

THE EDGE

Quarterly Magazine – Issue No 1. December 2020

**DLAMINI MAKES
HER BUSINESS
DREAM A REALITY**

MEET THE NEW SRC

**YOUR MENTAL HEALTH
MATTERS**

YEAR 2020: THE UNKIND YET SO AWAKENING CHAPTER OF OUR LIVES

When this year began, little did we know that so much would happen and not what we were used to – unlike any other years of our lives.

Some even dread talking about this year and would love to forget about it. Well, I choose to remember it and 2020 matters so much to me that I hope once you read this, it will matter to you too, or at least you will reconsider forgetting about the downs of the year 2020.

The details and experiences gained this year might be what has and will shape me in the years to come. Most of you will agree that when we stop to focus on the negative impact of this year, we might find some really valuable lessons it has forced us to look in to.

Don't get me wrong, but each one of us have been taking advantage of many things, whether it be our jobs, friends, family, money, love and even life itself, and for some of us, until the rude awakening of the coronavirus pandemic, we did not even respect some of these things. If 2020 did not humble your outlook on some of the things you took advantage of, then, I am afraid, nothing will and I am not a judge but, clearly you still have a long way to go.

This year, especially during the hard lockdown, I saw and heard of so many acts of giving, many moments of kindness and lovely words or texts exchanged throughout the world. The spirit of togetherness and in our country, ubuntu, was prevalent and still remains throughout. I have seen more people implementing better behaviours for themselves and the good of others, and organisations stretching themselves – although some had to close down, some achieved important milestones they had set out for

themselves. For once, as the world, we were all selfless and had the same purpose of working together to overcome the pandemic while looking out for each other.

Let us keep in mind that the pandemic has affected every one of us and at some point, broken down even those who were deemed to be the strongest psychologically, mentally, financially and some physically as well. I am not only referring to individuals but countries, organisations and sectors that have been just as affected.

People are not perfect, the world is not perfect, and our economic status as a country has been hit hard. Leaders are having to stay strong for themselves, their organisations and families and cannot afford to crumble; they are also not perfect but the year 2020 revealed that nothing needs to be a primary responsibility of one person, one country or one nation. It showed us that staying together in love, trust and ubuntu is possible. Yes, we might have thought it doesn't exist anymore or that we cannot care for one another. All we need is to sift through what works for us and refuse to dwell on what does not work while we fight for each one to lift another. We can do it and then one day we will look back at the year 2020 and be grateful while laughing about it, saying that we have made it.

EDITOR
Noxolo Memela



TALKING TO SIYANDA MBATHA, THIRD-YEAR SHIPPING AND LOGISTICS STUDENT

Q: Was enrolling at DUT your first choice?

A: Yes, DUT was my first choice. I remember how I have always wanted to study at DUT, also my brother and sister were already this side, which eased some things for me.

Q: What qualification are you studying towards, and what made you to choose it?

A: National Diploma in Shipping and Logistics. I have always been interested in knowing all about ships, shipping of goods and how trade is conducted throughout the world.

Q: How has COVID-19 affected your focus in terms of learning?

A: It had a seriously bad effect. Studying and writing tests from home was bad on its own. As a third-year student, it was hard to find training since most companies were retrenching.

Q: According to your understanding, what is shipping and logistics?

A: Shipping and logistics deals with the movement of goods from a supplier to the final customer.

