

Editorial

Phew! What a year 2022 has been! It's not surprising that 'load shedding' has been declared 2022's word of the year. The year has also seen a significant interest rate hike cycle, with all five meetings of SA Reserve Bank's Monetary Policy Committee resulting in increases. The cycle started off with a 25basis points hike last November (2021), taking the repo rate to 4.75%. By September 2022 we were sitting at 6.25% – a 250bp climb in just 12 months. We all know the trickledown effect of these increases on prices but we take solace in the fact that, South Africa is not alone in the mud. At the time of writing this, The Bank of England had just issued a warning that the United Kingdom (UK) is facing its longest recession since records began a century ago. The UK economy contracted by 0.2% in the third quarter of 2022, signaling what could be the start of a long recession.

In other more pleasant developments, the stride towards 4IR continues. From the CSIR assuming its role as host of South Africa's Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution (C4IR South Africa) in 2021, to The Deputy Minister of Higher Education, Science and Innovation, Mr Buti Manamela who launched a Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR) Micro-Laboratory at Goldfields TVET College on in November 2022. Even the African Union (AU) has embraced the Fourth Industrial Revolution as a “watershed moment for Africa's development” and describes it as an opportunity to leapfrog into the digital era, increase global competitiveness and generate new sources of employment. Who was it again who said: “Data is the new oil ... data points which can be extracted for profit”. That's why a Billionaire paid a handsome \$44 Billion Deal to Own Twitter. That's why the work done by ORBIT TVET College Centre for Entrepreneurship in this space is of utmost importance. We'll get a musk one day soon, just you wait. Closer to home, 4IR investment in AI and digital skills transformation was showcased by a DHET, ORBIT College and INTEL delegation attending the Innovation Africa 2022 Summit held in Lusaka, Zambia. Read more about this exciting story in this edition of the Odyssey.

The participation of numerous talented South African TVET College students in the WorldSkills Competition Special Edition in November is further proof of the rapid technical evolvement and growing global competitive nature nested in the TVET College sector. So, watch this space!

According to Chinese tradition, 2023 is a year of the rabbit symbolizing peace, prosperity and vigour. Here's to wishing all our readers a merry Christmas, a blessed festive season and a prosperous 2023!

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WORLD SKILLS SOUTH AFRICA COMPLETES THE TWO MONTH LONG WORLD SKILLS COMPETITION IN SALZBURG, AUSTRIA

By Ms Welheminah Molapi- Acting Campus Manager, Mankwe Campus



25 young South Africans from different institutions of higher learning in the country were afforded an opportunity to participate at the 46th WorldSkills Competition which took place between October and November 2022 in different countries. The opportunity proved to be more than just winning as the youngsters had the opportunity to benchmark, interact and establish long lasting relationships with peers in their specific skills.

South Africa participated in 25 of the 62 skills competitions which took place in seven different countries in Europe. The seven countries are

Germany, Finland, Korea, Switzerland, France, United Kingdom and Austria. Austria hosted the last leg of the 46th WorldSkills Competition where South Africa participated in three out of the seven skills competitions hosted at Salzburg



The Three South African competitors proudly bearing the SA flag

Messezentrum. The ORBIT College flag was flown high by Khanyo Fulani who was amongst the three South African competitors from the North West Province who participated. The other two North West students competed in South Korea and France respectively. Khanyo, a student from Mankwe Campus, competed in Heavy Vehicle Maintenance. Although Khanyo did not win a medal, he was awarded a certificate of participation.

Two competitors from KwaZulu Natal also competed in the respective categories of Bricklaying and Electrical Installation skills. A South African delegation comprising representatives from different TVET Colleges different SETAs supported the competition.

The city of Shanghai in China was initially selected as the host of the 46th WorldSkills Competition which was supposed to have taken place in October 2021. However, due to the worldwide restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic, the competition was ultimately hosted in fifteen countries and regions from October - 28 November 2022. The WorldSkills Competition 2022 Special Edition was therefore the official replacement for WorldSkills Shanghai 2021.

