

THE EDGE

Quarterly Magazine Issue No. 1 July 2019



**PROUDLY SOUTH
AFRICAN
ENTREPRENEURS
ARE 'BEAUTY GURUS'**

**KUNENE SHARES HER EXPERIENCE IN THE
'CITY OF LOVE'**

HIGHLIGHTS OF #DUTGRAD2019

EDITOR'S NOTE

Welcome to the first edition of THE EDGE for 2019. The EDGE team are urging students to write or email us regarding any issues or views they would like to share with fellow students. We are now looking for a new food editor to showcase some delicious, economical meals for students. The Durban University of Technology (DUT) strives on making leaders and that has proved evident with the story on our mentors Sasha Lee King and Shrishti Maharaj. Read all about their role in helping first year students navigate their way in their tertiary environment and transition from high school to the more intense and fast paced work standards of University life.

With student-centredness being one of the DNA strands, it is important to gauge at how students look at sustaining their University through 'their eyes' and in the work that they do. Student organisations like the Green Campus Initiative (GCI) have proven that they are aiming to make environmental ambassadors at the University. It has achieved a lot in terms of knowledge, education and the implementation of GCI campaigns, read all about their future plans for the year.

DUT is always encouraging new, innovative entrepreneurs and two budding entrepreneurs, Phumelele Khumalo and Nosihle Dlamini are making the institution proud with their exciting new range of 'Proudly South African' haircare and skincare products. Their range is taking the beauty market by storm.

We are now arguable in the mist of the Fourth Industrial Revolution (FIR), with the intense pace of technology and particularly digital technological development the FIR is broader and faster than anything before it. Nomkhuleko Thutshini and Sanele Xaba from the Edge went out into the institution to hear the views of the students based on this digital matter.

Last but not least, the 2019 Autumn graduation numbers once again showed that more females than males graduated from DUT. A total number of 3802 female students graduated this Autumn whilst 2981 males received their qualifications.

Graduates, parents and guardians were dressed to impress. Check out a few highlights of graduates who proved their mettle with not only their academics but also being great role models to aspiring DUT students.

We look forward to hearing your views on the magazine. Send them to:

waheedap@dut.ac.za. You can also like the Durban University of Technology on Facebook or go to the DUT website (www.dut.ac.za) and click on the Facebook link. This will lead you to the DUT page. We have the DUT website (<http://www.dut.ac.za>) and our three social media pages,

(Facebook: Durban University of Technology,

Twitter: @dut_tweets and Instagram: dut_official).

We welcome any feedback concerning the magazine. Until the next time, have a happy read!

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TALKING TO

NQOBILE MAHLOBO

THIRD YEAR

PUBLIC RELATIONS STUDENT

Q: Why did you choose to study at the Durban University of Technology (DUT)?

A: The reason I chose to study at DUT is because I believed that it is going to be a stepping stone into a brighter future and greater opportunities. DUT was also able to cater for my desired career choice.

Q: What is your field of study and why did you choose it?

A: I am currently doing my third-year Public Relations and Communications. The reason I chose PR was mainly because after conducting research I found out that PR is broad and you can branch into different careers with such a qualification.

Q: So far how has the course been for you?

A: Studying PR has been very challenging but also highly educational because in PR you are required to come out of your comfort zone; go out and network with different people which I can say has been the hardest for me because I was an anti-social person. However, studying PR has helped me to become more confident and develop my communication skills.

Q: What Is The Broader Definition Of Public Relations To You?

A: To me PR is mainly the practice of managing communications and the flow of information between individuals, organisations and all the other areas that require efficient and effective communication.

Q: Whilst Studying Public Relations What Has Been Your Most Memorable Moment?

A: While studying PR I was fortunate to have had the opportunity to travel which has been the most memorable moments for me.

Q: What Advice Would You Give Someone Who Also Wants To Pursue The Same Career Path As Yours?

A: I would advise the person to try PR out simply because with it you can get into different career fields. You can even create your own jobs that's how broad it is.

Nomkhuleko Thutshini





WORLD OF WORK (CAREERS EXHIBITION)

14th-15th August 2019

08:00 – 16:00

DUT RITSON CAMPUS

wow2019@dut.ac.za

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**LOADS OF
CAREER OPPORTUNITIES
you DON'T want to miss**

DUT'S GCI WANTS STUDENTS TO MAKE THEIR OWN PERSONAL DIFFERENCE



With the vision to be the leading University that contributes the most to environmental sustainability and climate change that enhances knowledge within communities; is the aim of the Durban University of Technology (DUT) Green Campus Initiative (GCI) which has achieved a lot in terms of knowledge, education and the implementation of GCI campaigns from the day of its inception in August 2012.

From 2012, the organisation has also implemented a number of programmes which have been a huge success. It is a dynamic place that conducts research, pioneer technological innovations, engage faculties and students and encourages community partnerships. The DUT GCI team address the climate challenge of reducing global warming emissions and of integrating sustainability into curriculum which will better serve students and help create a thriving, ethical and civil society. The organisation is under the helm of GCI 2019 Chairperson, George Makwakwa, and includes GCI executive members and a mentor. The members are Mfumo Mabhunda, Nonjabulo Zibula, Sicelukwazi Duze, Thandeka Khumalo, Bulela Mankanzana, Nhlakanipho Khumalo, Ayanda Msomi and Sanele Mthembu.

