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## Fashion Show 2008

Sithembile Shabangu

The Department of Fashion and Textiles Design at the Durban University of Technology recently held another spectacular fashion show at the university's Steve Biko Campus, showcasing designs by final year students.

Forty two students participated in the first two days of the show, all competing for the top 26 ranges that would be showcased on the final night (Friday, 3rd October). As one walked in, you could have sworn that it was a fashion show showcasing professional designers who have already made their mark in the industry.

It was not only the professionalism of the stage, a hall packed with fashion lovers but the high standard of designs that captured the importance of the night.

It was evident through the designs that the students are ready to enter industry and compete against other professional designers.

The Prize for the Best Casual Wear Range went to Shari Akal-Fowles while Sibongile Milisi took the prize for the

Best Technical Range. Laurell Dougall walked away with the prize for Best Menswear Range for her cartoon printed designs. The person with the Most Innovative Range was Ludwig Bezuidenhout and Nate Ridge won the prize for the Best Range on Show. Judges on the panel included the Holmes Brothers, Lucille Booyzen of SA Fashion Week, Karen Termorshuizen of Lunar and Colleen Eitzen.

The prizes were sponsored by Kingsgate clothing, The Holmes Brothers, Manock's Naturals, Fashion World, M. C. Thompson, CTFL- Seta, Vukani Fashion Awards, DUT's Corporate Affairs and the Co-Operative Education Unit at DUT.

## Interior Design Students @ Wylie House

Bandile Malindisa

The Department of Architectural Technology and Interior Design recently embarked upon its annual community engagement programme. This year the department was approached by Wylie House requesting their adoption as one of the community service projects for 2008. The department endeavours to select an underprivileged or charitable organisation every year to transform and refurbish its premises.

This year the opportunity went to Wylie House, a registered Child Care facility offering services to forty young female children who are at risk. The children are between the ages of three and a half to eighteen years. This successful project was tackled by three teams consisting of fifteen interior design students in each team. The teams worked very hard in implementing strategies to renovate the many buildings of the mansion.

Team Snethemba led by Kylie McFayden, was assigned to renovate the upper level residence while team Nokukhanya, led by Nicky Day, was assigned to the outside cottage residence. Team Nokuphila, led by Jenni McKenzie, was assigned to the downstairs residence. This project also forms part of the students' experiential learning component.

The project, headed up by Michelle Hankinson, was made possible by the enthusiasm of stakeholders and the equipment supplied by sponsors sourced by staff and students. Items sourced includes flooring, shop-fitting items, tiles, mirrors, tables, chairs, couches, shelving, lamps and lighting. In addition the students sourced appliances, artwork, and kitchen accessories as well as labour to install lighting, tiling, and painting.

According to Michelle Hankinson, "this year was the first time that the foundation students joined our students on site for the implementation week. The integration of students was a great success!"



Photo's: Supplied





# Editor's Corner

October 2008 marks a watershed moment in the history of the University. Billy Nair, a DUT alumnus and a stalwart of the struggle passed away on 23 October 2008. To pay respect to this great and humble man, I attended his funeral, a State Funeral graced by the President of the country, Kgalema Motlanthe, and ANC President, Jacob Zuma.

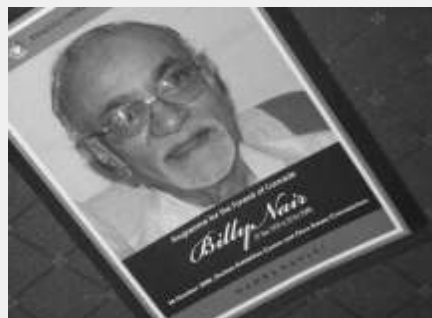
A recipient of DUT's Silver Tusk Award, Billy Nair has left an indelible mark on the University, and indeed the political landscape of the country. I interviewed him for the Monday Edition in 2005. The article, "Billy Nair - A living legend" appears in the archived copies of the Monday Edition (The ConDUiT's predecessor) on 24 October 2005, in News and Publications on the DUT website.

October also marked the 100th birthday of another stalwart of the freedom struggle, and a DUT alumnus, Kandasamy Govinthu. Please visit our website, dut.ac.za, the News section for an extract from the Sunday Tribune.

This is the last edition of the ConDUiT for 2008. Please visit the website to keep abreast of university news.

Ciao,

**Raylene Captain-Hashibeer**  
Communications Manager



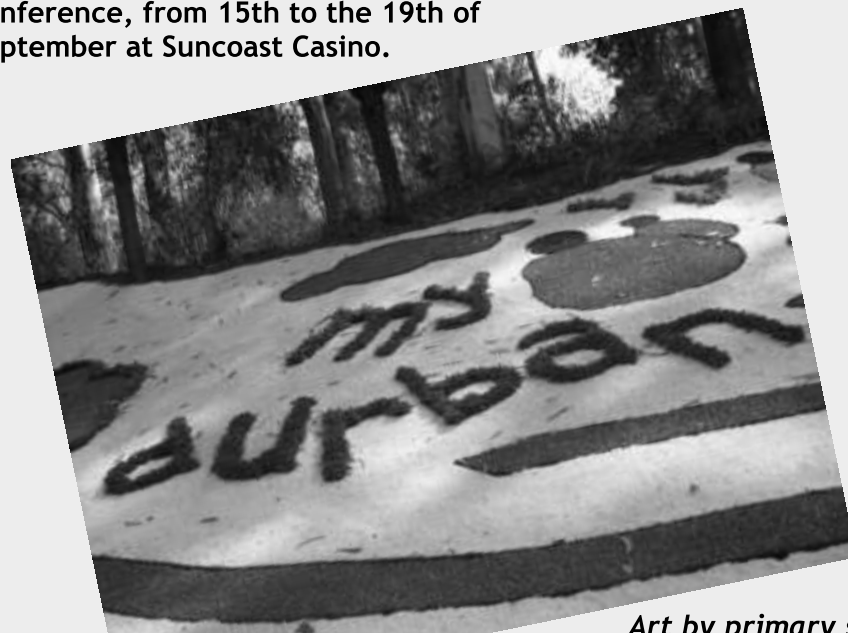
*Billy Nair's State Funeral at the Durban Exhibition Centre*



## Imagine Durban

Thabiso Ndlovu

A team of nine Durban University of Technology Journalism students recently took part in the Imagine Durban plus Network conference, from 15th to the 19th of September at Suncoast Casino.



*Art by primary school learners from Cato Manor*

Photo's: Geoff Theys and Thabiso Ndlovu



*Team members with Dr Mikhail Peppas*



*International delegates with the school kids from Cato Manor*

This team was required to record footage of the conference and then produce a 25 minute video documentary on the events of that week. The video will be loaded on the Plus Network website and another copy of the footage will be presented to eThekweni Municipality.

"This was a once in a lifetime experience for us as aspiring journalists who were tasked with shooting the entire conference and I will hold on to this for the rest of my life," said Simangele Mzizi, one of the students who was part of the team.

The conference was about the management planning cycle and sustainability of cities. The conference delegates included mayors and other important personnel from some of the leading economic countries in the world such as

Australia, China, the United States of America, Sri Lanka and some from our own continent, from Senegal and Tanzania.

DUT students were acknowledged by the delegates for their enthusiasm and professionalism throughout the conference and this puts DUT on the world map.

