

### Issue: 26 October 2009

#### From the Desk of the Executive Director: Corporate Affairs

Welcome to the first issue of What's Up @ DUT!

We have introduced another communication tool for DUT's internal stakeholders. The purpose is to ensure that you are continually kept up-to-date with what is going on in our university. This will ensure that we provide you with "fresh" news all the time as the ConDUiT is only published every second month.

With so many demands on our budget, and supporting the "global greening campaigns" digital is the way to go. Not only will we be saving a lot of trees as this publication goes paperless, but we are also doing our bit to contribute towards nature conversation.

For the ConDUiT lovers, do not despair. We will still produce the ConDUiT but at less frequent intervals.

This is a pilot project until the end of 2009. Your views and opinions are welcomed. We look forward to hearing from you.

Regards

*Nomonde Mbadi*

#### Proposed Sustainable Development Hub at DUT - Invitation to Participate

The Durban University of Technology's (DUT) Department of Town Planning has proposed the implementation of a Sustainable Development Hub at Steve Biko Campus.

Town Planning HOD, Alan Hansen said the technical study aims to showcase DUT through facilitating education and research on-site, reducing transport and other logistical costs, better securing equipment, and enabling easy monitoring. The core will encompass a water system which will simulate a natural system with constantly flowing water in drainage channels. The water will pass through retention ponds bordered by appropriate terrestrial and aquatic vegetation, for study by students, staff and possibly other interested parties. Water will be pumped from the lowest point of the system, to the top of the campus to keep a constantly flowing system.

Hansen said: "The purpose of the water system is to provide a physical, living experiment to facilitate and focus interdisciplinary and cross-field education, research, training, innovation, invention, publication and community outreach that is sustainable and practical." He said the department aims to include disciplines from all faculties including non-academic departments with the growth and maintenance of the project. The proposed study will include areas such as environmental conservation, eco-tourism, renewable energy, water and waste management.

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engineering issues, health concerns, commerce applications.

“DUT has allocated R2 million as seed funding for the preparation of the detailed proposal in order to obtain funding and support from the private and corporate sector. The estimated cost for the implementation of the project is in the region of R20 million. Further research will be conducted to provide full costs for the project’s long term maintenance. We are also in the process of setting up a website dedicated to this project, however the projects development can be monitored through the institution’s website” , said Hansen.

He said the project is in its early stages of development and participation of academics and non academics in the preparation of the final proposal is welcomed.

For more information e-mail: [hansena@dut.ac.za](mailto:hansena@dut.ac.za)

### **DUT hosts Formula One Challenge**

The Durban University of Technology’s (DUT) Industrial Engineering Department will host KwaZulu-Natal’s (KZN) first Formula One racing challenge in 2010 in conjunction with Sangari SA, one of South Africa’s leading engineering manufacturing and education solution companies. The DUT F1 Race Challenge will be run in accordance to the international criteria that is currently being adopted by the UK based F1 In Schools competition.

Industrial Engineering lecturer and event co-ordinator, Ranil Singh said the competition will be open to all maths, science and technology students from schools, Further Education and Training (FET) colleges and universities across KZN. DUT will hold its race presentation day on 23 November 2009 at Fred Crookes Sport Centre, Steve Biko Campus. Keen schools will be provided with a detailed breakdown of the competition criteria. The regional competition will showcase students’ skills in areas such as design, analysis, manufacturing, testing, racing and communication abilities on a 20m race track.

The competition is open to all students between the ages of 11 and 18, scholars are requested to enter as a team. The team that builds the fastest gas powered race car will be awarded with a grand prize at the 2010 DUT F1 Race Challenge Awards ceremony and will go onto participate against other provincial winners at the national finals. Winners from the different categories will participate in the International F1 In Schools Competition to be held in Singapore in 2010.

Singh said: “The DUT F1 Race Challenge is still in its infancy. However, the Department of Industrial Engineering has adopted this venture as a long term sustainable community development project. We are currently looking for sponsorships from the corporate and private sector to help kickoff the schools competition. The race challenge is geared to help learners understand technology and implement the knowledge that is made available to them with the ultimate aim of increasing the number of science and engineering students at tertiary institutions across the country.”