DUT's GCI uses two short term and long term strategy methods to differentiate their strategies used to ensure sustainability of the organisation. The DUT GCI team has dedicated Wednesdays as a day to raise awareness by the use of wearing green T-shirts that have different messages addressing the importance of a Green campus. By the use of this platform students have more of an understanding of how the GCI works and encourage more participation in programmes. Another great initiative by GCI is a programme which is done through the campus where they collect and separate waste for recycling and to be collected by

the Durban municipality to the dumping site.

GCI 2019 Chairperson Makwakwa, said: "DUT consists of many organisations, clubs and societies but none of them are like the Green Campus Initiative, which holistically addresses issues of sustainability and forges a fight against global warming much as the new world movement is fearlessly doing.

"We promote the usage of renewable energy, the reduction in product wastage and much more all aimed at preserving our Earth for generations to come. The DUT GCI team in Durban works both on campuses and student residences, thus reaching out to the many spheres to ensure the direction we are heading is indeed right. Students must take the opportunity to make their own personal difference to the University stride to become greener. This action will offer vast benefits to students, staff and various other stakeholders associated with our University. Recognition for such efforts is always recorded in the history books that are continuously being written," he said.

Also, as part of their annual programme, the GCI Executive of Durban allow students to join their movement through their Peer Recruitment Programme. This programme is aimed at DUT resident students. The recruitment period is complete with 40 new representatives, however the organisation are still adding GCI representatives from new residences (reses) through informal assessments.

He also added that annually the DUT GCI team joins the majority of sister universities in the Green Campuses Conference, which will this year be hosted by the University of the Western Cape. He stressed that the conference serves as a platform to address developments on energy sustainability, environmental awareness and sharing many other ideas in connection of preserving the Earth. He further added, "We have our own major events each year which serves as an opportunity to involve those with talent of singing and modelling; both events are our main highlights in our calendar and they bring together all kinds of students to support their friends, classmates and their favourite contestants. The highlighted events are the DSW clean-up campaign, The Green Clash of the Choirs and Mr and Miss Green. (To date, 12 males and 12 females were selected as finalists. They show's grand finale will be held on 30 August 2019, where only three males and three females will be chosen winners).

For more information, call the GCI Executive Team on 072 462 7933, 071 155 4819 or their Instagram page for the latest updates, go to: @dut_gci.

Pictured: The GCI Executive Team at DUT.

Waheeda Peters



PROUDLY SOUTH AFRICAN ENTREPRENEURS ARE 'BEAUTY GURUS'

The Durban University of Technology (DUT) strives itself on improving the life chances and aspirations of student entrepreneurs and helping them to reach their maximum potential.

Two budding entrepreneurs, Phumelele Khumalo and Nosihle Dlamini are making DUT proud with their exciting new range of 'Proudly South African' haircare and skincare products.

The dynamic, business savvy duo saw a gap in the South African hair market and decided to look at quality natural products that fulfilled and satisfied the needs and goals for improving the health and appearance of African kinky hair. Their company which is called Get2Natural was formed to create products that would help improve the appearance and function of problem hair, skin and nails in an effort to encourage both men and (especially) women to embrace their natural beauty.

Khumalo, who has a Diploma in Management and Dlamini, a Masters graduate in Biotechnology, are a formidable team that started with just mixing their own concoctions and people started noticing a difference in their hair and began asking what products they were using.

“We both realised there is a demand for our product and so we just started with one hair oil that people started buying and then we began advertising through our WhatsApp and the brand started growing. We then decided we needed to do proper branding, marketing and packaging. We now have 14 products which are currently undergoing proper laboratory testing measures to make them more refined,” they added.

For them, they have now decided to use the model of an international cosmetic brand and use independent agents and distributors to sell their products. “The reason behind us going this route is because there is a lot of competitive brands on the shelves so in this way there will be more demand for our products,” said Dlamini.

However, there are some of the challenges they have gone through while building

their business. Apart from having to learn to run a business for the first time, one of the challenges for them has been learning to be a 'jack of all trades' as they are responsible for all the operations of the business. This includes marketing, production, administration and bookkeeping.

“The inability to produce products in large quantities due to inadequate instrumentation is also a hurdle and hinders our ability to market at a desirable large scale for concerns of not meeting target market,” they added.

Despite the challenges, the duo are grateful to have had the support and mentorship of Dr Raymond Mossie, Sazi Gcume of Zizi Training, as well as the partnership of the Durban University of Technology (DUT) Entrepreneurial Centre and Desk headed by Nonhlanhla Khanyile and the Centre for Social Entrepreneurship headed by Dr Poppet Pillay.

Also, the innovative pair have recently participated in the GCIP-SA programme, which is part of a global initiative aimed at promoting clean technology innovation and supporting entrepreneurs in growing their SMMEs and start-ups into viable, investment-ready businesses. Out of 44 participants, they were selected as the runner ups, receiving R60 000 in cash and an Overseas trip worth R75 000 as means to penetrate international markets which is their long term goal.

For the duo, 2019 has been a time for development of their team. They have had the privilege to attend different Business Development programmes such as Digital Marketing Skill Workshop hosted by the DUT Entrepreneurial Desk, Productivity training sponsored by the Ethekwini Municipality and the Empretec Training programme. “We also had an opportunity to give back to DUT by giving a talk at one of the Start-up-grind events, motivating students that wish to go the entrepreneurial route. The journey has been both trailing and joyful. We are being put in position to completely trust in God as we are entering the space where we know there's a demand but at the same time we don't know the reception we will receive. The support we have received through form of funding makes it less stressful,” they added.