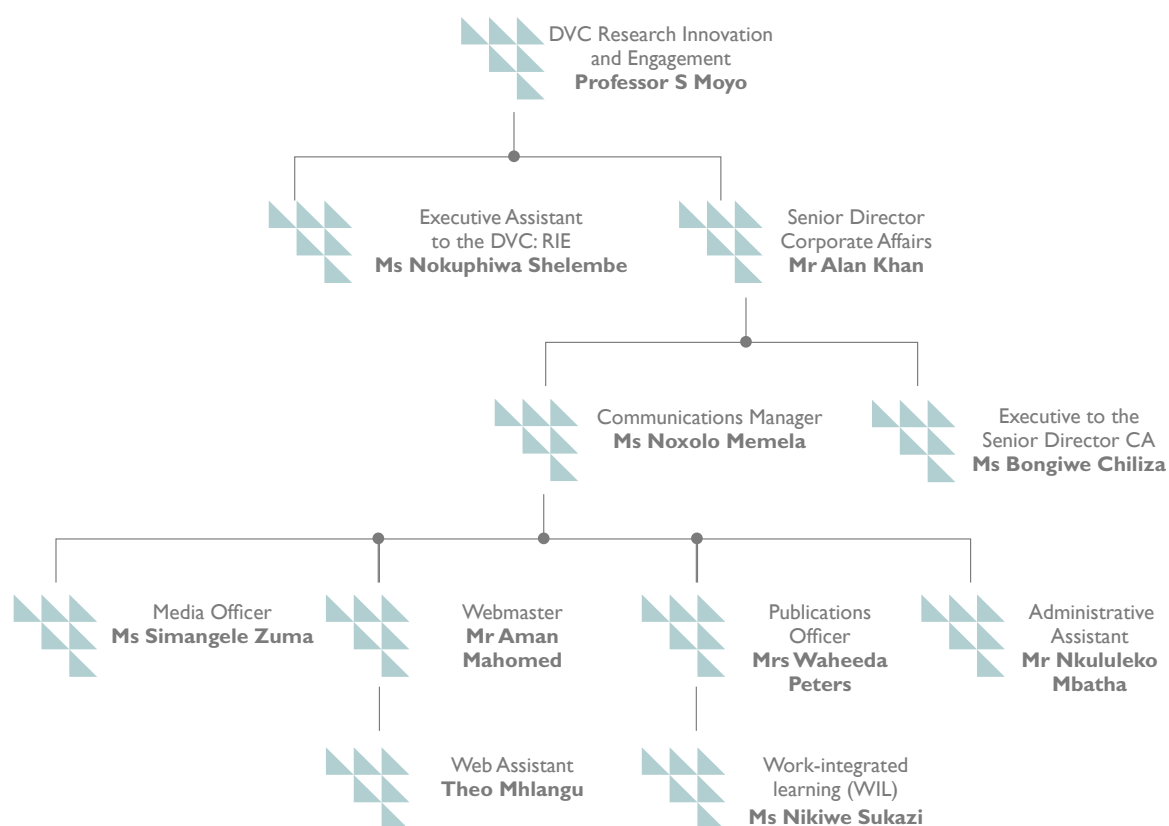
Q: What are the most memorable occurrences during your time of study?

A: Learning about port management in terms of how it is running and the charges.

Q: Would you recommend the Shipping and Logistics degree to someone who wishes to study at DUT?

A: Yes, absolutely. It is interesting and practical. This is a very rare field and DUT does it better by assisting students in finding work training in their third level of study.

Nikiwe Sukazi



CURRENT EDITORIAL TEAM

Noxolo Memela, Nikiwe Sukazi, Simangele Zuma, Waheeda Peters, Nkosingiphile Dladla

IMAGES

Google Images/DUT

LAYOUT AND DESIGN

Artworks

PRINTING

ROC Media

HOW TO CONTACT US:

Mr Alan Khan: alank@dut.ac.za or 031 373 2906/2106
Miss Bongile Chiliza: bongiwe@dut.ac.za or 031 373 2106
Miss Noxolo Memela: noxolom@dut.ac.za or 031 373 2845
Mrs Waheeda Peters: waheedap@dut.ac.za or 031 373 2113
Miss Simangele Zuma: simangelezl@dut.ac.za or 031 373 2899
Mr Aman Mahomed: amanullahm@dut.ac.za or 031 373 2339
Mr Nkululeko Mbatha: nkululekom4@dut.ac.za or 031 373 2107
Mr Theo Mhlangu: nkanyisoml@dut.ac.za or 031 373 6529
Miss Nikiwe Sukazi: caadmin2@dut.ac.za or 031 373 6529

MEET DUT'S NEW SRC LEADERSHIP

Durban University of Technology's (DUT's) new Student Representative Council (SRC) leadership was sworn in at the 2020/2021 SRC Virtual Inauguration Ceremony, held online on the DUT website: www.dut.ac.za and DUT's YouTube channel: [DutCampusTv](https://www.youtube.com/DutCampusTv) in December.



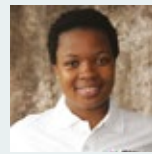
Zabelo Ntuli
President



Silindokuhle
Ndzalele
Deputy
President



Njabulo
Ntshaba
Secretary-
General



Abongiwe Majikija
Deputy Secretary



Hlengiwe Sibiya
Treasurer



Sifundo Mkhize
Project Officer
DBN



Awonke Kufa
Project Officer
PMB



Sibusiso
Buthelezi
Organisation
Accommodation
DBN



Musawenkosi
Mbambo
Organisation
Accommodation
PMB



Nokwanda
Mnguni
Social
Welfare
DBN



Khanyisile
Khuzwayo
Social Welfare
PMB



Khayalethu Yame
Education
Transformation
DBN



Lindokuhle
Sibisi
Education
Transformation
PMB



Senzo
Nzimande
Sports &
Recreation
DBN



Mzomuhle
Ngcobo Sports
& Recreation
PMB

Welcoming and introducing the new SRC members was the Dean of Students, Dr Maditsane Nkonoane who wished them a successful term of office.