He said: “This, in broader terms, will contribute to the development of the scarce skills in South Africa in future. Ideally we would like entrants who possess the aptitude for design and manufacture to follow in the footsteps of DUT alumnus, Gordon Murray, designer of the McLaren race car. This is a unique opportunity for our department to help hone and perfect the skills of future leaders in engineering and science. He said the competition will also expose learners to different skills that will be necessary in the designing, drawing, fund-raising, marketing and the manufacturing process of their vehicles.”

For more information please visit [www.sangari.co.za](http://www.sangari.co.za).

- Karishma Ganpath

### **IT Awards**

Durban University of Technology (DUT) Information Technology (IT) students were rewarded for their academic performance at a glamorous awards ceremony held earlier this month at the

**DUT celebrates its secretaries**

**Nazareth youth give thanks to DUT**

**Student Counselling and Health commemorate women**

**DUT library’s Women’s Day display**

**World of Work careers fair**

**Tourism students**

**Academic supervisors**

**Danny R passes building trade test at the age of 56**

**Farewell for Library and Information Studies students**

**Sport Studies Awards**

**DUT stars**

Mansfield Hall, Ritson Campus.

Speaking at the event IT HoD, Fathima Khan, congratulated the awardees on their achievements. "May you continue to pursue excellence in all that you do, set lofty goals, persevere through adversity and above all, be sure to leave yourself open to the wonderful, unexpected opportunities that await you", she said.

Guest speaker, Robynne Erwin, Smart Exchange CEO and ICT 2009 Person of the Year, said: "As students you should utilize the skills gained in your studies to resolve problems faced by our country to the benefit of our society. Access to technology has become evasive and it is up to you to come up with better ideas on how we can change this in form of e-learning and other ways available", she added.

Erwin encouraged students to become entrepreneurs in the field of IT and motivated them to use innovation when building their reputation in the industry.

Students were presented with laptops, data projectors, book vouchers, memory sticks and gift bags. Sponsors included the department of Technology, Innovation and Partnership (TIP), Aviva Systems and Dimension Data, Microsoft, Unilever and AlBaraka Bank.

- Thobile Myeni

### **Post Graduate Research Project in Verulam**

Theloshni Govender, a Masters of Technology researcher from the Department of Food and Nutrition Consumer Sciences has undertaken a study on the analysis of the nutritional status and dietary intake patterns of the elderly at the Verulam Day and Frail Care Centre in Kwa Zulu Natal.

To celebrate World Food Day on 7 October 2009, Theloshni as part of her research community contribution organized a programme for the elderly at the Verulam Day and Frail Care Centre with the theme of Food Security. She was guided by her research supervisor and senior lecturer Dr Carin Napier from the Food and Nutrition Consumer Sciences Department. Three final year National Diploma: Consumer Science: Food and Nutrition students assisted with the community project which involved education relating to food security and a healthy lifestyle. These students also baked 400 cupcakes which were thoroughly enjoyed by the elderly.

The outcome of the programme was to create awareness regarding food security amongst the elderly community to enable them to sustain themselves by growing, selling and trading vegetables with other members of the Verulam Day Care Centre. A variety of vegetable seeds were distributed to the elderly to promote an activity at home and for food security. The elderly were encouraged to take part in a food and nutrition quiz, where the winning team, iApula, with a top score of 10/ 12 won nutritious hampers sponsored from Theloshni's post graduate research funds.

During the student's discussions with the elderly, questions were asked relating to food security and healthy lifestyle living and provided the elderly with a chance to win great prizes. A dance competition was the perfect finale to end a spectacular learning experience for the elderly which entertained and encouraged them to be active.



**Caption:** Elderly people enjoying cup of tea and cakes.

- Supplied

### **TV show host celebrates with DUT ladies**

DUT Gender Forum hosted SABC 3 TV show host Noleen Maholwana-Sangqu when they celebrated Women's Day this year. About 20 ladies were fettered and treated to an extraordinary day of care as part of this year's Woman's Day Celebration held at the Suncoast Casino.

Organised by one of the country's leading event co-ordinators, Inseason Events, the function was definitely a day to remember. Guests got the opportunity to engage with the beautiful and savvy

talk show host in the country. On arrival, delegates were treated to a special massage.