The dynamic entrepreneurs are currently on the development phase of opening a salon in Pinetown sometime this year, that specifically caters to African natural hair, skin and nails. “We are looking to launch a Male grooming line which will include a beard oil soon, they said excitedly.

Their advice to future DUT budding entrepreneurs is that it is important to get that educational background as it is a foundation if one is taking the entrepreneurial route.

If anyone is keen to buy their products, they can go to online through their website: www.get2natural.co.za.

Pictured: Phumelele Khumalo and Nosihle Dlamini.
Waheeda Peters



Sasha Lee King



Shrishti Maharaj



DYNAMIC CHIROPRACTIC MENTORS HELP STUDENTS INTEGRATE THEMSELVES INTO THE UNIVERSITY PROGRAMME

Two dynamic lasses Shrishti Maharaj and Sasha Lee King are making strides in the Chiropractic field at the Durban University of Technology (DUT). The DUT students are mentors which forms part of the Chiro coaching programme, a collaboration between the DUT Chiropractic Department and DUT's CELT First Year Student Experience Programme. It was formally developed early this year and is still in its infancy.

Maharaj is a sixth year Chiropractic student who is currently completing her internship and research, both of which are prerequisites for completion of her degree. Chiropractic was her first choice of study and she is quite ecstatic to have been selected for the course six years ago. Part and parcel of her academic studies also includes her being a mentor at DUT. She helps first year students to navigate their way in their tertiary environment and to transition from high school to the more intense and fast paced work standards of University life. She also gives advice to students who struggle to integrate themselves into the University programme.

Maharaj said, "We endeavour to help students understand and identify where their shortcoming lies, and help them refine their time management skills and study styles while stressing the importance of a balanced lifestyle. It is also important that students take care of their health whilst pursuing such a physical and mentally intense course," she said.

For her being a mentor is important because she also had a mentor when she was in her first year of study who helped her set the foundation that she was able to build upon over the past six years. She had provided her with many tools that one doesn't usually acquire in class and she helped her build confidence in both herself and her capabilities. "That is why I look forward to do the same for my group of first year students as I know exactly how beneficial this type of support can be in the long term. It's a form of paying it forward," she added. Besides excelling as a mentor she was recently awarded the Clinic Excellence Award.

"I was absolutely delighted upon receiving this award. It was an honour to have the Chiropractic department acknowledge my hard work and dedication towards the development of my clinical acumen skills and patient management," she said. Going forward, Maharaj would like to finish her research soon and qualify, and also open a practice with a focus on sport chiropractic.

Her advice for future students who wish to study chiropractic is it can be intense and it challenges one greatly but it can also grow you as a person.

The second mentor Sasha Lee King prides herself on her strong work ethic.

The sixth year Chiropractic student also volunteers her time to be a mentor. She is

also the recipient of awards for her sterling work. "In the last two years I have received five awards. The awards all came as a quite a surprise and the magnitude of these awards took a while to sink in. Last year, I received and accepted an invitation to be a member of the Golden Key International Honour Society as I was identified as part of the top 15% of academic achievers within my course," she said.

This year, (2019), she also obtained the Department's Academic Excellence Award for being the top student in her class, the Accounting Award, and the Practice Management and Jurisprudence (PMJU) Award for having the highest marks in her class for those respective subjects. King also obtained the Chiropractic of South Africa (CASA) Excellence Award in recognition and acknowledgement for being the best all rounded student. This award is based on clinical acumen, competence, peer/lecturer/clinician esteem, academic excellence, deportment and appearance, confidence, integrity, communication skills and contribution to the programme.

Besides her studies, King makes time for her love of dancing. "I spent most of my school life doing tap dancing, playing netball during 1st and 2nd year at Varsity and, although I have hung up my tap dancing shoes, I have continued my love of dance through liturgical dancing at the St Francis Xavier Parish," she added.

Her future goal is to qualify and get out there and practice. "Long term I want what everyone wants which is to be successful, I want to do what I love and get paid for it," she said.

Her advice to students who wish to study this course is that they should go and observe a chiropractor for a day and get an idea of what a typical day in a practice entails. "The chiropractic course is a challenging one, but if you work hard, stay focused and stay motivated you can excel in this course. The dream is free the hustle is sold separately," said King.

In terms of future lesson in mentoring, both ladies will continue with their sessions which take place once a month and will aim to address socialising and stress techniques to students.

Pictured: Shrishti Maharaj and Sasha Lee King

Nomkhuleko Thutshini/Waheeda Peters



UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL WITH ZABELO HLABISA

The Edge reporters Nomkhuleko Thutshini and Sanele Xaba took some time out to speak to the Durban University of Technology (DUT) student Zabelo Hlabisa, who was crowned as Miss DUT 2018/2019. She was also crowned as Miss Campus and has represented South Africa in Indonesia for Miss Tourism Worldwide 2018 Pageant. The BTech: Office Management student is also a first runner-up of Miss International South Africa 2019.

Q: Tell us more about yourself, who is Zabelo Hlabisa?

A: I'm a 25-year-old DUT student, born in Mpumalanga but I was raised in Newcastle. I graduated in May 2019 with my Diploma in Office Management.

Q: Was it part of your dream to become Miss DUT?