"With limited resources and enthusiastic students, we were able to pull this off, and our students were able to learn about production and they acquired valuable experience," said Dr Mikhail Peppas, lecturer in the Journalism Department.

Bliss Browne from *Imagine Chicago* was full of praise for DUT, the students' effort and attendance. "Having you here is like a breath of fresh air," she said to the students.

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**WHAT U WAITING FOR?**



# DUT students reach out to Abalindi community centre

Abongile Ganya and Sandile Gumede

First year Community Development students in the Environmental Health Programme embarked on a unique project this year. The students were given a project at the beginning of the year on community outreach. Community Development Lecturer, Sipiwe Gumede, said the students decided to collect anything and everything to donate to the chosen centre. They had a number of options, but Abalindi Old Age and Children's Home caught their attention.

The students admitted that the experience was tremendous. "We saw something about this centre and decided to work hard and be committed. It was difficult, we had to knock door to door to find sponsors, the right people who were willing to fund this project," said Tessa Nontso.

The HoD Moeti Kgware said: "The focus for the Department is community-based health interventions as can be evidenced in the amount of time students and staff of the department spend in communities. Field-work for the students in the department does not only represent the requisite hours required for completion of their qualifications, but it also entails real-life problem-solving".

The branch Manager of Jumbo Cash & Carry, Fred Killian said "As a company we recognise the need to fulfill social responsibility and giving back to the

community which is why we were involved with Abalindi. We will talk to all stakeholders and look at how we can sustain our relationship". Killian said it's still premature to say what they will offer Abalindi in the future but said Jumbo Cash & Carry will definitely contribute something to the centre on a monthly basis.

Though the idea was sparked by Sipiwe Gumede, the students committed themselves fully to the success of the project. Sponsors included: Mr Price, Dairy Belle, Everfresh, Jumbo Cash & Carry, Logan's Book Store, Van Schaik Book Store, Adams & Griggs Book Store and Dulux Paint Providers.

HASO (Health Advisory Students Organisation) worked with the students throughout and due to the students' success, the Child and Youth Care Programme in the same department decided to collaborate on this project.

# First postgraduate laptop awards handed over

Bhekani Dlamini



Photo: Sithembile Shabangu

**Pictured: (L-R) Professor Roy du Pré, Xolile Mkhize, Angela Skea, Yugan Pillay, Professor Annelie Jordaan, and Andre Le Roux.**

The Postgraduate Development and Support Unit has handed over the first batch of postgraduate laptop awards to MTech and DTech researchers, supervisors and faculty officers. The Vice-Chancellor Professor Roy du Pré presented the laptops at an auspicious occasion held at the Hotel School on 2 September.

The laptops, which are accompanied by other postgraduate incentives and a 3G-card, were made available to create a conducive research environment that will make it easier for postgraduate students to do their research after hours and at home. Professor Annelie Jordaan, Acting DVC: Technology, Innovation and Partnerships (TIP) said she was grateful to Professor du Pré for having initiated the awards. She said a credit point criteria was used to determine if the supervisor qualified for a laptop award or not. Professor Jordaan also mentioned that an Academic Centre is being established to provide generic guidance and support to postgraduate students at DUT.

A special award was presented to Angela Skea, a BTech student in Dental Technology, for her Outstanding Academic Achievement in

this field. She recently received a Medal Award from the Dental Technology Council of South Africa. Professor du Pré said he was privileged to see the awards presented, adding that he cannot wait to see a university of technology materialise. "We are three to four years behind other UoT's in terms of postgraduate qualifications, and we need to accelerate," urged Professor du Pré. He said the University is known for producing research and for offering postgraduate qualifications. He also said that the percentage of doctorates at DUT is the lowest in the country. He advised that in order to increase research input "we need to increase the number of doctorates". In conclusion Professor du Pré commended Professor Jordaan and her team for facilitating the postgraduate awards and ensuring that they are a success.

# Kudos for Joy

Bobby Peek: Director - groundWork



Photo: Supplied

At groundWork's (Friends of the Earth South Africa) ninth Annual General Meeting, Joy Kistnasamy was unanimously voted in as Chair of the Board of Trustees. Joy has been on the Board of Trustees for the last 5 years.

For groundWork this was a significant occasion, for in Joy, we have an educator, researcher, academic and activist who is key to groundWork's future.

Joy has read for both an environmental and commerce degree, a seldom but important mix of 'new and old' schooling.

Joy cut her teeth as a researcher at the Nelson Mandela Medical School, her activism at the South Durban

Community Environmental Alliance, the foremost community environmental justice network in the country, her academia at the University of Durban Westville and her environmental research at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. A rich grounding seldom found. But it is not only all of this that Joy brings to groundWork, it is her passion to be able to break new ground with the work that she is doing, her passion to ensure that her students become leaders of

# DUT staff receives an Independent Living Disability Lifestyle Award

Bhekani Dlamini

Rakesh Soni received an Independent Living Disability Lifestyle Award for his contribution to music. He received this award alongside Olympian stars such as Natalie Du Toit and Oscar Pistorius in the sport category, at Nasrec Exhibition Centre in Johannesburg recently.

Soni, physically challenged, self taught flutist and tabla player, is the Network Administrator at the Durban University of Technology (DUT). He has been playing the flute as a hobby since 1989 and tabla, Indian drum, since in Grade 7. He has accompanied many local and international artists.

He got his inspiration for flute playing from Pandit Hariprasad Chaurasia. He

is also a great fan of Ustad Zakir Hussain who performs tabla recitals.

"This is a very important event for me and I value it a lot. People with disability are not often acknowledged. Instead people only see what we cannot do. They forget that disabled people can do things that able-bodied people cannot do. I am proud and honoured to be the only one nominee in the music category," says Soni. He advises that 'if you have a dream or goal, follow it'.

He is inspired by former President of South Africa, Nelson Mandela, Human Rights activist, Mahatma Gandhi and the leader of the Black Consciousness Movement, Steve Biko. He is inspired by the fact that these people fought for what they believed in.

tomorrow in whatever they are doing, and her passion to ensure that research has a meaning for people on the ground, and not just for shelves in academic libraries.

I look forward to the very many years that groundWork will have the pleasure and honour of having Joy Kistnasamy leading the charge against environmental injustice in South Africa, Africa and indeed globally.

## DUT explores geographic location and urban influences

Sandile Gumede

The Co-Temporary Existence & the Moveable Arts Feast exhibition was launched at the DUT Art Gallery, Steve Biko Campus on the 5th of September 2008. The exhibition showcased works of three senior Fine Art graduate artists, Sabelo Khumalo, Nothando Mkhize and Nozipho Zulu.

Art Gallery Curator, Nontobeko Ntombela, said artists used different media, but what was common to their work were their concepts of exploring geographic location and urban influences.

Zulu said her work investigates the existence of her body in space and its mutual engagement with the immediate environment. She explores the difficulties of being trapped into two cultures, urban and rural life. "As a migrant in the city and due to the reluctant dual cultural and social settings, my body is constantly located and dislocated in space" said Zulu.

Khumalo is concerned about popular culture and derived inspiration from the prominent use of media for product advertising. He also explored how media unifies the culture of global identity.

Nothando Mkhize attempts to find traces of city occupiers by using found objects in her "Umbrella series". Her umbrella pronounces her unique artistic style in the way

she used the collage technique on found objects.