Maholwana-Sangqu had more than 120 ladies from various companies rocking and rolling when she took to the stage to the beat of "Mamma Temba's Getting Married Tonight."

Valuable advice on financial planning, fashion, make-up and food were just some of the items on the programme. The vivacious TV personality spoke candidly about challenges and issues facing women in both the workplace and home.

"It took me a couple years to realise who I was and what I'm capable of achieving.

"And the reason it took me so long was that very often we are told by other people what they think we are good at," added Maholwana-Sangqu.

Maholwana-Sangqu advised women that they should listen to their instincts and most importantly believe in themselves. "You are a confident person. Believe in yourself."

Adding extra panache to the event, a presentation on image makeover offered some useful tips on how women can choose the correct clothing to fit their body types.

Honey Jewellery also displayed their beautiful accessories. The celebration culminated in a scrumptious breakfast spread. "Fit for a queen," remarked one lady who went pass.



The fabulous function ended on a good note when each lady received a 'goody bag' containing jewellery, toiletries and vouchers.

**Caption:** From left Joyce Naicker, Ranilla Pillay, Noelene Maholwana-Sangqu (SABC 3 Talk show Presenter) and Rina Haripersad

- Maleni Thakur

### **A book on Bandanas Beyond Borders**

National Bandana Day was celebrated across the country this month in recognition of the struggle leukemia sufferers' face on a daily basis. Celebrations are held annually on October 14 with the aim of boosting the morale of cancer patients, as well as raising funds urgently needed for tissue typing more donors. The day also commemorates the lives lost to the fight against the dreaded blood disorder.

The South African based Sunflower Fund is an organization manufacturing bandanas which are sold in sub-campaigns around the country to raise funds for research, cancer treatment and medical procedures.

In 2008, Durban University of Technology's (DUT) Department of Fashion and Textile students won the Sunflower Fund competition after they manufactured and sold 250 000 bandanas in an effort to raise funds for the national campaign.

In support of the initiative this year, DUT launched a book titled *Bandanas Beyond Borders* at the Brickfield campus on National Bandana Day. The book project is a joint effort from the Centre for Research Capacity Development (CRCD), Postgraduate Development and Support, and the Department of Fashion and Textile.

Penned by Fashion and Textile lecturer, Mark Pywell, the book encapsulates the motivation for its publishing as well as undergraduate students' research, design and images of bandanas manufactured by DUT students. "It makes me very proud that the bandana book project has come to fruition. It's lovely to see one's own work in print," said Pywell.

Addressing DUT's academic community at the book launch, Prof Annelie Jordaan (acting DVC: Technology Innovation and Partnerships), congratulated the Fashion and Textile Department for their feat

She said: "We are here to launch this publication while highlighting the humanitarian cause that draws attention to the holistic nature of education offered by DUT. I am particularly pleased that undergraduate students are exposed to some elements of research while participating in this project. This is important as it lays the foundation for students to progress seamlessly to higher degree studies."

The publishing of the book proved that the initiative sowed the seeds of critical thinking through the intervention of research.

George Vorster, Fashion and Textile HOD, said the book launch was a proud achievement for both the department and the students who worked tirelessly on the project. "The print on the fabric used for the bandanas were uniquely designed and printed by students. A very big thank you to all involved in making the bandana project a success."

Faculty of Arts and Design Executive Dean, Dr Kenneth Netshiombo said: "This programme has been doing wonders all the time and it makes me feel we are doing the right thing. There is no small or big project; it is the impact that matters. This is a humble beginning and a first step towards bigger things to come".

CRCD Director and editor of the book, Prof Gansen Pillay, coordinated the book's design and was responsible for the catchy title. He said: "Being diagnosed with leukemia is an emotional experience, the patient's entire life changes. It is our job to see people develop and this book is an attempt to capture that spirit. This book is a small beginning of a number of publications to come."



**Pictured:** Celebrating the launch of *Bandanas Beyond Borders* is DUT Fashion and Textile lecturer, Mark Pywell with his third year students.