A: Yes, being Miss DUT was one of my biggest dreams, I have been trying to enter Miss DUT since 2016 and 2017, but to no avail. I told myself, something must happen, so I trusted my instincts and I went for the audition.

Q: What was your reaction when you were crowned Miss DUT?

A: It was the greatest feeling, I was so happy.

Q: What are some of the cultural differences that you noted between South Africa and Indonesia and tell us about your general experience during your stay in Indonesia.

A: In Indonesia, there is more of Chinese and Indian people. I noticed that people from Indonesia have so much respect for other people, they are welcoming, and they appreciate other people's cultures.

Q: Where you limited as a model?

A: I was told that I can never be a model just because of the vaccination referred to ukugcaba in IsiZulu. (Ukugcaba is the cutting of facial skin on the face to resemble a certain surname, culture or clan). That used to upset me, but I told myself that I am going to be the first model with a vaccinated face and I am.

Q: How do you juggle both your modelling career and campus life as you are currently studying towards your BTech in 2019?

A: I prioritise because I know that studying comes first and beauty fades away. I am the luckiest person because I have loving classmates who are very supportive and assist me.

Q: What are your future goals?

A: I am planning to open an NGO that it will be launched very soon. This project will be based in Durban as I want DUT students to be the first beneficiaries.



GETTING TO KNOW NKULULEKO MBATHA

The Edge reporter Sanele Xaba spoke to the Durban University of Technology (DUT) student Nkululeko Mbatha who was crowned Mr SA Campus 1st Prince 2017 and Mr King of SA. He also has a Diploma and BTech in Public Relations and Communications Management. He is also the winner of Mr King, a South African Pageant.

Q: Who is Nkululeko Mbatha?

A: I am Nkululeko Mbatha and I am 24 years old, from Ulundi.

Q: Are you a Professional Model?

A: I am a professional model with Box Model for Legit. I started in 2014 when I was doing my first year at DUT. I would say it was more about me trying a new experience.

Q: Can you briefly tell us about the Mr King of South Africa Pageant, what is it about?

A: It is the brand for MR International of which the winner gets to represent South Africa on an international level as Mr International South Africa. The organisation celebrates men of all cultures and their backgrounds empowers them to realise their goals through their experience that builds self-confidence.

Q: How do you feel about your win?

A: I am really excited because it is something not only I wanted but people around me as well. It's quite an achievement I have dreamt about before.

Q: What advice can you give other aspiring DUT students?

A: To be themselves and be proud of their achievements no matter how small they are.

Q: Apart from being a model that we know, what else are you passionate about?

A: I am a green activist and I like teaching about living a green lifestyle.

Q: What are your future plans?

A: My future plans is to become Mr International South Africa and representing my country to the best of my ability.

EDUCATION STUDENTS LEARN TO WORK ONLINE

Thobeka Ntshangase, Thobile Khumalo, Lungisile Dube and Sakhile Mthethwa are BEd students studying at Indumiso campus in Pietermaritzburg. They are all part of the Economic Management Science (EMS) stream. They discuss their experiences with online learning at DUT and their aspirations for the future.

How have you found using the ThinkLearnZone (Blackboard)?

Thobeka: I can access notes before going to class – it gives me a better understanding of what we are going to do.

Thobile: We use the discussion board for EMS to put ideas to each other.

Sakhile: I can use it to view my marks – it also teaches us how to get in touch with technology.

Lungisile: I expected that there would be something like TLZ when coming to DUT but it has surpassed my imagination. You don't have to stress, you can take your tests and get your results at the same time.

Thobile: I prefer doing tests online – it's fast! We also do our lecturer evaluations online.

Do you find it easy to get access to computers?

Thobile: Our laboratory is not operating – the only place we can go is the library.

Lungisile: There is the Skills lab, but that is used only for teaching and it does not have printers.

Thobeka: At the end of the year, we would really like hard copies of our notes to study and it's hard when there is nowhere to print them out.

How do you use the ThinkLearnZone off campus?

Lungisile: It can be difficult. Some of us stay at residences which don't have wi-fi. To come to campus there is the cost of transport.

Thobeka: Some don't have laptops.

Sakhile: But I recommend you still view TLZ on your phone when you are far away. You can see notifications.

Lungisile: Yes, I had a test on a Monday and it was announced on Friday. I was lucky that I saw it on my phone!

What are the challenges to using TLZ?

Thobeka: I'm still getting updates from previous modules.

Lungisile: If there is a power cut, you just have to wait. Or if the wi-fi is not working.

Sakhile: I've had some problems with tests submitting before I am finished. But my lecturer has helped me to resolve this.

Thobile: It needs a lot of data.

Sakhile: It doesn't use much data – if you use Facebook you can use TLZ!

Lungisile: Not for the simple stuff. But it does use data when you want to download documents.

What are you planning to do when you finish your degrees?

Thobeka: I will go to the field for a while. But later on, I would like to get into Supply Chain Management.

Sakhile: Teaching is a calling for me. I feel it inside.

Lungisile: My father was a teacher so it is not a surprise that I somehow like teaching. But I would also like to be an entrepreneur.

Thobile: I want to explore the world, other parts of South Africa. I've only seen KwaZulu-Natal

How would you feel about teaching in a school where there aren't many resources?

Thobeka: It is important to come back to the community so that they can see you on the other side of the desk. It will help them.

Sakhile: I have to exercise what the Lord has given me. It will make more of an impact if I am away from where it is urban.