Giving the keynote address was DUT's Vice-Chancellor and Principal Professor Thandwa Mthembu, who began by congratulating the 2020/2021 SRC for having been successfully elected as leaders of over 30 000 students across DUT's seven campuses in Durban and Pietermaritzburg.

"With about 38% of the student body from all walks of life and social affiliations having voted, as opposed to previous voter turn-outs in the region of 20%, this is a much higher expression of a vote of confidence in you as a collective of student leaders. Though it's been devastating to all of us, thanks to COVID-19 having forced us into an online voting system, we could not have achieved this higher level of voter confidence," said Prof Mthembu.

He said that contrary to what has become common in political circles, their election is certainly not for self-aggrandisement and for being lined up for corrupt benefits.

Furthermore, Prof Mthembu urged the new SRC leadership to remember that DUT is a university, not a political organisation where facts and evidence often recede when so-called 'political solutions' are sought.

"Facts and evidence, reason and debate do not emanate from democratic processes like the representative democracy the SRC elections are about. Decisions at a university are not taken on the basis of the force of numbers; but, the force of facts and evidence, reason and debate. Thus, when we do not seem to agree on this and that, remember where you are. You are not in your township, church, village or political organisation. You are at a university with its unique identity and culture whose disappearance would spell its death," he said.

Academic freedom is an important feature of a university's institutional identity and culture. Prof Mthembu said that it cannot be that when a group of students does not wish to attend lectures, then by sheer force and violence, all of them are prevented from attending lectures.

"As a university, we exist as the light that should irradiate throughout our society and advance it. We are not fascists. We are not arsonists. We are not into gender-based violence. We are not a breeding nest for criminality. Being a member of the SRC has the potential to cultivate, sculpt and nurture tomorrow's leaders of society. Through ENVISION 2030 – our new strategy – we have committed ourselves to contributing towards improving the lives and livelihoods of our people, including the

broader society. We do not exist for our own sake," explained Prof Mthembu.

In closing, Prof Mthembu urged the new SRC to be part of a DUT that is Different, Upended and Transformed; be the SRC whose legacy will be the pursuit of development and greatness, living DUT's values and principles.

Delivering his farewell speech, the outgoing SRC President Njabulo Sangweni congratulated the newly-elected SRC, whom he said won by a huge margin.

"This is proof that young people are hungry for change, particularly the EFF. The newly SRC have a huge responsibility ahead. Today, we have students who were expelled by the Institution, including the SRC President Thami Memela, who was expelled at his third level of studying. The issues of students are still the main issues; till today we have students who have not received allowances. The incoming SRC should take a closer look at the administration of NSFAS and the communications between NSFAS and the Institution," said Sangweni.

He added that SRC must always take the side of the students and not try to build relationships at the expense of them.

Incoming SRC President Zabelo Ntuli said: "The SRC, led by the Economic Freedom Fighters' Students Command (EFFSC), remains the most student-centered SRC that aims to address the inequalities that resulted from when black students were regarded as inferior and white students regarded as superior. The SRC, led by EFFSC, will never allow any financial and academic exclusion next year given the fact that both government and institutions of high learning did not provide the necessary support to students."

He continued to say that they congratulate the DUT for having made it to top five in the rankings, however, that credit does not give any benefit to students' lives.

He raised a concern that the majority of DUT graduates are unemployed, therefore, blaming the University for not investing more in improving the life of students.

In passing his vote of thanks, Dr Nkonoane thanked Prof Mthembu for reminding the SRC what DUT is all about and the outgoing president Njabulo Sangweni for sharing his experiences during his term of office and for virtually handing over the baton to the incoming president, Zabelo Ntuli. He also thanked the team from Student Governance, led by Masiza Ngcuku, for working tirelessly to make the online SRC elections a success.

Simangele Zuma

ALUMNUS MBATHA IS THE MALE FACE OF OXY

Durban University of Technology's (DUT's) alumnus 26-year-old Nkululeko Mbatha is elated to be chosen as the Male Face of Oxy 2020 Competition.