- Bhekani Dlamini

### **DIFF celebrates 100 years of Electric Cinema in Durban**

The Durban International Film Festival (DIFF) recently celebrated its 30<sup>th</sup> milestone in style presenting over 200 screenings at 27 venues across the district. The public session titled: From the Manuscripts of Timbuktu to the 100 Years of Electric Cinema in Durban, consisted of a panel which included film directors such as Zola Maseko, Cherif Keita and Durban University of Technology (DUT) lecturer, Dr Mikhail Peppas. The opening event was held at the city's Royal Hotel.

Durban's first film theatre, the Electric Cinema, opened on 29 July, 1909. This cinema once stood in Pixley Kaseme Street opposite the City Hall where the Medwood Gardens now stands. The following year a cinema reserved for "coloureds" exclusively, was created.

Information stored on micro-film at Durban's oldest newspaper, *The Mercury*, and Durban's architectural repositories indicate that activities surrounding film making in South Africa led directly to the use of news reels as propaganda tools. These were used to motivate support during World War 2. These documents also reveal the political and cultural environment and the segregation and integration of communities. However, little has been documented about these cinemas.

Dr Peppas said: "South Africans only became fully aware of film making during Britain's war propaganda efforts to smear the Afrikaners in the Anglo-Boer War (1899-1902) and the Spion Kop war. These formally introduced the trend of film making which focused primarily on war films, propaganda films and the news reel."

On the topic of the contemporary South African film industry, Maseko and Keita said internationally funded films predominantly focused on strife and famine and a need existed to produce films which focused on preserving African culture, heritage and encouraged the spirit of Ubuntu.

- Hlumelo Nyikana

### **DUT praised for being a good Samaritan**

The Durban University of Technology has praised a second year sports management student for returning a lost set of keys belonging to a lecturer.

Nqobile Makhathini has been described by Rekha Maniram, part time lecturer at the Department of Chartered Institute of Secretaries who had lost her car keys, as a restorer of hope.

Maniram had forgotten her keys in the door of her car which was parked at ML Sultan Campus before she rushed off to a lecture. Makhathini saw the keys hanging unattended on the vehicle door and handed them to the Stores Department. Hans Mbambo, stores clerk, advised Makhathini to leave a note on Maniram's car to inform her where to find her keys.

Maniram said she was frantic and absolutely clueless when she realised that she had lost her car keys with the possibility of losing her car. She said Makhathini's good morals would take him a long way in life. She offered him a reward which he immediately turned down.

Makhathini said he just wanted to do the right thing and did not expect to be rewarded or praised about his good deed. He said he was aware of the inconvenience of losing a car after his mother was hijacked and wanted to prevent the owner of the keys from going through a similar ordeal.

Maniram applauded Makhathin for his integrity. "I truly admire him for his honesty and responsibility and it felt great to know there are still honest people out there."

- Londiwe Buthelezi

### **Miss DUT Inter-Res Beauty Pageant**

The Durban University of Technology recently held its glamorous Miss DUT Inter-Res Beauty Pageant at the Fred Crookes Sport Centre, on Steve Biko campus. Rowenna Leonard, first-year Small Business Management student from Hamphon residence, was crowned queen.

Students from 16 DUT residences competed for the Inter-Res title on 14 August, 2009. The event was organised and co-ordinated by the Student Central Housing Committee in conjunction with the Central Housing Forum and the Student Housing Department to promote interactions among students of difference residences.

Leonard, one of ten semi finalists, was dressed in a sequinned cream sari which enhanced her flawless beauty and her celebrity smile. Leonard did not address the crowd as she was overcome with emotion when she was announced as the winner. In an interview with the Conduit, she said she was very happy to be walking away with the grand title and thanked all her fans, family and friends for their continuous support throughout the different stages of the competition. The title of first princess went to Stratford Resident, Sthandiwe Hadebe and the third princess title was awarded to Alpine Resident, Palesa Malana.

Residence Life co-ordinator, Sthuthukile Mashabane, said she was very pleased with the outcome and success of the event.

Students attending the event were entertained by pop group Malini, Kwaito musicians, Teargas and local DJs.

### **Library database competition**

In an attempt to promote the use of the Compendex Database, the Engineering Subject Librarian, David Thomas, hosted a competition for Engineering staff and students at DUT, inviting them to post a slogan or blurb that would capture the essence of the database on a blog.