Lungisile: It's a test of character. What you are really made of – what you can make with your own two hands and two feet. You need to be resourceful.

Ursula Vooght



Pictured: Thobile Khumalo, Lungisile Dube, Thobeka Ntshangase and Sakhile Mthethwa.

KUNENE SHARES HER EXPERIENCE IN THE 'CITY OF LOVE'



The Durban University of Technology (DUT) PhD candidate, Kwanele Kunene said her experience in Montpellier, France has been eye-opening and fascinating. Kunene has been based at the prestigious Montpellier University in France from September 2018 to January 2019 for a fellowship, which is linked to her PhD in Chemistry. She returned to South Africa in January 2019 and will return to France again in September 2019.

“I cannot wait to go back to France because of the warm research environment, which encourages me to continue with my research work, and to continue my French lesson that I've started this year at DUT,” she said. She added that the level of cooperation between the students and supervisors at Montpellier is impressive. “For instance, the IEM have a number of scientific research groups namely: Interface-Physicochemistry-Polymers (IP2), Membrane Process Engineering (GPM) and Membrane Materials Design and Multifunctional Systems (DM3). Although I was based in DM3, but we were working together with the other two departments. My research project has two parts, (1) the synthesis of nanoparticles and (2) electrochemistry. My supervisor Dr Mikhael Bechelany (DM3) helps me in the synthesis and characterisation of nanoparticles, while Dr Damien Voiry (IP2), helps me on the electrochemistry part without any difficulties,” she said.

Kunene shared some of the lessons she learnt during her time in France. “The French people are very punctual, I remember it was my second meeting with our research group, it was at 10h00 but I was four minutes late, and when I entered the venue everyone was looking at me and I was so embarrassed when I realised that I was the only one who was late,” said Kunene.

“They also have a good memory; it was the welcome party for all PhD students and PDF with our supervisors at the Institut European des Membranes (IEM). Students introduce their countries and provide a brief description of their research work. When I mentioned that I'm from The Durban University of Technology in South Africa, one of the Professors disturbed me and asked “do you know the short guy who use to be in this Institution a while ago?” I tried to think of that short guy, but I quickly realised that he was refereeing to my current co-supervisor Dr M Sabela. To my surprise and shock he managed to

remember him after five years and he kept asking me many questions about him. This professor has been travelling around the world supervising different students but he still remembered him,” she added.

She said the language barrier was initially her biggest challenge in France, but she is working on improving her French proficiency. “One challenge that I have encountered while I was at France was the language barrier. It was very difficult to communicate with other people or to make friends because most of them speak French. I tried to overcome this challenge by making friends with three French-speaking friends, Pelage, Nazym and Jamie respectively from Nigeria, Kazakhstan and France. They were helpful during my stay and I am very thankful to them for making sure that I enjoyed being in France to the fullest,” she said.

One of her highlights during her stay in France was travelling to other famous European cities and meeting South African born, France-based soccer players. “I met two South African players (Keagan Dolly and Lebo Mathiba) in the soccer match between Montplier HSC and Strasbourg at the Stade de la Mosson. I have also realised my dreams of visiting Spain, Barcelona and Paris (the city of love). It was always my dream to visit the city of love,” she said.

Pictured: Kwanele Kunene in France.

Nduduzo Ndlovu



VINTAGE WITH THE MIX OF THE STREET WEAR



The Edge reporter Sanele Xaba chats to DUT's Video Technology student Vince Ngubane, who shares his story about his ideal fashion wear.

Q: What is fashion to you, how can you describe fashion?

A: Fashion is being able to express yourself by the way you dress. It doesn't have to be popular brands or expensive, as long as it makes you feel good wearing it.

Q: What kind of fashion are you into?

A: I am mostly into street wear, but I like to mix it up at times. Also, my attire comes from finding blends between new hip hop street wear and vintage.

Q: What is the fashion for men this year?

A: Well, I come from a creative background so what I have seen so far is baggy vintage wear, but on the wider scale its mostly skate wear such as vans, skinny jeans and t-shirts. People just mix that with their own personalities.

Q: Who is your role model in the fashion industry?

A: I have quite a few actually, but the one that stands out the most is Kanye West because he is able to break barriers in the fashion world.

Q: How fashion has brought a change in your life?

A: Being able to express yourself is a great feeling, because you are not looking for anyone's acknowledgement. To me that's a huge confidence boost.

Q: Do you read fashion magazines?

A: Yes, GQ and HYPE magazines.

Q: Do you think it important to wear fashionable clothes?

A: You are the one who makes clothes fashionable, it is all about how you wear it.

Q: Would you like to be a fashion model?

A: Yes, I would like to be a model, I have done shoots with brands such as Beverage as well as Dubbed Threads and the reception has been good.

Q: What motivated you to be part of fashion?

A: I have always loved the feeling of being different and being different means being original, fashion allows one to be inventive.

Pictured: Vince Ngubane rocking street wear with vintage.

Sanele Xaba

THE FOURTH INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION

We are now arguable in the mist of the Fourth Industrial Revolution (FIR), with the intense pace of technology and particularly digital technological development the FIR is broader and faster than anything before it.

Nomkhuleko Thutshini and Sanele Xaba from the Edge went out into the institution to hear the views of the students based on this digital matter.



KAYLENE EASTHORPE

Third-Year Human Resources Management Sciences

"I don't think the Fourth Industrial Revolution will be beneficial to South Africa because of the current rate of unemployment, the autonomous machines that will replace the workers in the industries will leave many people jobless."