The competition is organised by Mentholatum SA (Pty) Ltd and entrants had to be 18 years of age or older in order to qualify for the prize, should he be chosen as a winner. Finalists were announced in July 2020. Entrants were required to submit a photo on the OXY Facebook and Instagram pages using the hashtags #FaceOfOXY2020 and #Contest. The prize will consist of a once off amount of R10 000 per winner and a supply of OXY products.

Out of hundreds of people who had entered the competition, Mbatha was selected to be the face and ambassador of the prestigious brand. Besides being crowned the Face of Oxy 2020 Competition, Mbatha is a professional model signed with Boss Models Durban and he is no stranger to winning accolades. In 2019, he was crowned Mister International SA and Mr DUT in 2016. He has worked with multiple big brands like Mobicel SA, ZARA, Wellingtons Sauces and Meltonian SA as an influencer.

"Being the Face of Oxy 2020 Competition means so much, but, all in all, it means success because out of hundreds that entered the competition, they saw potential in me and I am so grateful for that. It's an incredible feeling on its own because Oxy is a well-established brand," he said happily.

Mbatha stresses the importance of trying to validate your dreams no matter how wild they seem to be as it could inspire someone who is watching from a distance to do better for themselves as well.

He added that this annual competition was not his entry, as he had entered in 2018, but unfortunately was not selected for the next round.

He hopes to make a successful impact in his career as well – he recently joined DUT's Corporate Affairs in the Communications Department, which has always been his ideal workplace from the day he started studying at DUT.

Mbatha said that DUT contributed so much to his personal growth – more than it did with his education – through the extra activities he would take part in.

"I got to discover what I loved and enjoyed doing which is being in impactful spaces with impactful people. I am glad I snapped out of the zone of considering myself less than I am," he added.

Waheeda Peters



Pictured: Nkululeko Mbatha



Pictured: Siphokazi Dlamini

DUT'S DLAMINI LAUNCHES HER BEAUTY RANGE

It all started as a dream for the Durban University of Technology (DUT) Siphokazi Dlamini, and now she has turned it into a reality.

Siphokazi Dlamini is the founder of REGALO Cosmetics which is a beauty brand she founded in 2020, and also a full-time student at DUT Midlands Campus studying for her third year in Public Relations and Communications Management. She has always wanted to 'colour' her way into the beauty industry. She co-owns the business with two other phenomenal women, Lindelwa Dlamini and Zamanguni Myeni.

"The real dream started when I was very young when I used to steal my mother's and grandmother's boss' cosmetics and wear them. I have always wished to own my own brand and embrace African beauty," she said.

The entrepreneur officially launched her range in August on Facebook, Instagram and the website (<https://www.regalocosmetics.co.za/>). She said that they chose the month of August purposely to celebrate South African women. "We wanted to tell the world how amazing women are, irrespective of their colour, background, race, financial status and profession through our brand," said Dlamini.

She further explained how difficult it has been to keep the balance between her schoolwork and business career,

however, love and dedication helped her stay focused. "I had to be very disciplined in the allocation of my time for the things I had to do," she said.

The range entails a range of lipstick products that comes in five assorted colours (matte) and are cruelty-free. These products consist of Boss Babe (dark purple), Big Spender (dark brown), Pink Alert (pink), Stepping Out (nude) and Rich Rose (red). By the end of this year, she and her team will be introducing eye shadow palettes and adding more product lines in 2021.

The passionate Dlamini said that she saw a gap in the beauty industry and wanted to break the stereotype around the fact that dark-skinned women cannot wear bright colours with pride. "Our niche is to remind women that they can wear their natural hair and make-up and still look gorgeous," said Dlamini.

The objectives of the business include embracing natural hair and looks while complementing them with make-up, reminding women that beauty goes along with empowering yourself, and lastly, to be a key roleplayer in the beauty industry in Africa and overseas.

At this point, the female-led business owners have done everything by themselves, hoping that DUT would assist them in expanding their brand and create employment for DUT graduates. They plan on adding new product lines such as eyeshadows, more lipstick colours, foundation, highlighter, and more beauty products.

Dlamini said that she has learnt a lot about entrepreneurship from Simon Ndlovu, who currently works at DUT, as well as international celebrity, Rihanna, who has her own beauty line.

Advising aspiring entrepreneurs, Dlamini said: "The entrepreneurship journey is long and hard. It is not for the fainted-hearted nor an overnight success. It requires hard work, sleepless nights, passion and dedication for your business. It is paramount to reach out to people who have walked the journey before you to ask for advice and guidance and most importantly, never give up. Business life is lonely and difficult but worth it – you are creating a legacy for future generations."