Fine Arts lecturer and artist, Themba Shibase said it's been inspiring working with the three artists. He said everyone has ideas but it's not easy to communicate them to the outside world. Shibase praised the artists saying they have amazing visionary vocabulary.

Shibase continued that there are many talented artists in this country but that the industry still struggles to generate a stable income for them. He said the industry is growing stronger.

Young talented poets graced the launch with their poems.

Mpumelelo Simelane stole the night with his poem titled "The Arts". His poem speaks about how art is divided, "I trust this will be another collector's item, for it's collectively, divided. Think about this, music, dance, drawing are collectively divided. The Arts shouldn't be simple, be as vivid as your imagery. Call it a poet's point of view, but I call it poetic justice."

## DUT Kung Fu Team shine in Johannesburg

Bandile Malindisa

The Durban University of Technology's Kung Fu team recently attended trials in the third Traditional Wushu Championships held in Sisulu Hall in Randburg. The team of four guys and four ladies went up to Randburg to participate in the championships.



Photo: Supplied

The DUT Kung Fu team, lead by coach Musa Mahlaba, did exceptionally well and managed to bring home two gold, two silver and four bronze medals in different forms of Kung Fu. The competition catered for various disciplines of Kung Fu such as full contact fighting, straight sword, broad sword, spears and tai-chi sword fighting.

The DUT team was representing KwaZulu-Natal and other participating provinces included the Cape, Mpumalanga and the host city Johannesburg. "We spent three days and we are still hungry for more" said Musa Mahlaba. He went on to talk about his experience as a Kung Fu coach saying, "as a coach you have to regulate things such as the type of tricks to be performed by students to avoid unnecessary injuries".

In recognition of the standard of professionalism displayed by Mahlaba and his team in the competition, they were rewarded with a uniform and weapons for practicing. The award was for being the best team and was presented by the South African Wushu coach, Master Yang Li Hua.

The team would like to thank DUT's HOD of Sports Bureau, Size Vardhan; Sport Officer, Ashwin Juglal and Protection Services for their support and allowing them to train on weekends.

## Addressing the needs of DUT's disabled staff and students

Lucille Webster

In 2006, a project-driven library committee was established to investigate library needs of the disabled university community and to ensure a barrier-free access to information resources. Since then the committee, consisting of representatives from all six library sites, has been quietly campaigning to ensure that the library is disabled-friendly. To that end, all library frontline staff attended sign language training in order for them to communicate with the hearing impaired. Sensitising exercises to alert library staff to the needs of the disabled in the library, was conducted with staff.

The effort to ensure that all six libraries are fully accessible to the disabled community is ongoing and in some cases, expensive. Library management is, however, committed to affect the required changes and have incorporated plans within the three-year rolling financial budget of the library.

Automatic doors were installed at some of the library sites, but other challenges still remain. Some of the challenges are non-working lifts, narrow aisles in the library which make the use of a wheelchair difficult, the lack of wheelchair accessible workstations and tables, turnstiles that hinder access for the wheelchair bound and suitable parking outside libraries for the disabled.

The committee has the support of Prof Gawe who recently indicated that in 2007, the Physical Planning Committee approved, in principle, designated parking for the disabled on all campuses and that this is soon to be enforced by the issuing of stickers for those requiring it.

Patrick Pillay, Operations Manager at Protection Services, said that all staff members have an ethical obligation not to use parking reserved for disabled people. He appealed to the DUT community to respect disabled

people by not using parking allocated to them. According to Reverend Cele from Protection Services, the designated parking became enforceable from Monday 1 September onwards. Stickers are obtainable from the Protection Services Department.

The library staff looks forward to liaising with the disabled community of the university in terms of access to the library. Feel free to contact any of the members below:

Dennis Mpumlwana - (033 845 8973) Midlands libraries  
Favour Atagana - (031 373 2565) Alan Pittendrigh Library - Steve Biko Campus  
Lucille Webster - (031 373 2369) Alan Pittendrigh Library - Steve Biko Campus  
Phumi Mhlongo - (031 373 5246) BM Patel Library - ML Sultan Campus  
Rakesh Soni - (031 373 5386) LIS Department - ML Sultan Campus  
Siza Radebe - (031 373 5200) BM Patel Library - ML Sultan Campus

The committee participated in the Disability Awareness programme on the 3rd September 2008, hosted by Student Governance and Development. The library was represented by Ms Phumi Mhlongo and Mr Rakesh Soni.

## Acknowledging PR students

Sandile Gumede and Abongile Ganya

The Department of Marketing, Retail & Public Relations hosted the Annual Student Awards at the Southern Sun Elangeni Hotel, recently.

Guest speaker, Kwanele Gumbi, CEO of Gumbi Global said for the past six years they committed themselves to offer internships to Public Relations students. He, however, noted that this is sometimes at a price for companies. "We have to contend with basic issues such as punctuality, the dress code, office etiquette, the use of company resources - particularly, the use of the phone calls friends and others".

Executive Dean: Faculty of Management Sciences, Professor Malcolm Wallis said PR is not only about being defendants of companies but it's also about ethics and social responsibility.

Dr Veena Rawjee said the aim of the function was to acknowledge students who had excelled during their academic studies. Dr Rawjee also thanked parents for their contribution towards raising the students. Dr Rawjee encouraged students to explore their potential by quoting the American lecturer and writer Mark Twain, "twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by things you didn't do, than by the ones you did do."

Award winners were:

2nd years: CJ Naicker, Gayaparsad and S Naidoo, Academic Winner and runners-up respectively.

3rd Years: H Dope, J S Bowman and S Moodley, Academic Winner and runners-up respectively.

B-Tech: K Pillay, S B Hussain and K S Ramchunder, Academic winner and runners-up respectively.



Guest speaker, Mr Kwanele Gumbi, CEO: Gumbi Global and Executive Dean: Faculty of Management Sciences, Prof Malcolm Wallis.



Guests and students at the Public Relations Award ceremony.

# DUT Drama students win Ishashalazi Women's Festival

Supplied by Department

The Drama Studies Programme of the Durban University of Technology is very proud of a group of 'Thespians' (8 women: 7 actors and 1 director), who created a workshop production that garnered first prize at the Ishashalazi Women's Festival.

The group 'Thespians' was composed of: Nombulelo Khumalo (3rd year), 2nd year students Ayanda Sibisi, Nolulamo Maquthu, Sanelisiwe Dlamini, Nombuso Gcabashe, Philile Ntimbane, and first year student, Sinaye Maphanga, all directed by final year student, Silindile Ndlovu.

The Drama Studies Programme encourages students to adopt an entrepreneurial approach in order to apply skills and creative vision in the theatre industry and it is therefore very proud of this particular group of young women who, led by Silindile Ndlovu, joined forces to profile themselves as 'Thespians' in order to make an impact in a highly competitive market. Students from the programme regularly engage in profiling themselves through entrepreneurial endeavours and new works. These 'Thespians' have taken the initiative in 2008, excelling in the arena of creating new works that give a voice to the issues that surround them.

The competition was held at Ekhasya Multi-Arts Centre [EMAC] in Kwa-Mashu over three days, spearheaded by Edmund Mhlongo. The competition ran from Friday 29 August 2008 to Sunday 31 August 2008. Workshops were held by theatre doyenne Caroline Smart, well-known Durban and Drama Studies Programme publicist Illa Thompson, Tu Nokwe (of the Durban Nokwe theatrical family), Gcina Mhlophe (award winning Durban playwright and internationally acclaimed storyteller), Zama and Sma Mbatha (television star and producer of Igagasi FM), David Gouldie (award winning choreographer from BASA) and Duma ka'Ndlovu (director of The Game recently staged at the Playhouse Company).