Thomas feels that using communication tools and strategies that learners are comfortable with, is an effective way of taking learning to the student in a social, non-threatening environment.

Thomas is featured with some of the winners of the competition, each of whom received 2gig memory sticks. Other participants also received promotional gifts. For more information about the database, please contact Thomas (x2356) or visit: <http://www.engineeringvillage2.com>

### **HIV/AIDS Centre and Future Life assist poverty stricken children**

DUT's HIV/Aids Centre in partnership with Future Life has assisted disadvantaged children from the Balindi Welfare Hospice in Inanda – it donated ten cartons of Future Life porridge which helps boost the immune system.

The HIV/Aids VCT counsellor, Nkosiyazi Ngaba, said "As part of the Nelson Mandela drive, we decided to focus on helping alleviate the problems found within poor communities. Future Life helped us by sponsoring the porridge."

Future Life is a South African company which provides health solutions. The immune boosting meal is made from micronised soya and maize which contains a rich cocktail mixture of vitamins and minerals, protein and Moducare. These powerful immune stabilisers work together to help fight illnesses.

The Head of Counsellors at DUT's HIV/Aids Centre, Mam Z, stresses, "Helping the community and promoting a healthy lifestyle to people should become a culture in South Africa.

"We are grateful for Future Life's contribution and we also hope to instil the values of giving back to the community which has in some way or other shaped our lives."

DUT's HIV/Aids Centre appeals to everyone to continue to strive for the betterment of all communities in South Africa.

- Hlumelo Nyikana

### **Open source the way to go**

DUT subject librarian, Joyce Myeza, recently completed her Masters Degree with distinction in Library and Information Science at Boston's Simmons College in the USA. She received a Fulbright Scholarship which sponsored her studies.

Myeza is a subject librarian for both the Faculties of Management Sciences and Accounting and Informatics at the DUT Library, on the ML Sultan Campus.

"I am grateful that my Masters degree equipped me with Open Source and Information Technology skills relevant to my job. While studying in the USA, I developed a love for writing and started writing scholarly papers to apply the knowledge gained," says Myeza.

As part of her Masters Degree studies, she was impressed with what open source can do. Open source is a development method for software that harnesses the power of distributed peer review and transparency of process. She believes open source should be driven in South Africa as it has a lot of beneficial advantages. She says open source is convenient to use because it has open community, which is self help service, adding that open community assists in skills transfer and allows users to learn at their own pace.

She later attended the ESARBICA conference in Namibia where she presented a paper on a practical guide of digitising and using open source. After attending an International Federation of Library Association meeting in Canada, she assisted with the web page design for the section of the organisation's Africa page.

A busy and emerging scholar destined for serious academic business, Myeza attended a leadership seminar in New Mexico in 2008 and again in 2009. She was part of the SATN conference held recently in Cape Town. She is also attending an IFI A conference in Italy in

August this year.

Myeza is the mother of three and has a supportive husband. She says she would not have successfully completed her studies without his support. She also wants to thank the DUT community for all their support and most importantly God Almighty for what she has achieved thus far.

- Bhekani Dlamini

### **Maritime students cruise around the harbour**

DUT first year Maritime students were recently invited by the Transnet National Port's Authority (TNPA) to attend a workshop on board the Isiponono harbour ferry.

Isiponono is an isiZulu word meaning beautiful women.

The workshop consisted of a slide show presentation by the acting port engineer, Mazwi Mdletshe. This presentation gave the students insight into the projects currently underway to expand Durban's port.

Students heard that the Durban Port performs a critical role within the city of Durban. It services its own industrial and commercial region being the second largest in the country. Other interesting facts were that Durban is rated as the busiest port in South Africa; and is home to the largest container terminal in the southern hemisphere, handling at least 67.4 percent of the total number of containers going through South African ports. Also, the Durban Car Terminal is the largest import and export facility for the South African motor industry.

Mdletshe said: "We have taken four DUT interns and they are currently situated at the port assisting staff."

The first year students were accompanied by the Maritime lecturers Mr Leon Govender, Mr Crispin Camp and Mr Damir Turkovic, who between them have at least 30 years of working experience at sea.