Nikiwe Sukazi

DUT'S ALUMNI TELEVISION STAR TALKS ON HIS ACTING CAREER



Pictured: Thembinkosi Brian Mthembu

DUT Drama and Production Studies alumni Thembinkosi Brian Mthembu has successfully blazed a trail through the film and television industry.

Mthembu, originally from KwaNdengezi in Durban, said that getting into television right after completing his National Diploma in 2017 was not an easy road. He relocated to Johannesburg in the same year for better job opportunities. Unfortunately, he had to start from humble beginnings. For some time, he worked at Checkers and at Cell C as a dancer.

Mthembu scored his first television gig in 2019 in a television drama, *The Republic*, as Junior. He says that working with veterans like Siyabonga Twala and Warren Masemola are the best highlights of his career. "Up to this date, I am still grateful for the opportunity of working with such respected artists," he said.

Speaking more on the Drama and Production Studies student output at DUT, he indicated that DUT needed to focus on TV more than on theatre production. He suggested that television cameras, boom microphones and other resources could be introduced in order

to give students the television and acting training that they require to be relevant in the industry. "Adapting to television acting was not easy since I was used to theatre. In television, you have to tone down almost everything that you do in theatre," said Mthembu.

The actor, who currently plays Mabutho in the TV drama *The River*, scored himself a nomination in the Royal Soapie Awards for the Best Villain Award in 2019. Mthembu was nominated for the Best Male Actor in this year's KwaZulu-Natal Entertainment Awards that were held at the Durban International Convention Centre in December.

Mthembu said that he looks up to his mother, who is a teacher by profession, and to actor Tom Hardy. He describes his mother as hardworking and dedicated to her craft, even though she is a bit older now. Mthembu is also father to a beautiful daughter, and is thankful to his mother for assisting him in taking care of his child, as well as paying rent for him while he was not financially sound at the beginning of his career.

He indicated that he is not big into social media but

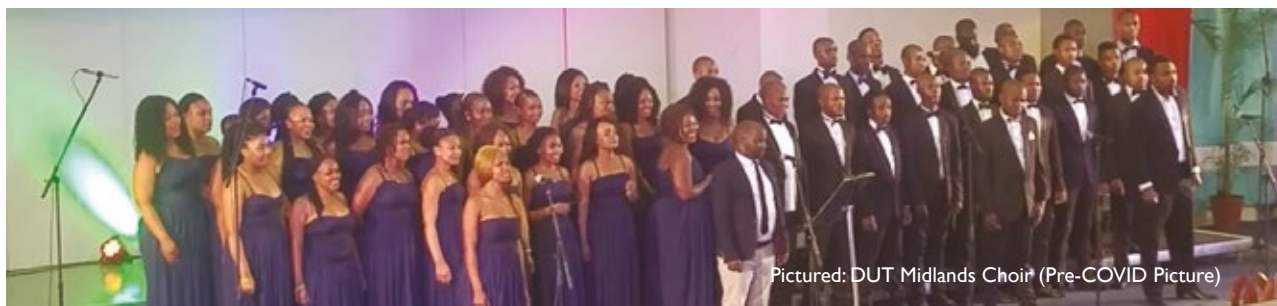
stresses the importance of building a good social media profile for artists like himself. Mthembu said that social media has its perks, such as getting sponsorships from popular brands, making extra cash and using its clout to one's advantage.

Watch the star on the drama series *The River* on DSTV Channel 161 on weekdays at 19:00 where he plays the role of Mabutho.

Nikiwe Sukazi

GETTING TO KNOW PMB MIDLANDS CHOIR

The Durban University of Technology (DUT) Midlands Choir is one of the oldest student choirs in South Africa, formed around 2002/2003, when DUT was still called Natal Technikon.



Pictured: DUT Midlands Choir (Pre-COVID Picture)



Midlands Choir Manager,
Dr Sbusiso Sotsaka

It was conducted by Jabulani Nene, better known as Madlokovu. By 2006, the baton was taken by Mdu Shezi, who also gave it to Sphelele Ndlovu for a short time and it was then given back to Madlokovu.

In 2014, Madlokovu passed the baton to Mtuseni Madlala, who has conducted the choir until today. "We hope he will continue as he is such a humble person," said Choir Chairperson Sibusiso Ndawonde.

Sibusiso 'Tayza' Ndawonde was appointed the Choir Chairperson in 2018. Ndawonde said that even though his committee is not always present in performing choir duties, it is great working with them. The choir is currently managed by the humble Dr Sbusiso Sotsaka (BEd), who is a lecturer at the DUT Indumiso campus.