The final awards were presented by the Department of Arts and Culture at the close of the Ishashalazi Women's Festival late on Sunday afternoon, signifying the completion of the three day competition. The award was presented at the awards ceremony hosted by Edmund Mhlongo's Ekhasya Multi-Arts Centre [EMAC].



## Secretary's Day

Frontline staff at the Durban University of Technology were treated to lunch and lucky draw prizes at the Secretary's Day Lunch sponsored by Professor Roy du Pré held at DUT's Hotel School Restaurant recently.



Photo's: Raylene Captain-Hasthibeer



## DUT Students visit Westville Prison

"When I got out in to the night beyond this world of ours, I dare not hope to find at once the shinning heavenly bowers" this is an extract from Xolani Mzolo's poem "Unto the Night."

Mzolo's serving a three-year sentence at Westville Prison (Medium C) which recently hosted DUT's Escombe Residence students who were hoping to raise awareness about xenophobia.

Senior Residential Officer, Sithuthukile Mashabane, said the community outreach was meant to allow students to experience prison life and also to show inmates that they are still accepted in the community. She also

added that Medium C inmates are being prepared for reintegration into the community, so such activities are vital.

Former Miss DUT, Marcia Mzindle, said change is something that can only come from within and that it comes once you forgive yourself and those around you. Mzindle urged the inmates to forgive themselves.

Head of Student Housing, Doc Nhassengo, said in every visit to the prison he's

surprised by the talent and the number of young people. He told inmates that the outside world would have many challenges, but that they should never lose hope.

Musical band, Mighty Inspiration, won the day with their splendid performances. DUT students were touched when the band performed a gospel track "Can't wait to see you there".

First year Office Management student, Lucky Gumede, said he learnt a lot from the trip to prison. "It was my first visit to the prison, it taught me that inmates are also human beings like anyone else and today I saw very talented performers. This is an experience I will cherish the rest of my life", said Lucky Gumede.

Sandile Gumede

## "It's all happening at the Dining Room"

Sandile Gumede and Abongile Ganya

Everyone tasted a resonance of their own lives watching The Dining Room at DUT's Courtyard Theatre, recently.

A.R. Gurney, Director of the play said the play afforded her the opportunity to work with a wonderful group of students. Gurney said the play exposed the enormous talent and vitality of the first year students.

*The Dining Room* paints a picture of the intricacies of family life from cheating wives and aging patriarchs, to cheeky children and rebellious teenagers.

The cast are all first year Drama students at the Durban University of Technology.

Carolyn (Nokuphila Vilakazi, 19) said her character is a 14-year old girl who thinks she's old enough to make independent choices about her own destiny. Her mother though, seems to be seeing things differently and tries to influence her daughter's choices.

"*The Dining Room* has different family episodes with no single story line but all the episodes are happening in the dining room"

Lizzie (Sinenhlanhla Cele) said she enjoyed playing her character. "Though I'm 19, I had great pleasure playing a character that's seven years younger than me. It took a lot of effort and dedication, but I'm glad we made it".

"*The Dining Room* has different family episodes with no single story line but all the episodes are happening in the dining room", said Gcebile Dlamini (21) who plays Ruth, the rich 30 to 40 year old rich woman, who loved her family.

Jabulile Mabaso who plays Margery, said she learnt the importance of things, including accents. She added that Margery is a rich woman who loves status.



# The Changing role of Librarians

Several DUT Librarians recently presented papers at the conference, *Looking Ahead, the Changing Role of Librarians*. These included David Thomas and Favour Atagana on Information Literacy, Kusturie Moodley and Zethu Molefe on the Institutional Repository, Kusturie Moodley and Mogie Rajkoomar on Google versus subscribed online databases and Lucille Webster on Equitable access for the disabled to libraries.

Some of the papers presented generated wide interest from the library and information services community, and will possibly set new benchmarks in terms of South African academic librarianship.

Mr Roy Raju and his team at the National Conference on Library and Information Services held at the Cape Town International Convention Centre from 6 October to 10 October 2008.



*DUT Library Staff - delegates of the National Conference on Library and Information Services*

## Proposal writing workshop for Faculty of Accounting & Informatics staff

*Professor Jaya Raju*

Thirty academic staff from the Faculty participated in a proposal writing workshop held on the 20 August 2008 at the Khaya Lembali Conference Centre in Morningside. The workshop was sponsored by the Directorate for Postgraduate Development and Support (PGDS) as part of the DUT's initiative to provide opportunities for staff to upgrade their qualifications to master's and doctoral level by 2012.

The initiative and efficiency of Joy Kistnasamy (workshop co-ordinator for the PGDS) made possible securing the expertise of Professor Santy Daya, internationally acclaimed pharmacologist and research methodologist) to facilitate the workshop.

The day's proceedings can best be described as value-filled for both the facilitator and the participants. The group was very enthusiastic and the day ended on a high note with participants remarking in their evaluation forms that they feel very motivated and energized to embark on

master's and doctoral studies and even publication. The facilitator was found to be very knowledgeable and participants appreciated the manner in which he demystified the whole research concept.

At the end of the workshop the faculty co-ordinator mentioned that the Faculty Research Committee would like to engage in tracking at regular intervals over the next two years to see how individuals are progressing in terms of registering for higher degrees, completing research proposals and making progress with their research.

The group thanked DUT for giving them this opportunity.

## Healthy Body, Healthy Mind

*Abongile Ganya*

The Department of Student Counselling in conjunction with the Peer-Helpers organised a Wellness Sports Day for DUT students. The event was hosted at the Sport Centre, Steve Biko Campus, on the 12th September 2008.

Student Counselling's Psychologist, Gideon Biyana, explained that it was significant for them to have the Wellness Sports Day, "By hosting such an event we are aiming at promoting physical and mental wellness to the students. We wanted to improve their physical ability, encourage interpersonal skills, take their minds off things (exams, tests, assignments,

projects, etc), de-stress them a little bit and refresh their minds".

The event incorporated a variety of fun games: relay egg race, sack race, tug of war, men's netball, leg binding race, coke drinking competition, apple race, mixed soccer, mental games and mind provocation games. Prizes were up for grabs, including medals and T-shirts for first, second and third place.

## Student wins first prize in interior design national competition

*Bhekani Dlamini*

Matthew De Beyer recently walked away with the 14th Annual PG Bison Student of the Year Award at a national competition in Johannesburg. He is a third year student in Interior Design at DUT.

"I am completely over the moon, it is absolutely amazing and it came as a surprise. The competition was very tough, a big event and the standard was high. My inspiration for the design came from a toy pin that I have at home," commented De Beyer. He started with a sketch and drew basic ideas which culminated in a winning design. He worked on the corelDraw program and the main layout was on AutoCAD for 3D work. He is thrilled with the recognition he received when he won the competition.

De Beyer is hopeful that there are great opportunities waiting for him. As part of his first prize he is looking forward to a 5-day trip to the 2009 Milan Furniture Fair, which includes a return ticket, accommodation, entry to the show and a contribution to daily expenses. Project leader, Cally du Toit will accompany Matthew de Beyer to the 2009 Milan Furniture Fair in April next year. He plans to do a BTech next year and work on a part-time basis. He advises students to study hard and follow their dreams.