"The aim of this class excursion is to not only expose the students to their future work-environment, but to also visualise and conceptualise some of the concepts taught in subjects such as Sea Transport. It also gives students insight into the future expansion of the Port of Durban and with expansion comes career opportunities not only with Transnet, but within the broader maritime sector," said Govender

After the presentation the students were allowed to explore and ask questions.

Maritime student Kyle Floris said: "I found this trip to be really informative. I learnt what Transnet is about and I got to see ships. I am really excited about the career path that I have chosen because I would love to travel the world and to be out there, at sea."

The staff and students would like to thank Transnet National Ports Authority for making this day possible and hopefully this becomes an annual event for the Maritime Studies Department.

- Hlumelo Nyikana

### **Eshowe High School visits DUT**

The Department of Food and Nutrition Consumer Sciences hosted Grade 12 pupils and their teacher, Mrs Fiona Upfold, from Eshowe High School for a pastry demonstration recently.



The students learnt how to make puff pastry demonstrated by Mrs Rosemary Bremner, a Senior lecturer in the department. Many won delicious bottled products made by first year Food and Nutrition students for correctly answering questions related to the pastry demonstration.

The students were also given a career talk highlighting the different career options available to those who have studied the ND: Consumer Science: Food and Nutrition. This was followed by a three- course lunch in DUT's Rendezvous restaurant, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all!



According to Sue Vermeer, HoD: Food and Nutrition Consumer Sciences, "It was a pleasure hosting such well mannered and appreciative school learners."

**Caption:** The Grade 12 students at Eshowe High School, getting ready to enter the world of cooking.

### **DUT celebrates its secretaries**

DUT honoured all its secretaries on Secretary's Day.

Programme Co-ordinator for the event was Anusha Karamchand – Convenor for the DUT Secretarial Forum – and the function was jointly hosted by DUT's Division of Corporate Affairs and the Secretarial Forum.

The celebration acknowledged secretaries across all seven campuses for the role they play in bringing about a good image of the institution. The university was pleased to host a guest secretary from UKZN – Ms Priscilla Sithole.

"Secretaries are like flowers of any company . . . you are the face of this institution," said Professor Roy du Pré, Vice-Chancellor and Principal of DUT. Professor du Pré stressed the importance of secretaries at DUT saying that they worked timelessly for the smooth running of every department.

The university was aware of the intense workload secretaries had, which is why they wanted to make sure that the time they spend at work was enjoyable. "That third of your day you spend at work has a great impact on the other two thirds of your day and that is why I believe it should be satisfying," he said.

Anand Jithoo, a motivational speaker and founder of Anand Jithoo's Academy of Motivation, Leadership and Trading, agreed with Professor du Pré saying that as the face of the institution, the secretaries have a great impact in sustaining the university's good image. Jithoo suggested a new name for the secretaries, saying they should be called administration relations executives. He said "admin relations executives" should be celebrated everyday. "You are the runners of this institution. We must respect you everyday."

The executive director of the Division of Corporate Affairs, Nomonde Mbadi, also expressed the same feeling saying that more appreciation should be shown towards secretaries. "I want you to know that we appreciate and love you . . . as front line contacts of the university you play a big role in carrying out this brand."

Mbadi acknowledged that most of DUT secretaries were mothers, but that did not compromise the quality of work they delivered. She said it was appreciated that they juggled their work with their family commitments and sometimes put their work first. "You are the faces of DUT. Let's carry out this brand with pride and passion, no matter how much burden we carry in our departments."

Mbadi also did a roadshow for her Division. All sectors within her division gave a talk on services that they provide to the DUT community. Ms Bernadette Tyler, an Image Consultant from

Fabulous You gave a talk on how to be confident.

- Londiwe Buthelezi

### **Nazareth youth give thanks to DUT**

DUT's Nazareth Tertiary Students Association (NTSA) visited Milena Court on the Steve Biko Campus recently to give thanks to the Vice-Chancellor and Principal, Professor Roy du Pré, presenting him with a traditional prayer mat and painting of their holy mountain, *Inhlangakazi*.

This occasion was held to celebrate the decision made by DUT to abolish exams held on a Saturday. Saturdays are holy days for the Nazareth church.

Former NTSA Treasurer, Melusi Mlotshwa said: "We thank you for the time that you have taken listening to us from last year about the problems that we were facing and for solving them."