The choir focuses on choral music songs, which sometimes include opera songs (arias). They perform African music pieces as well as Western music pieces: "We do African music called *Isitibili*, indigenous folklore and choral hymns.

They have participated in a competition called the SATICA Eisteddfod (South African Tertiary Institutions' Choral Association). It is hosted in different provinces around the country as it changes every year and it takes seven days. It was hosted at Tshwane University of Technology (TUT) Pretoria in 2015, University of Limpopo (UL) in 2016, DUT Durban in 2017, University of KwaZulu-Natal Durban in 2018 and Nelson Mandela University (NMU) in Port Elizabeth in 2019.

"COVID-19 has affected the whole choral fraternity. The only competition we took part in was stopped and it's very difficult for them since they have specific months to take place. As for us as an institutional choir, these competitions understand that we have so much work to cover," explained Ndawonde.

Ndawonde said that they have not had proper communication with the office of Student Governance and Student Life. Nonetheless, the choir plans to have face-to-face rehearsals since the SRC elections have been

finalised and they obviously cannot host online rehearsals. "In those rehearsals, we will be preparing for our musical concert that we might host at both the Pietermaritzburg and Durban campuses, as well as a tour musical concert to all our campuses during the day," he said.

In 2020, the choir was looking forward to taking part in many exciting competitions, namely: HEIPA Festival (Higher Education Institutions Performing Arts Festival), which started in 2018 and is normally hosted at TUT Pretoria, the DAC (Department of Arts and Culture Choral Festival) and the NCF (Old Mutual National Choir Festival). "We are still looking forward to being part of these festivals, no matter what challenges we may be faced with," said Ndawonde.

Anyone can join the choir in 2021. For more information, contact Sbusiso Tayza Ndawonde on 072 380 8986 for both WhatsApp messages and calls.

Waheeda Peters

7TH ANNUAL DIGIFEST BECOMES THE FIRST ENTIRELY VIRTUAL EDITION

The seventh edition of the annual DUT Digifest became a virtual event for 2020 as a result of the global outbreak of the novel coronavirus. The theme for this year was 'synergy' and it was developed as a way to allow participants a platform to discuss, showcase and celebrate cutting-edge projects and educational activities.

The term 'synergy' can be defined as the interaction or cooperation of two or more organisations, substances, or other agents to produce a combined effect greater than the sum of their separate effects.

Although the art and design community is among those still getting used to the new normal, the virtual Digifest had advantages in many ways. One of those included a link shared to at least each faculty student via their student email, allowing one to go back in time for a catch-up if one missed an event as it happened.

The reason behind Digifest07 was promoting collaborative practices across art, design and technology. This event dates back to 2014. According to the Executive Dean of the Faculty of Arts & Design Dr Rene Smith, these challenging times have forced the faculty to innovate.

"We appreciate that these very challenging times of COVID-19 have forced us to innovate, and, we are very pleased that we have been able to invite guests from all around the world to participate," said Dr Smith.

The opening programme featured two international guests from the University of Verona in Italy. The attendees had the privilege of listening to Elisa Bellerio, who kicked it off with a session titled 'Brand Name and Digital Advertising'. Dr Sean Montgomery, who is a founder of Connected Future Labs based in New York, United States of America, also shared extensive knowledge from his session 'Synergy in Art & Science Could Save the World'.

A call for submissions of intended contributions aligning with this year's theme was opened with a special focus of 'Innovative Response to COVID-19 and Beyond' across disciplines that included DUT staff and students.

As the seventh edition was entirely virtual, a collaboration with certain departments in the faculty that wished to showcase their creative projects had their work live-streamed on the Digifest YouTube platform.

Nkosingiphile Dladla





Pictured: Thulisile Nompumelelo Makhunga

MAKHUNGA IS 'A RAY OF HOPE' TO MATRICULANTS APPLYING AT DUT

It is said that doing something for someone else simply out of the kindness of your heart speaks volumes about who you are as a person. This is evident as the Durban University of Technology's (DUT) very own Thulisile Nompumelelo Makhunga helps matric students to apply to various universities.

The 24-year-old selfless Makhunga saw a need to assist students apply to various universities. Learning from her own struggles, she decided to start a non-profit organisation she calls Nompumelelo Organisation. It caters for all students across the country who wish to apply to various universities.