Cally du Toit is proud of Matthew's performance at this competition. She described Matthew as an incredibly talented young man. Commenting on Matthew's work she said despite the extremely high standard of the competition Matthew came up with an exceptionally creative idea as a solution to the competition brief. She added that his design was excellent. Du Toit's task was to guide students towards finding a solution to the competition brief. She is thrilled that



for first time in 14 years of the competition history, DUT came in the top 10 and took the top place. She applauded students for their role in this competition. She said this time students were encouraged to develop their technical skills and use new computer programs when working on their designs. She said this made a huge improvement to the competition, adding that she hoped it would place DUT in a better position to compete in future events.

## DUT Golf Day

*Bandile Malindisa*



*Photo: Keith Kenneth*

DUT's staff, alumni students and guests attended a successful annual Golf Day at the Bluff Golf Course recently. The day began with 130 golfers, all of whom received prizes at the prize giving ceremony in the afternoon.

The prize giving ceremony was opened by Professor Roy du Pré who also congratulated and handed over prizes to the winners. Zamo, Sifiso, Marvin and Quinton of Mangosuthu University of Technology who scooped first place. In second place was T Langa, M Khumalo, I Mthembu and T Matsepe. In third place was Dinesh Maharaj, Cliffie Moodley, Percy Naidoo and Roy Naidoo.

The tournament was made possible by the following sponsors:

- African Mediums
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- Alexander Forbes
- Quest Personnel
- Standard Bank
- TCM
- Outdoor Network
- South African Breweries
- Trademark
- Eduloan
- Eyako
- Dimension Data
- RMB
- Division of Corporate Affairs

# The DUT Community tackles women abuse

Abongile Ganya

The KZN Department of Arts, Culture and Tourism is on a mission to encourage learners and the community at large, to read and write literature in indigenous languages. They have since been to four prisons: Engwavuma, Qalakabusha, Eshowe and Westville.

"This project was started by ex-President Thabo Mbeki after long observation of nodal areas (poorest areas suffering from poverty)", said Hlengi Ngongo from the Department of Arts, Culture and Tourism on the development of a Language and Literature Unit.

On the 13th of September 2008, this department challenged universities, high schools and the community to present their writing skills in indigenous languages at the Durban University of Technology's ML Sultan Campus. DUT's Department of Language and Translation hosted the function.

The contestants wrote and recited their poems on Women and Child Abuse, Drug Abuse, Violence in Schools, Humanity or Teenage Pregnancy, or all these topics covered in one poem.

Ngongo encouraged the poets / writers not to stop there, as there are many opportunities for them. She commented that the Department was aiming at working together with the publishers. She also encouraged people to form reading and writing clubs.

All contestants were outstanding and showed pride in their own languages. Out of twenty-nine contestants, three walked away with cash prizes, 3rd place - R550, 2nd place - R750, and the main winner received R1500. Sineliso Dlamini and Bonang Ndlazi 2nd year Language Practice students took 3rd and 2nd places respectively. A community member from eNkandla, Sphelele Khanyile, scooped first prize.

## Life begins at tertiary

Abongile Ganya and Sandile Gumede

The keys to success are vision and passion. Visualizing, as clearly as possible, what your future will be like after tertiary life and then passionately pursuing it, will bring you a step closer to achieving your goals in life. Senior students from the Department of Hospitality and Tourism showed us just that at their recent Trade and Destination Exhibition.

The students were given a stimulating challenge by their lecturers, Mrs Lewis and Mr Munnir. Groups of Tourism students each had to showcase and market a different country, its history, culture, language and major tourist attractions. The Hotel School pulsed with the sights, sounds and delicious aromas of Russia, Nigeria and Japan, among other exotic locations.

Hospitality students had to conceptualise a business and product and then market their offering to an enthusiastic audience. On offer were, for example, spa treatments, cocktails, chocolate, and a most tempting product based on the Seven Deadly Sins. All the students showed vision and passion as they enthusiastically and professionally showed off their product or destination.

Talking about creativity, Utility Chefs created a multi-purpose apron which enables chefs and food handlers to carry their knife set and utensils while they work, and after use it can be folded into a convenient, safe and self-contained bag. Sunny Juice offers fruit juices, cocktails and fruit salads with perfectly ripe fresh fruit. Ibhubesi Events Company offers catering for occasions such as weddings, parties, business meetings and conferences.

According to Mrs Lewis, this kind of initiative is designed to prepare the students for life in the competitive world of work, encourage them to be creative and generate business ideas and test their boundaries, so that they are aware of what's ahead of them after the relative calm of theory, study and practicals. The top exhibitions were recognised at the Hotel School Annual Awards Ceremony on 24 October 2008.

## Wouldn't you like to know what's happening on your campus?

Email your name, surname, Department, Course, Student/staff number and most importantly your cell number to webmaster@dut.ac.za to receive SMS notifications in the event of an emergency.

## Faculty of Health Sciences' Sports Day

Muzi Hlongwane and Akhona Gcilitshana

On the 22nd of August 2008, the Faculty of Health Sciences hosted a very successful event. Students and staff did not only interact on an academic level, but also on a social level.



The brainchild of Clinical Technology students, the event was also made a success due to HASO (Health Advisory Student Organisation), who came on board by funding the entire event.

The Executive Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences, Prof N Gwele, encouraged students to continue with this brilliant initiative and to host it each and every year.

The competition was tough and all teams were enthusiastic and motivated to be the champions of the Faculty of Health Sciences. The results were as follows:

1. The netball champions were from the Department of Environmental Health, who played against Clinical Technology in the finals.
2. In the volleyball final, Emergency Medical Care won by beating Radiography to become the champions.
3. Indoor soccer was won by Dental Assisting who triumphed over Radiography, in the finals.

Clinical Technology students and HASO would like to thank all departments that participated in the day, and all those who assisted by supplying refreshments.

## Miss DUT 2008 crowned

Abongile Ganya

The Durban University of Technology held the annual Miss DUT event recently. Held at DUT's Fred Crookes Sports Centre, the competition seeks to find an ambassador for the university.

First year Durban University of Technology students were placed as follows: Financial Information System student, Lebohang Mantsho was crowned Miss DUT 2008. Journalism student, Babalwa Sobikela, was 1st Princess and Public Relations Management student Gugulethu Mpanza took the place as 2nd Princess.

Mantsho says it has been her dream even before Miss DUT to be involved in helping the community, and forming workshops for women to develop social skills as well as support groups. "I am an ambassador for DUT and plan to carry myself in a dignified manner to represent DUT and make a difference. I am aware of the issues and challenges students face, so it serves me well to be their ambassador".

SRC president (Central), Mandla Shange said they are aiming at forming programmes where Miss DUT will work hand in hand with both the SRC and the Division of Corporate Affairs. The projects they envisage Miss DUT to focus on includes: awareness campaigns, team building, and encouraging women to be in leadership. She is also expected to be a guest speaker, promote academic excellence, promote participation of women in sports and will be working alongside the Princesses.

The ladies' stunning evening gowns were designed by Duke, Zion Exclusive and Glamour evening wear.