After receiving the gift from Mlotshwa, Professor du Pré gave his thanks to the association. "Thank you for this lovely gift. Here at DUT we always strive to maintain equality for our students, whether in education, race, gender or religion and so, when NTSA approached us with this issue, we soon realised that we must fix this problem immediately.

"I am glad that DUT has been able to help NTSA. To all our students: Be the best that you can be, especially when you write your examinations and don't add to the problems that South Africa has to face but rather be the solution."

The SRC president, Mandla Shange, was also present and he gave thanks to the students for being there, saying: "Thank you DUT for accommodating and recognising everyone as we are from diverse cultural backgrounds."

Members from the NTSA, wearing colourful traditional attire, concluded the events with songs of fellowship and prayer filling Steve Biko and Ritson Campuses with inspirational sounds.

- Hlumelo Nyikana and Nokuthula Biyase

### **Student Counselling and Health commemorate women**

DUT's Student Counselling and Health recently held a Women's Day celebration at the Cane Growers Hall at the ML Sultan Campus. This occasion, arranged by Public Relations (PR) intern, Miss Derona Naidoo, presented poetry and entertainment in honour of all mothers, sisters, aunts and grandmothers.

The Women's Day event began with a warm welcome by the Head of Student Counselling and Health, Mrs Naseem Haniff. Then the fun activities began with an exciting line-up of singers and poetry performers. The poetry competition was judged by Communications Lecturer, Mrs Barbara Maude-Stone.

The top three winners read out their poems which brought great inspiration to the audience. The three winners were Thobekile Mkhwanazi, Lwazi Treasure Ntshangase and Vuyisile Ngcobo. They were given sponsored prizes from Aspen and Edgars Red Square.

Said Mrs Maude-Stone: "I reviewed the poems according to their quality and relevance to the theme. Miss Mkwanazi won first prize because of her creative usage of imagery, I found that quite impressive. Overall, the quality of poetry received from students was incredibly high."

As part of Naidoo's Work Integrated Learning (WIL), she was given an opportunity to showcase her events' co-ordination skills. This event took long hours to carefully plan and execute in style. "It really was a lot of work. Luckily, my PR course focuses thoroughly on organising successful events and so, I wasn't unprepared for this.

"This was a truly amazing day. Everything came into place. Though, I have to admit that this wouldn't have been successful if I didn't have support from staff members at Student Counselling

and Health. Also, I'd like to thank Communications Lecturer, Mrs Barbara Maude-Stone," said Naidoo

- Hlumelo Nyikana

### **DUT library's Women's Day display**

Management and staff of the BM Patel Library at DUT's ML Sultan Campus set up a display in honour of Women's Day.

The display featured among others Winnie Madikizela-Mandela, Lilian Ngoyi, Helen Joseph, Phyllis Naidoo, Albertina Sisulu, Dorothy Nyembe, Valliamma Moodaly, Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, and Ela Gandhi, who is also DUT's Chancellor.

Themed "Women and Men United to End Violence Against Women and Girls", the other section of the display featured faces of a number of men including the country's first democratic president, Nelson Mandela.

This year's theme acknowledges that while significant progress has been achieved in the advancement of women, South African still face a number of challenges in gender equality.

The Library's Abel Moses said he and the library staff wanted to encourage other men to make a contribution in honouring and celebrating the nation's women. "Without a woman, nothing is complete and behind every successful man there is a woman who provides support."

Every year the display is set up at the BM Patel library for the whole Women's Month and according to Moses it gets better each year. He said that with a helping hand from library manger, Siza Radebe; Roy Raju; the Photographic Department; Nontobeko Ntombela from DUT's Art gallery and Lungile Magoso he trusts the display will improve beyond limits in years to come.

- Londiwe Buthelezi

### **World of Work careers fair**

The Department of Co-operative Education hosted World of Work (WOW), an annual careers exhibition where students get to interact with different companies.

The exhibition that took place at DUT's Ritson Hall helps many DUT graduates secure good positions with reputable organisations.

The Co-operative Education Department organises, co-ordinates and facilitates the exhibition in an effort to promote interaction between companies and students and this year, over 45 companies participated to support their course.