She started Nompumelelo in 2019 when she was only doing her first year in Maritime Studies at DUT. "I am doing this out of generosity, simply because I know the struggle of coming to university with nothing but a hungry mind that cries to be fed," said the KZN-born Makhunga. She said that growing up in EmaBomvini in Greytown is really what drove her to target learners from rural areas.

Creating a balance between her studies and helping students is not a challenge for Makhunga as she manages

her time very well. "Helping people is not an issue for me at all. For as long as I have school WiFi, all is good," she said. As much as she does not have all the necessary resources for her organisation, Makhunga uses her smartphone to do the applications.

Driven by the desire to help even more matriculants and grow her organisation, the 24-year-old has many plans and aims to create an app that will submit the students' applications straight to tertiary institutions. This will require more than she can afford on her own. "I look forward in finding a sponsor for Nompumelelo because now this means that myself and my students will no longer be communicating via WhatsApp," said Makhunga.

Nikiwe Sukazi

DUT'S NKOSI MAKES WAVES IN THE INTERIOR/GRAPHIC DESIGN INDUSTRY

Nhlakanipho 'Ayifani' Nkosi (27) opened his business while studying for his second year in Interior Design DUT, and is now taking the interior/graphic design field by storm.

His business took off from drawing people's portraits at residences. "I consider myself as a self-motivated and hardworking person who enjoys creating an eclectic style of design, ensuring a classical and contemporary aesthetic."

Being driven by the desire to learn new skills, Nkosi is not terrified of competition. "It is easy to manage competition just by focusing on your concept, style and content."

The challenges he faced includes fatigue from the long hours of work and constant pressure to deliver his best service. One unpopular fact about Nkosi is that he uses laughter to release stress.

Nkosi has indeed made a name for himself: He is the Marketing Director of the famous Floura Aura Cakes and Flowers, and the Vibra VRB executive partner licensed to produce artworks. He has worked with the biggest radio stations in South Africa, DUT Student Housing and Residence Life, Centre for Learning and Teaching (CELT), Udondolo Institute and Lelo Nkosi, the Fitness Doctor.

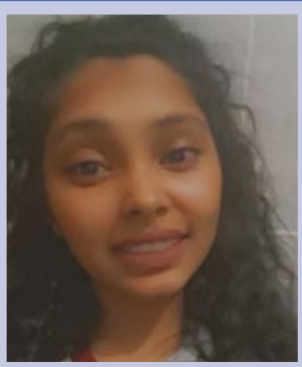
Nikiwe Sukazi



Pictured: Nhlakanipho Nkosi

THE VOX POPS

COVID-19 has had a huge impact on students in terms of learning and studies. This has led to the introduction of new strategies for teaching and learning at the Durban University of Technology (DUT) and other institutions, one of them being online learning. EDGE reporter Nikiwe Sukazi conducted virtual interviews with students to find out their views on this matter.



Nicole Reddy, second-year Electronic Engineering

"The lockdown gave us time to catch up on our studies and prepare ourselves for exams and tests. The semester was extended, giving us more time to study. Online tests and assignments were performed on a weekly/monthly basis, which worked to our advantage."



Kameron Gilbert Naidoo, second-year Electronic Engineering

"The lockdown gave students valuable time to prepare themselves for the upcoming semester work. We got to learn new things in this experience of online learning, and it helped us gain more self-study techniques, although our social lives as students were disturbed as the lockdown regulations prohibited social gatherings."



Nosipho Luthuli, second-year Marketing

"I have learnt that online learning is the easiest way of teaching and learning, compared to the usual manual way. Using Microsoft Teams for the very first time was hard at first, but it was a refreshing experience."



Nompumelelo Makhathini, second-year Human Resources Management

"Online learning has made learning easier. One-on-one lectures are slowly getting phased out. From the way I see it, COVID-19 is practically preparing us for the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR)."



Hope Zinhle Mahlangu, first-year Somatology

"Students learnt self-reliance; they had so much time to acquire new skills. Remote learning saved money for those students who travel every day to school."