TIMO TRENKLE

Second-Year Industrial Engineering

"From the experience I had here in South Africa I think this country is not ready for the FIR because everything is slow, also the organisations are not very good compared to standards we know in Europe, so I think that these are some of the problems that South Africa are facing."



LUNGA NDLAZI

Second-Year Food and Nutrition Consumer Sciences

"I don't think South Africa is ready because the majority of the people in South Africa are not informed or educated about most of the things that involve technology and some are not even aware of this Fourth Industrial Revolution. I think people must first be educated about it then they can introduce it to people."



NOMPILO NGUBO

Second-Year Food and Nutrition Food Sciences

"My opinion about Fourth Industrial Revolution is very negative because us developing into the new technology era will lower the employment rate. It will affect people that have jobs already. Students that are studying will read less and depend on technology rather than finding print resources. We will become negligent with our studies which will lead us to doing nothing and just focusing on the internet."



FABIAN HALTMEYER

Second-Year Industrial Engineering

"South Africa is not ready to embrace the Fourth Industrial Revolution because it is all connected to the network and South Africa does not have all the resources and enough knowledge to implement it."



ANDRE' NAIDOO

Second-Year Application Development

"I feel South Africa is not ready to this next evolution in our country, as being seen in other countries that are moving forward with electronic vehicles like in Norway where the population is now using electronic vehicles and doing things to improve the country technology-wise. I feel South Africa is still behind because look at how we get load shedding, price of fuel and the economy is rising. For our country to move in that form using only electronic vehicles we would have to rectify the issue of load shedding. There are few things that South Africa still needs to improve on and get on level in terms with other countries that are moving forward before we embrace it full on."



NTULI'S JOURNEY TO SUCCESS IS AN INSPIRATION TO STUDENTS

It is said that all great achievements are attained through mighty obstacles. This is the journey of one such brave lad Andile Ntuli, who despite going through a life-altering situation, still forged through to graduate with his National Diploma in Public Management at the FJ Sithole Hall, Indumiso Campus in Pietermaritzburg.

The 26-year-old Ntuli from Imbali in Pietermaritzburg, could not contain his excitement upon graduating. "I am so happy beyond words I cannot really explain this feeling that I am going through.

It was a rough 'life' journey but I am here," he said jovially.

He enrolled to study in 2014 for a National Diploma in Public Management, but sadly his dream was cut short in 2016. The young man was involved in a severe car accident in December 2016, leaving him paralysed and disabled, unable to use the lower half of his body, and not understanding how life could change in a matter of seconds.

"I was involved in a car accident on the Greytown Road. I was so down, I felt like giving up on life, it was life-changing in a matter of seconds. I lost the use of my legs, so I have what is called a paraplegic disability. After the accident, I stayed in hospital for nearly three months, from December 2016, January 2017, until mid-February 2017," he said.

For the whole of 2017, Ntuli could not go back to studying as he prepared for a life bound to a wheelchair, not knowing what the future holds. With the help of his family, he recovered from his injuries but had to learn to adapt to the usage of a wheelchair, and this new way of life. However, in 2018, he made up his mind to go back to his studies and his persistence paid off. "I could not get NSFAS funding which was a challenge, and finances became a struggle but my parents went out of their way and

got me enrolled back at Riverside campus for my third year of study," he said.

He also said he has to thank Andre Le Roux, Manager: Finance and Information Services, at the Riverside Campus for his amazing support. "I want to give a special vote of thanks to Mr Le Roux for his big support through my time here at DUT. I think that if it was not for his faith and belief in me that I would be able to facilitate the campus I would not have registered or perhaps wanted to find another institution as I only wanted to complete my studies here at DUT," he said.

Being back on campus was wonderful but it had its struggles, as at the time he was attending classes, the new state of the art buildings and facilities at both the Riverside and Indumiso campuses had not yet been completed. "I have a brother of mine who was always with me and also my fellow class mates who carried me up to class venues that were located upstairs on campus. The lecturers were very supportive, especially in terms of all the work and would email me all the notes that would be tackled in class. All this really helped my journey and help me to finish my diploma," he said happily.

Ntuli is currently doing his BTech degree in Public Management this year (2019), and is very excited to be able to make use of the new, revamped lecture venues. I am now able to get to class with no assistance or carrying from my friends because the new venues are wheelchair friendly, so attending classes is easier now," he said.

He cannot wait to finish his BTech and possibly pursue a Masters degree. He advises all students to cherish what they have and study hard. "It has been a difficult journey for me but if I can do it with all the obstacles and changes to my life that I had to make and adjust to, other students have no excuses and they can do it, so study hard," he said.

Pictured: Andile Ntuli

Waheeda Peters



MBOTO WAS FUELLED WITH THE HUNGER TO SUCCEED

The 22-year-old Sanelisiwe Mboto from Phoenix, Durban said losing both her parents as a 12-year-old, taking a two-year gap post matric and working at a call centre in order to finance her studies, inspired her to strive for academic excellence.

Mboto graduated with a National Diploma in Public Relations and Communication Management from the Durban University of Technology (DUT), obtained with Cum Laude and the Deans Merit at the FJ Sithole Hall, Indumiso Campus in Pietermaritzburg during the Autumn Graduation ceremony.

