pan-African University
  - African Resource Management Constellation (ARMC)
  - Existing regional clusters (UNOOSA) and space agencies and directorates
- 2. Collaborative projects
  - Regional clusters of excellence
  - Network on the ground: Ground Stations and Afri-CanSats
  - Network in space: nano-satellites
  - Linking with global networks









#### **30 September to 2 October 2011** Cape Peninsula University of Technology, Cape Town, South Africa

#### CubeSat applications towards sustainable socio-economic development

Thematic areas:

- Value proposition and business opportunities
- Missions
- STEM education and awareness Sessions:
- Nano-sat workshop hosted by IAF
- Posters
- 'Soap box'

- Hands-on demonstration Field trip to National Satellite Integration Facilities Social function / African hospitality!