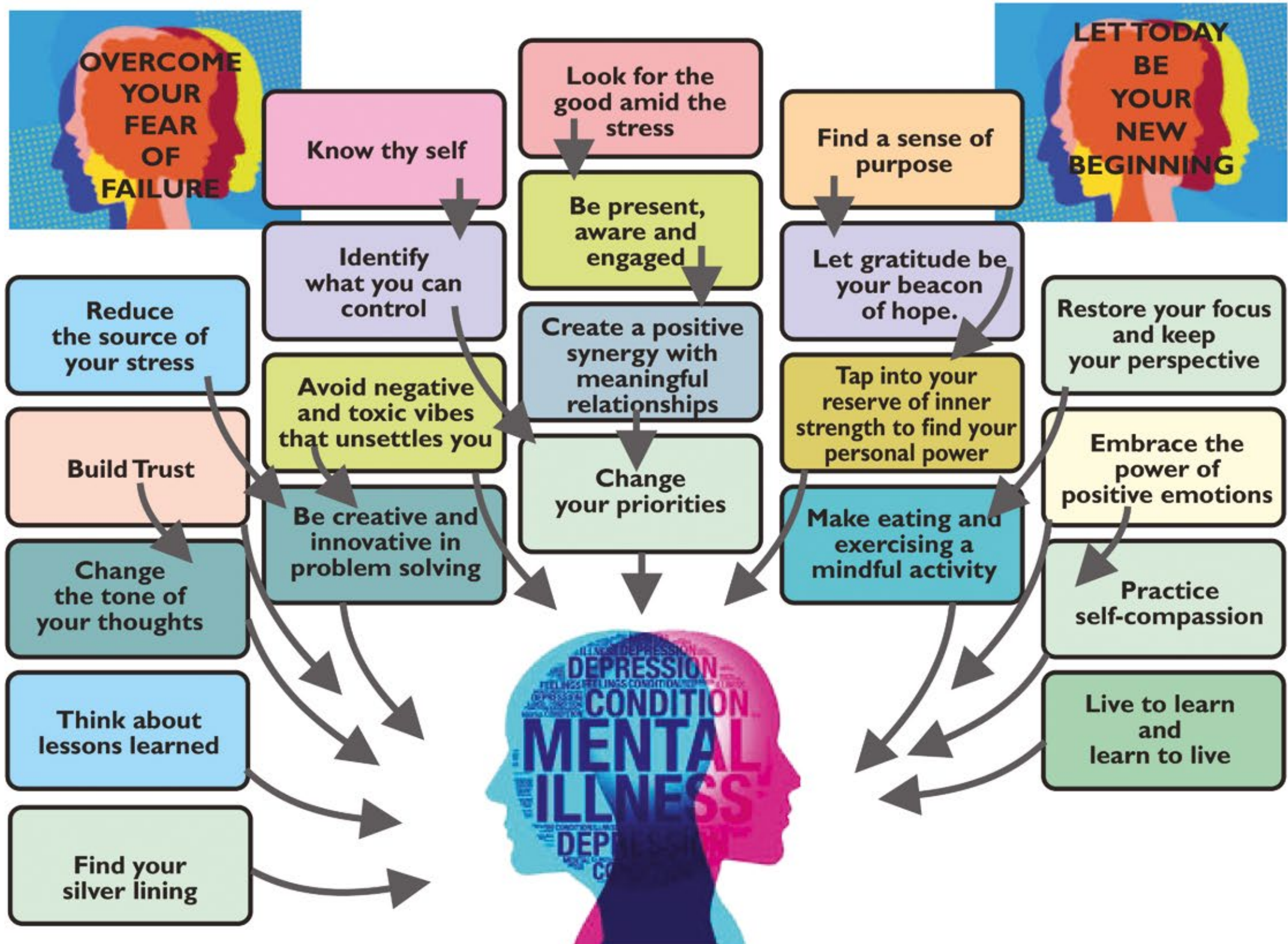
Minenhle Hlombe, second-year Business Information Management

"Lockdown necessitated access to a WiFi connection, library computer and computer labs. At home, there are no resources, which made it hard for me to do the work."

YOUR MENTAL HEALTH MATTERS



BUILD YOUR RESILIENCE TO GET AHEAD



HELPLINES

SA DEPRESSION & ANXIETY GROUP
LIFELINE
PSYCHOLOGIST: N NYAWOSE
PSYCHOLOGIST: C JORDAN
PSYCHOLOGIST: CB MCINTOSH
CORONAVIRUS 24HR HOTLINE
COVID WHATSAPP NO.

08002 12223
086 1322322
(SMS) 0732099274
(SMS) 08233 13434
03 12027960
0800029999
0600123456

SUICIDE HELPLINE
GBV COMMAND CENTRE
SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE SERVICE
HIGHER HEALTH MENTAL HEALTH HELPLINE
EMPLOYEE WELLNESS PROGRAMME

0800567567
0800428428
08600 10111
0800363636 (SMS 43336)
0843322971
RAJCOOMS@DUT.AC.ZA
NOBANTUB@DUT.AC.ZA