According to Shange, both Princesses won a beauty spa treatment worth R750 and Edgars' shopping vouchers, the 2nd princess a R1000 shopping voucher and the 1st princess a R1500 voucher. Miss DUT 2008, Lebohang Mantsho, won a trip to the Drakensburg with a partner a R2000 Edgars' shopping voucher, and R500 cash. Miss DUT 2008 organised by the SRC (Student Representative Council), was sponsored by East Coast Radio, Weiss Volkswagen, and Ilanga.

# Students acknowledged for their hard work

Abongile Ganya and Sandile Gumedede

The Department of Sport Studies held their Annual Awards Ceremony to recognise outstanding students at the DUT's Hotel School recently.



Photo: Supplied

L-R- Aleck Skhosana, Siyabonga Nkonde and Bobby Maharaj

The acknowledgement varied from academic performance to overall academic achiever to special awards. Three first year, second year, and third year deserving students were given awards for academic performance.

The Overall Academic Achiever was Mkhonjiswa Dladla, the Sportswoman award was taken by Zinhle Ndwonde and the Sportsman award by Siyabonga Nkonde. Kyle Bell received a "Special award" for an outstanding diligence, perseverance and always being willing to help his peers.

Manager of Prosport International, Mike Makaab encouraged the students to work hard. "Nothing is impossible, be honest about yourself, be happy about yourself, do the best you can, do not let down people around you. Success means winning with integrity without selling your soul," advised Makaab.

Makaab added: "No profession is better than the other. Commitment is the vital ingredient, and when you wake up in the morning it needs to be with an unbelievable enthusiasm and passion for what you are doing in the workplace. Without the energy that these two ingredients combined produce, you can never succeed at what you are doing."

Aleck Skhosana donated R20 000 to Sport Studies. Skhosana said the future of the country is no longer with people of his age, but in young people and that this money should be used to buy library books for Sports Studies students.

Well known soccer personalities attending the event included: Mike Makaab (coach of the only South African team to win African Champions league, Orlando Pirates in 1995), Alpha Mchunu (SAFA, KZN), Steve Phiri (Prosport agent) and Aleck Skhosana (KZN Manager of Sports Academy).

## Student leader lands a job at SABC

Bhekani Dlamini

Former student leader at the Durban University of Technology Mthunzi Gumedede has landed a job at the SABC in Johannesburg. He is the producer of Kids News. The Kids news programme is broadcast every week day from 06h30 am on SABC1, Mzansi For Sho.

Born and educated in Durban, Gumedede is armed with a National Diploma and a subsequent BTech degree in Journalism, from the Durban University of Technology. A social activist, Gumedede has been actively involved in student politics, engaging the university on student issues. He has held different portfolios in student organisations, which include PRO and Durban Local Secretary of Student Representative Council, chairperson of Khasho Journalism Society, member of Black Management Forum, Secretary of SASCO, and recently an organiser in the ANC Youth League. His daily duties include identifying relevant, interesting, informative and educational news topics for children. He

has to brainstorm and research story ideas, visualise the story and make it as appealing as possible for children, conduct field, archive and other research, conduct interviews with both adults and children, follow developments and keep abreast of news. He also provides direction to camera operators and video editor, establish and maintain news networks and contacts and produces current affairs content in line with the SABC editorial code. He finds his work fascinating and enjoys every bit of it. His advice to fellow students: Create friends and strengthen your networks with relevant people. Otherwise, believe in yourself, you are the future and no one can stop you.

## Scene and Around

Melanie Lourens and Carol Smith conducting an outcomes-based learning exercise with students in the Department of Human Resource Management.



Photo: Supplied by the HR Department

## Journalism hosts poets

Sandile Gumedede

Internationally renowned poets Stephen Gray, Andrea Dondolo and Gary Cummiskey addressed Journalism students at a seminar held at City Campus, recently. The seminar formed part of Poetry Africa hosted by the Journalism Department and the Centre for Creative Arts.



Photo's: Thabiso Ndlovu

ABOVE: Andrea doing praise song  
BELOW: Poets being introduced to the students  
From left Stephen Gray, Gary Cummiskey, Andrea Dondolo and Monica Rorvic of the Center of the Creative Art with the poets.



Speaking to student journalists, Cummiskey said aspiring poets can publish their own works and that publishing doesn't have to be expensive. In 1994 Cummiskey launched Dye Hard Press which he confessed was the product of his frustrations for the lack of poetry publishing outlets in the country. He used company resources for his first collection, "I brought together 20 poems, typed them up on my computer at work, produced a simple cover, photocopied about 100 A4-sized copies, stapled them down the side, and there I had my first collection of poems, The Secret Hour, ready to hit the streets."

Poet and Praise singer, Andrea Dondolo, said the younger generation must not lose tradition because if they do, it will be like a tree without roots. Students went wild when she performed her poem "Beading my soul". The poem is a tribute to women with lines: "I sing praises to honour the storytellers of our nation, the ones who sing lullabies to restless sleepy children, teaching them and reminding us of our history".

Stephen Gray performed his poem "The Adoration of Kings" which is meant to pay tribute to the African wise man.



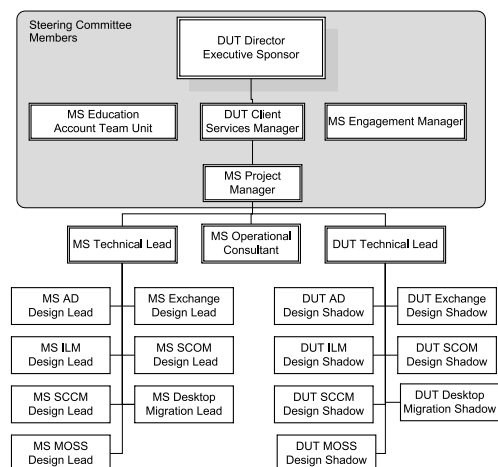
# People Ready Project



Durban University of Technology has made the strategic decision to implement a range of Microsoft solutions and technologies that will be business enablers for the organization's internal staff members as well as students. Through the implementation of these technologies Durban University of Technology will greatly simplify the collaboration and communication of its employees, be positioned to support a mobile and roaming workforce, while ensuring the security and protection of the organization's information and assets.

The vision statement for the project is "To design and provide a secure, flexible, adaptive, standardized directory authentication, messaging and systems management solution using the latest Microsoft technologies for the DUT community by the end of 2008"