The emotional Mboto, who is the last born amongst two sets of twins as her siblings, shared the story of how losing both her parents had an adverse impact in her life. "The sad part is that I barely knew my dad, and to be honest – I'm not sure what really happened between him and my mom. When my mother passed away, I was in grade 7. She passed away on 15 June 2008 – exactly a week after my birthday. Ever since that day, my entire life had changed. My sisters were turning 21 in that year and they were already faced with the harsh reality of having to take care of a 12-year-old while planning a funeral. My brothers were only 26. In simple terms – we all hadn't found our feet yet," she said.

The difficulties for Mboto didn't end there as she struggled to obtain the required marks in her matric in order to enrol at a University, which meant she had to upgrade her matric with limited financial resources. "Well, because of the 'diploma pass' I lost my conditional acceptance that I had secured at Rhodes University to study towards a degree in Journalism. What made things worse is that my family spent a lot of money with the application process, using money they didn't have – and it all went down the drain. Turns out I failed Mathematics dismally, which resulted in me not obtaining a Bachelor's pass. After that huge slap in the face, my ego was crushed and my confidence towards anything academic had gone to the dogs," she said. "Despite everything, my sisters still believed in me and decided that I should take a gap year and upgrade my maths mark at a matric school called ICESA located in Durban CBD. And guess what? I made a mess of that too. Unfortunately, that meant that I had wasted another year, and more money. Before I knew it – it was the year 2015, and at this point I still had no idea what was going on in my life. My family's funds were

exhausted and here I was faced with another gap year. In February 2015, I began job hunting and immediately landed a job at a call centre. When I got this job, I told myself that this is the job that is going to fund my academic career. I opened my first bank account and began saving. I earned R3750 a month, and every month when my salary was deposited into my account, the bank would deduct R1 500 and have it transferred into my savings account," Mboto elaborated.

In 2016 Mboto finally managed to enrol at DUT's Riverside Campus in Pietermaritzburg. "When I got to DUT, I was fuelled with the hunger to succeed. For me attending every lecture and tutorial was of vital importance because I knew the sacrifices that I had made to earn a seat in this institution. I began to regain my confidence. At that moment I reminded myself that I was born to be great," she said.

Mboto's hunger for success eventually paid dividends as she went on to maintain an excellent academic performance, which also earned her an exchange programme to Germany in 2017. "I managed to walk out with eight distinctions out of the 10 modules that I completed in my first year. In the year 2017, something even bigger happened. About two months into my second year, I received a call from my Head of Department, Dr Dlamini. He called to inform me that, based on my excellent academic performance in the year 2016 – I had been shortlisted as one of the students who may be chosen to be a part of the exchange student programme that would allow me to study for a semester in Germany. I was absolutely excited as my interview was successful, and I was the chosen candidate," she said enthusiastically.

The same Mboto who lost her parents at the age of 12, messed up her matric, had a 2-year gap post her matric – has travelled to Germany and is now graduating Cum Laude with a Deans Merit.

The resolute Mboto said she is currently furthering her studies with a BTech in Public Relations and Communication Management while seeking employment. She is also running a blog (Told in Bold) and plans to start a PR Consultancy soon. "I have also started an initiative of donating bread to students on campus who are in need, I began this initiative in 2018 because I know what it's like not to have anything," she added.

Pictured: Sanelisiwe Mboto

Nduduzo Ndlovu

HIGHLIGHTS OF #DUTGRAD2019

The Durban University of Technology (DUT) hosted its graduation ceremonies for the Midlands campuses from Monday, 29 April 2019 to Tuesday, 30 April 2019 at the FJ Sithole Hall, Indumiso Campus in Pietermaritzburg.

The Durban graduation ceremonies commenced on Monday, 6 May 2019 and concluded on Tuesday, 14 May 2019.

The 2019 Autumn graduation numbers once again showed that more females than males graduated from DUT. A total number of 3802 female students graduated this Autumn whilst 2981 males received their qualifications.

Graduates, parents and guardians were dressed to impress. Here is a few highlights of graduates who proved their mettle with not only their academics but also proving they are DUT's ambassadors to future DUT students.



An ecstatic Lauren Marise Sigamoney graduated Cum laude with a Deans Merit for her Bachelor of Technology (BTech) in Internal Auditing at the Fred Crookes Sports Centre, Steve Biko Campus in Durban, recently.

"Obtaining Cum Laude was something I had expected, but the Deans Merit Award was a shock, however, I am now beyond excited and super proud of myself for attaining these achievements," she said happily.

By far, 2018 was the most difficult year for her in terms of her academic studies. She found BTech very challenging as it required consistency and hard work at all times. She also stressed that the tests and examinations were not straightforward like previous years. "It was very practical, and you had to be able to think out of the box," she added. However, the reserved yet ambitious Sigamoney believes in always putting a 110% into everything that she does and achieved outstanding results.

Her parents are ecstatic and extremely proud of her achievements, having witnessed the amount of hard work and dedication that she had put into her studies. She said her parents are both very strong-minded, independent individuals who inspired her to always stay on track and never give up no matter how difficult a situation may seem.

She adds that life is not easy and advises future DUT students to always be sincere and consistent in everything that they strive to be. "Be the best possible version of yourself for yourself and never do it to please others. Be sincere and consistent in everything that you do because you will reap what you sow," she said.

Sigamoney is keen on furthering her studies and doing her Masters degree in either Accounting or Internal Auditing.