Among the companies that committed themselves to a long term partnership with DUT were Whirlpool, which is taking six students from Engineering, Finance, Information Technology (IT) and HR in their graduate trainee programme. They only take students from DUT because they believe they meet the standard required by their company.

"Students from DUT are top class," said Geoffrey Zulu, the Human Resource manager at Whirlpool. Zulu said their seven-year relationship with DUT had assisted them in employment equity policies and in moving the company forward. Whirlpool was the major sponsor of the exhibition, giving away a refrigerator and a chest freezer to winners of their quiz competition.

Toyota talents manager, Travis Cairns said they are also very happy and satisfied with their working relationship with DUT. Toyota's graduate trainee programme began in 2003 recruiting 50 students every year. This year 70% of these trainees are from DUT and Cairns said they are looking forward to working with even more DUT students next year. Toyota is also sponsoring the university through their Corporate Social Investment (CIS) programme.

Another company which plans to take students through their graduate trainee programmes or in-service training is Apollo, formerly known as Dunlop, which currently has six interns, all from DUT. Afrox, Eskom, Hulamin, Tongaat Hulett Sugar and Transnet also showcased their trainee programmes, pledging to take engineering, finance, marketing, HR, IT and students with scarce skills such as property valuation and environmental health.

Meanwhile, other companies including Eskom, the Department of Labour, the Department of Defence, and eThekweni and Umsunduzi municipalities had bursaries on offer.

The selection of companies invited covered careers in all programmes offered by DUT across the university's six faculties thus giving every final year and post-graduate student a company to relate to.

- Londiwe Buthelezi

### **Tourism students**

First year Tourism students were given an assignment in which they had to conduct research on hospitality and tourism services in foreign countries.



Disneyland: Students were Roshelle Govender, Laryn Vahed, Wade Norton (back) and Dhirasha Mahabeer.



Singapore: Students were Zondo Sbusiso, Mange Charmaine, Chiliza Morgan, Sabelo Vilakazi, and Nana Mkhabela (left-front), Panki Madia (right-front).

### **Academic supervisors**

The Postgraduate Development and Support Directorate applauded DUT supervisors for their effortless hard-work.



**Pictured from left:** Dr Marie de Beer; Dr Poobie Govender; Ms Anisa Vahed; Ms Nicky Muller; Prof Darren Lortan; Prof Annelie Jordaan; Dr Dhiren Allopi

### **Danny R passes building trade test at the age of 56**

Danny Ramana, fondly known as Danny R to his colleagues, is proud of many achievements in his life. One of them is passing a government trade test and qualifying as a building artisan at

the age of 56. He has also played a significant role in completing the structural work of the Steve Biko bust at Freedom Square which stands as a monument today. He thanks DUT's Skills Development Department for affording him this opportunity. Mr Ramana works in the Maintenance Department.

#### **Farewell for Library and Information Studies students**

Final year Library and Information Studies students recently held a workshop and a farewell function to end their academic year on a good note. The workshop was intended to provide them with advice on how to conduct themselves when they go into the real world. They were also taught interview skills and how to maintain a good discipline in the workplace and how to work in a team. A speaker was invited to motivate students. Third-year student, Nosipho Sibisi, says the workshop provided her with planning, organising, control and monitoring skills. She also sang a solo as part of entertainment for the farewell function. Ms Pam Rakoma co-ordinated the function.



**Pictured:** Some of Library and Information Studies students are Letsabisa Lerotholi, Slindokuhle Ndwandwe, Briget Ngidi, Nosipho Sibisi and Nondalo Biyela

#### **Sport Studies Awards**

**Pictured:** L-R Prof Roy du Pré, Phakamile Mthembu (Bursary Award Winner), Lunga Ntuli (Special Award Winner) and Alex Skhosana at the Sport Studies Awards in DUT's Hotel School.



#### **DUT stars**

Paul Bindha of Procurement and Stores and Neetham Dabideen of Finance are named DUT stars for going an extra mile in helping the Division of Corporate Affairs.

Photographs are supplied by Audio Visual. Other images are supplied by departments and DUT staff.

Kindly send your articles to Bhekani Dlamini on email: [bhekanid@dut.ac.za](mailto:bhekanid@dut.ac.za)

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