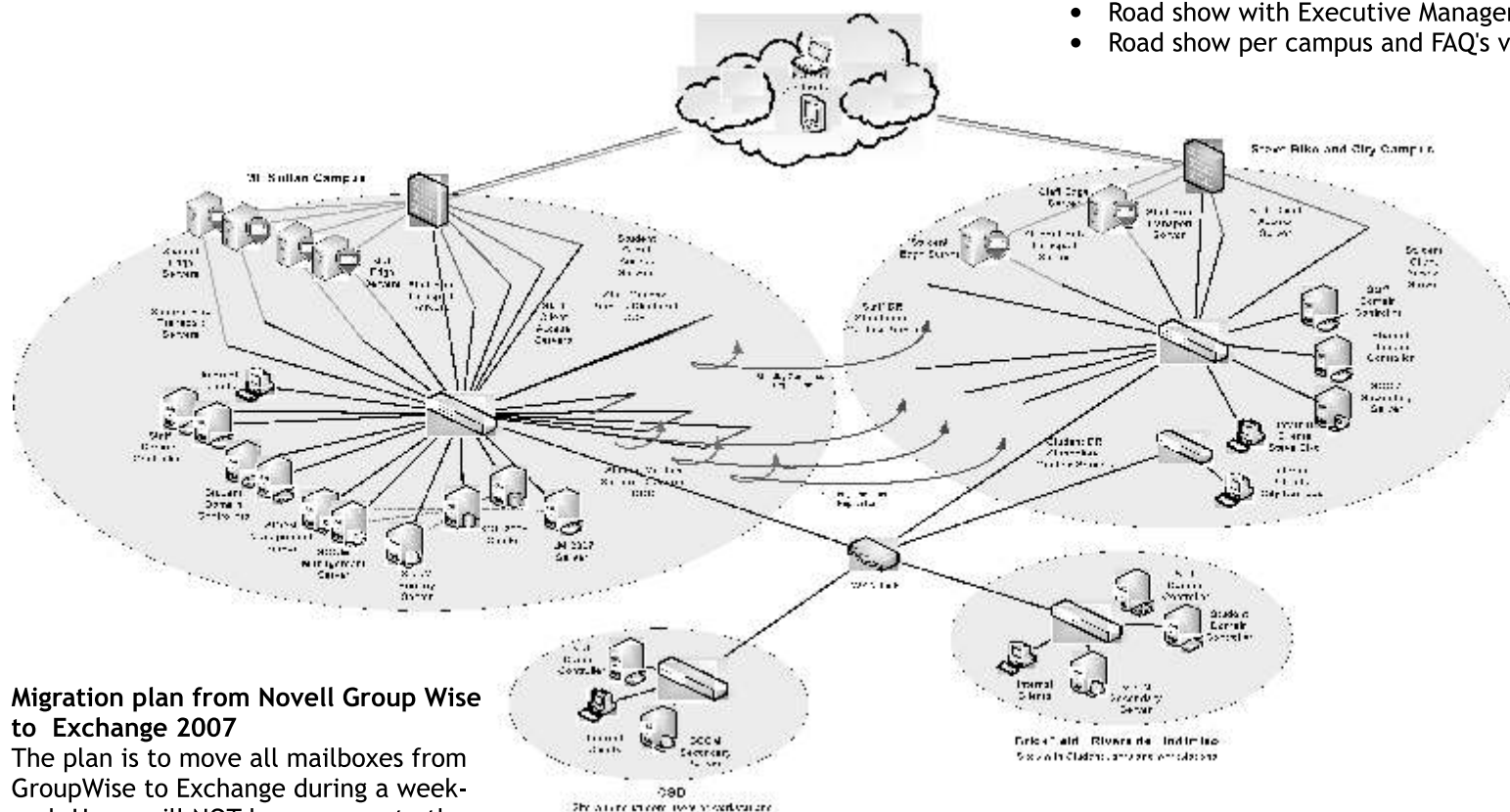
A number of Microsoft technologies were identified for inclusion in the platform infrastructure, these include:



## Proposed Environment

The new environment will consist of the core site being the ML Sultan campus with the Steve Biko campus the DR site. The City campus will connect (incorporated) to the Steve Biko site infrastructure due to the 54MB WAN connectivity. The other four campuses will be considered "branch office" sites hosting staff and student users and workstations with the exception of the CSD campus that does not contain student users or computers.

The following is a breakdown of server roles as initially envisioned in the environment:



## Migration plan from Novell Group Wise to Exchange 2007

The plan is to move all mailboxes from GroupWise to Exchange during a weekend. Users will NOT have access to the system during this period. Users will be given new logon credentials to access the Microsoft systems. All users will access Exchange via Outlook Web-Access (OWA). Once their desktop has been migrated, users will be able to use Outlook 2007 to access Exchange.

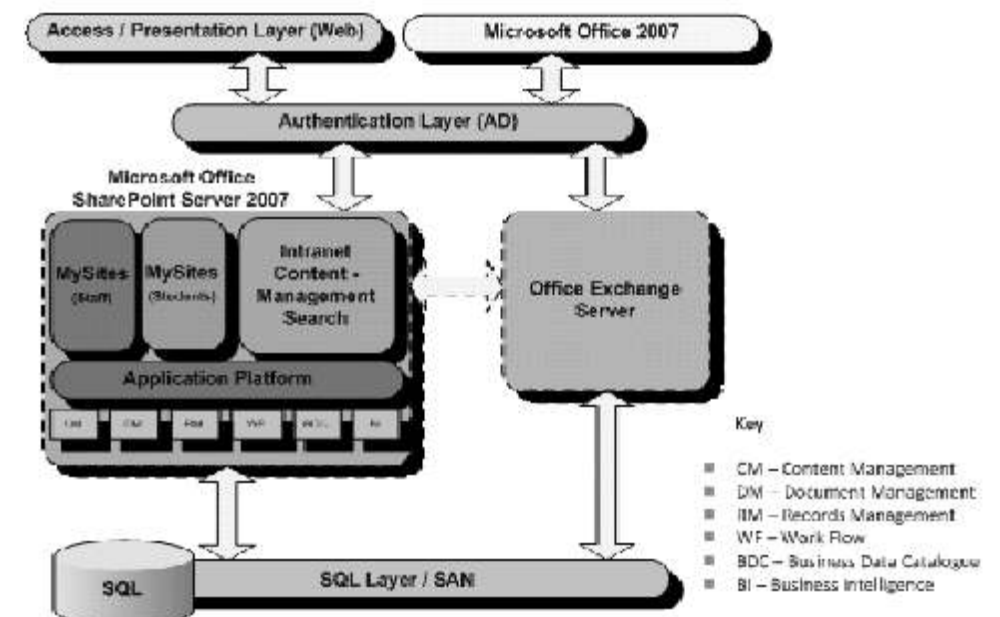
During the migration, an icon will be place on the desktop to migrate your GroupWise archive to an Outlook Personal Folder or PST to your local hard drive. Ideally, depending on the size of your archive, this process should be done after hours as it is an intense long process. Below are some questions and answers staff members may have.

## Concerns/Enquiries

All concerns and questions can be sent to the email address:  
[msproject@dut.ac.za](mailto:msproject@dut.ac.za)

More information can be obtained from the DUT Intranet: <http://dutportal>

## The new DUT Portal with Microsoft Office SharePoint Server 2007



Key deliverables for the portal: -

- student and staff My Sites
- Content Management
- Indexing Services

## Conceptual solution design

## Communication Strategy for the People Ready Project

The following communication strategy will be implemented to keep staff and students aware of the new technologies being implemented namely:-

- Workstation Prep and frequently asked questions ver. 1.01 Aug, Sept 2008
- Road show with Executive Management Aug 2008
- Road show per campus and FAQ's ver. 1.02 and 1.03 Sept, Oct 2008
- Training Material User Guide / Email Notifications / Intranet Awareness Sep, Oct, Nov 2008
- Pocket Guide for students will be made available: Jan 2009

## Implementation Dates for the People Ready Project

The projected implementation date for staff and students messaging system and the implementation of the new DUT portal, subject to lead times on hardware being delivered, are as follows: -

- Staff will be migrated during the months of November, December 2008 and January 2009
- Students will have access to the new email system and DUT Portal from January 2009 after registering as DUT Students
- The DUT Portal will be up and running during the month of November 2008.