Pictured: Lauren Marise Sigamoney

Sanele Xaba

DUT'S SRC TREASURER MUSA MBONAMBI AIMS TO BE HER OWN BOSS

One of the objectives of the Student Representative Council (SRC) is to strive for academic excellence and instil a culture of learning. Living by this motto is SRC Treasurer Musa Mbonambi, who was recently conferred with her National Diploma in Office Management and Technology, at the Fred Crookes Indoor Sports Centre, Steve Biko Campus.

Such a designation entails some of her key duties of her being responsible and accountable to the SRC for the finances of the SRC, as well as ensuring that all financial transactions of the SRC and its Committees and substructures conform to the financial rules, policies and procedures of the University.

She enrolled for her Diploma in Office Management and Technology because she wanted to be her 'own boss' and this course was perfect for her to gain the necessary skills to start her own business, going forward.

The dynamic 22-year-old Mbonambi, who describes herself as a hard-working individual, said being a DUT student for her was a wonderful experience, however, adapting to the University environment was one of the challenges she had faced in her first year of study. She did overcome that obstacle, and then took a keen interest in student politics, joining the SRC.

CONSISTENCY AND HARD WORK EARNS SIGAMONEY DOUBLE ACCOLADES



"I became the Student Representative Council (SRC) treasurer, a position which requires me to juggle both my academic work and helping students who have different issues. Eventually, I came up with a strategy that

helped me to pick up my workload. I had to come to campus on weekends to obtain extra notes and catch up with my assignments," she said.

She also added that her inspiration and charismatic character comes from her family that knows and values the love of God, especially her inspiring mom. "She taught me to always be strong and work hard towards studying and achieving in whatever I set out to do," she added.

Mbonambi advises students who are keen to study at DUT, to learn to be patient and they will achieve their goals. "Welcome failure in your lives too, as it helps us to grow in life. Be yourself, grow, laugh, learn and love people," she said.

Pictured: Musa Mbonambi.

Nomkhuleko Thutshini

DUT'S NDLANGISA IS GEARED UP TO REPRESENT USSA IN ITALY NEXT MONTH

The Durban University of Technology (DUT), student Ongeziwe Ndlangisa has been named in the University Sports South Africa (USSA) women football team that will take part in the Summer Universiade World Cup Student Games in Napoli, Italy from 03 to 14 July 2019.

She was also part of the team that represented USSA in these games which were held in Taipei, China back in 2017.

The Umzimkhulu-born midfielder said she received the news of her call-up to the USSA team while she was in camp with the Banyana Banyana team in France, where the South Africa's women's team will be participating in its maiden FIFA Women's World Cup. She was called up by Coach Desiree Ellis as a standby player.

"I am thrilled to be called up once again to be part of the USSA team that will be representing South Africa against the best of the best in student sports in the world. My goal is to push the team to reach the finals or at least the semi-finals of the tournament," she said.

She believes that her previous experience in the tournament will boost her confidence and performance.

Head of DUT Sport Administration department, Bongani Yengwa said they are proud and excited by the achievements of Ndlangisa. "It is great for DUT to have one of its students/athletes representing the country. This instils confidence and encouragement to other DUT students /athletes that if they work hard they can also achieve anything. It is also good for the recruitment drive of the University because prospective students can also see that DUT students are achieving great things in sport," he said.

Meanwhile, Ndlangisa who is now back in South Africa after being part of the Banyana Banyana camp in France as a standby player says her experience in France gave her exposure to the highest level of professionalism in women's football.

"During this camp I learnt the importance of being versatile as footballer, as I played mostly as a right back in our training sessions while my original position is that of a central midfielder. This was an eye-opening experience for me," she said.

Ndlangisa who arrived in South Africa from France on Tuesday, 04 June 2019 said despite being back in the country she remains upbeat as the coaches encouraged her to continue working hard because there will still be many opportunities to represent her country with Banyana Banyana. "They also reminded us that anything can still happen in France, and we can still be called up as standby players," she added.

The Sports Management Studies third-year student also expressed gratitude to her academic department for always being flexible and accommodative to her demanding schedule.



Pictured: Ongeziwe Ndlangisa who has been called up to the USSA women football team.

Nduduzo Ndlovu

MUST-SEE MOVIE

Check out the preview on circuit in August 2019.

FAST & FURIOUS: HOBBS & SHAW

If you like fast cars, dangerous drives and of course a sterling cast of your favourite action heroes, then this is a 'must-see' movie for of adrenaline lovers.

Directed by David Leitch, the action thriller stars an array of muscle men, Dwayne Johnson, Idris Elba, Jason Statham, and the beautiful Vanessa Kirby and Helen Mirren.

Fast & Furious Presents: Hobbs & Shaw is an upcoming 2019 American buddy cop action film, set to be a spin-off from *The Fast and the Furious* franchise featuring two characters, Luke Hobbs and Deckard Shaw in the leading roles. It scheduled to be released on 2 August 2019 by Universal Pictures. Two years after the events of *The Fate of the Furious*, DSS federal agent Luke Hobbs ((Dwayne Johnson), and former SAS operative turned current mercenary Deckard Shaw (Jason Statham), two men who extremely dislike each other, are forced to team up to stop a new threat emerging from Brixton Lore (Idris Elba), a cyber-genetically enhanced international terrorist who created a deadly virus that could threaten the human race. These two sworn enemies will have to partner up to bring down the only guy who might be 'meaner' than themselves.

Waheeda Peters