Question	Answer
With what devices can I access my e-mail?	Office Laptop or Desktop, Smart Phone, PDA or any device with a web browser connected to the internet.
<b>Limits: Admin Staff</b> Mailbox Sending / Receiving Internet mail Sending / Receiving internal mail	Limit of 200MB, Warning at 150MB & Prohibit send at 175MB, prohibit send/receive at 200MB 4MB 100MB
<b>Limits: Academic Staff</b> Mailbox Sending / Receiving Internet mail Sending / Receiving internal mail	Limit of 300MB, Warning at 250MB & Prohibit send at 275MB, prohibit send/receive at 300MB 4MB 100MB
<b>Limits: HoD's &amp; Management</b> Mailbox Sending / Receiving Internet mail Sending / Receiving internal mail	Limit of 500MB, Warning at 400MB & Prohibit send at 450MB, prohibit send/receive at 500MB 4MB 100MB
<b>Limits: Students</b> Mailbox Sending / Receiving Internet mail Sending / Receiving internal mail	Limit of 50MB, Warning at 30MB & Prohibit send at 45 MB, prohibit send/receive at 50MB 4MB 10MB
Does Exchange support the ffg: Junk Mail, Rules, Signatures	Yes
What happens when my mailbox has reached my mailbox limits?	Once your mailbox is full, you will not be able to send or receive any new mail. The recipient sending new mail will receive a notification that your mailbox is full.
How do I access my mail from the outside?	<a href="http://mobile.dut.ac.za/">http://mobile.dut.ac.za/</a>
Will I be able to post messages on the Notice boards? eg. DUT Classifieds	No, this feature will not be available on Outlook. This feature will be moved to SharePoint Portal Services.
Will I lose any mail during the migration?	All precautions will be taken to minimize data loss.
What can I do to prevent any loss of mail?	Review mailboxes and archives. Delete mail that is no longer required. Large databases with mail are susceptible to corruption and therefore loss of mail.
What is the retention period of "on-line" mail before it gets archived?	45 days
What is the retention period for deleted mail in Trash?	7 days
When I send an e-mail, can I look at the properties and get a status update eg. Transferred, opened, deleted etc	Outlook does not provide status updates. You can, however request delivery receipts and /or read receipts. This will generate e-mails that will appear in your in-box.

# Education through art and poetry

Megan van den Heever

The annual Celebrate Durban Festival was taken to local schools this year in an initiative to educate learners on the importance of the festival's highlighted principles: Freedom, Joy and Celebration. The eThekweni municipality has partnered with human rights advocates Art for Humanity (AFH) in creating awareness of the values of freedom of expression to school children.

As an organisation promoting Human Rights through fine art and poetry, the joint AFH workshop is aimed at helping the learners recognise and take ownership of the human needs, traits and principles that form the basis of human rights.

The concept behind the Durban Municipality's collaboration with a human rights organisation came about in February 2008, when AFH initiated a schools project teaching the human rights through art in schools. The artworks used were various images from AFH's last project, 'Women for Children' where popular women artists such as Dina McCormick, Este McLeod and Louise Almon, and acclaimed poets such as Zandra Bezuidenhout, Myesha Jenkins and Khona Dlamini, collaborated to advocate their art against child abuse.

The partnership of the Celebrate Durban Festival hosted an art workshop in the schools that educated the learners in the value of art, such as; creativity, freedom of expression, personal authorship and accountability. The long-term goal of the project was ultimately to equip learners to incorporate these values into their day to day life.

The workshop featured Fine Art students from the Durban University of Technology, which was chosen to participate, as the DUT is recognised as a creatively driven institute that endorses the work of AFH. Several poets from the BAT Centre were also invited to facilitate the workshop. Together, these artists planned an exciting day of painting and poetry recitals for Addington Primary School, Durban Girls High, Durban Children's Home and Umthombo Children's home.

## Life skills

Due to a deep concern over the lack of basic kind behaviour and the occurrence of aggression in the playground, South African schools have expressed the need for nurturing and strengthening the declining moral values among a growing number of their pupils. Although a new curriculum was implemented in 2006, where Life Skills was to become an official subject for grades 10, 11 and 12, the surge of school violence is still a growing occurrence.

Zibuyile Ngwenya, a Grade 10 learner at Durban Girls High, thought that the life orientation class which was placed every three weeks in the school's timetable was insufficient for other learners.

"I think the billboards are a good initiative because there is violence happening in schools, and there are children who are dealing with issues at home, which are not being properly addressed by teachers."

In this regard, a need arose to educate human rights through art by helping the learners to recognise the values and principles embedded in the artwork and to relate these to their own beliefs and attitudes towards human rights, with the aim of inspiring their own quest for excellence in their lives.

In light of Women's month, the focus was on the celebration of women as well as their voice in society. Despite the many campaigns against women and child abuse in South Africa, the alarming statistic is that one in every three women will be raped in their lifetime and that children are exposed to sexual and physical abuse in their homes on a daily basis.



Photo: Megan van den Heever

Addington Primary Students with a creation based on diversity and unity

In the workshops, learners were requested to create artworks of images and poetry centered on women and children's rights. Children are naturally drawn to the arts as a form of expression and were creative in the concepts of rights and responsibilities.

"Children must have fun and enjoy their lives" said Nonhlanhla Davis, a learner from the Durban Children's Home, holding up her painting of "The Right to play" - a picture of a playground.

Another learner, Ntokozo Moya, stated "Children have the right to see the beauty of life."

The Celebrate Durban project was successful in developing artistic creativity and appreciation of the

arts, but also much needed creative and reflective thinking skills and confidence in self expression. The workshop also encouraged teachers to get involved with advocating serious matters through art by initiating the concept of freedom of expression "My artwork is about using my hands to help children. Every child has the right to education; a right to a teacher." said Mrs Moore, an art teacher at Durban Girls High

Over time, it is anticipated that the values and creative process of producing and reflecting on art - their own and that of professionals - will become part of the personality, thus influencing and enriching the character of the person, and in turn the quality of the community.

## Wellness Day for staff

The HR Benefits section is hosting a Wellness Day for staff members on Thursday, 20th November 2008 at Ritson Hall. The programme will commence at 9h00. Watch the DUT noticeboard for more information.

## Quotable Quote

"A success is one who decided to succeed... and worked.  
A failure is one who decided to succeed... and wished.  
A decided failure is one who failed to decide... and waited".

William Ward



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Theconduit@dut.ac.za or email the editor, raylene@dut.ac.za

## Disclaimer

The Communications Department strives to deliver accurate reporting and interesting stories, but cannot take responsibility for inaccurate information supplied. The views expressed are not necessarily those of the Corporate Affairs Division.



## DUT STARS

I would like to nominate the following as DUT Stars:

1. Kishore Sugreeb, Kelvin Maclou, Ruby Naidoo and the staff who man the Helpdesk. A big "Thank You" for your dedication and keeping me "online" whenever I call you.
2. The Secretaries in every department, in particular the Executive Secretaries for always assisting with meetings, when one is requested. You keep the show on the road . . .
3. A Star Award to all the Messengers and DUT Drivers, for collecting and delivering my documents. You guys are doing a swell job. Your efforts are not going unnoticed!

Connie van der Walt

The CQPA staff wishes to extend thanks to the following departments by nominating them as DUT STARS:

- Transport Services for unwavering support and assistance provided to Chairpersons and panel members for programme reviews.
- Printing for their overall support and for their commitment to ensuring tight deadlines are met.

The support from both these departments is much appreciated

The staff of the CQPA