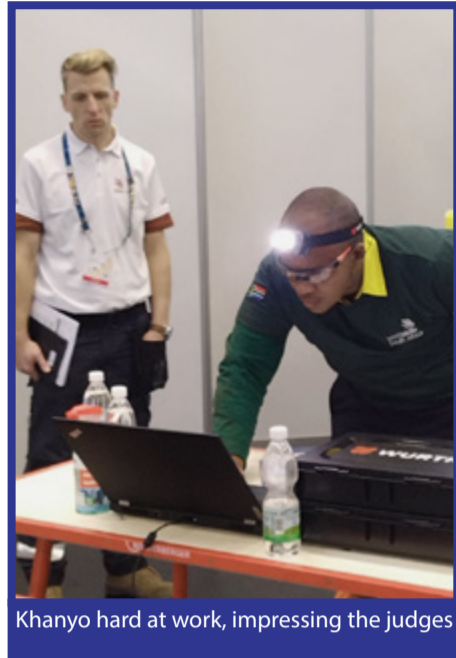


Ms W Molapi (Acting Campus Manager, Mankwe Campus and Khanyo Fulani

The Bigger Picture

WORLD SKILLS SALZBURG CONTINUES...

The 46th WorldSkills Competition provided an opportunity to South Africa to visit different institutions of higher learning in the different host countries, with the aim to benchmark and establish working relations in the vocational education and training sector. The Deputy Minister, Mr Buti Manamela and the Director-General for the Department of Higher Education and Training, Dr Nkosinathi Sishi visited institutions of higher learning in Germany, Switzerland and Austria. The two were taken through these institutions' histories, their education models and how they feed into the economies of their countries. Each of the visits concluded with campus tours which were important for viewing of infrastructure.



Khanyo hard at work, impressing the judges

One of the biggest "take-home advantages" from the 46th WorldSkills Competition was the meeting between WorldSkills South Africa, led by the Deputy Minister, Buti Manamela and WorldSkills International, led by the CEO, David Hoey, in Salzburg, Austria. The meeting focused on South Africa's challenges and opportunities in the WorldSkills Competition. Mr Hoey provided an extensive presentation on WorldSkills and the systems and models used by other countries which have been successful in turning around their vocational education and training sectors to the benefit of not only the competitors or students, but also the economies of these countries. He emphasised the importance of building up systems and a vocational sector that works; a sector that is able to anticipate and keep up with the skills demand in future skills and different industries. "It is about the basics. To get the vocational education and training sector vibrant and alive and to make sure it responds to skills development and countries' economic challenges, the curriculum and the quality of teaching at vocational institutions shouldn't be questionable", said Mr Hoey.

WorldSkills South Africa is planning a summit on a date yet to be announced by the Department of Higher Education and Training. All details of the summit will be communicated soon, but the aim is to reflect and make an assessment of WorldSkills South Africa's participation at the WorldSkills Competition from the first competition to the 46th WorldSkills Competition. This exercise will provide an opportunity for thorough introspection and a change to obtain presentations from countries with

some of the best models in the vocational education and training space and to benchmark against these models. But very importantly, this exercise will help South Africa to take drastic decisions in respect of and in preparation for the next WorldSkills Competition which will take place in Lyon, France in September 2024.

WorldSkills South Africa will soon make an announcement and provide all details on the opening of applications for the 2024 WorldSkills Competition on all its communication platforms. This information will also be made available through all Public Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Colleges.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude towards the DHET, ORBIT College management and all the different WorldSkills role players for the opportunity to undertake this once-in-a-life-time journey. It has indeed been a privilege and a learning curve beyond measure!

SOUTH AFRICAN TVET COLLEGE SECTOR REPRESENTED AT WOLRDSKILLS COMPETITION, GOYANG – SOUTH KOREA

By Ms Beverly Kgaboesele- Rustenburg Campus Manager

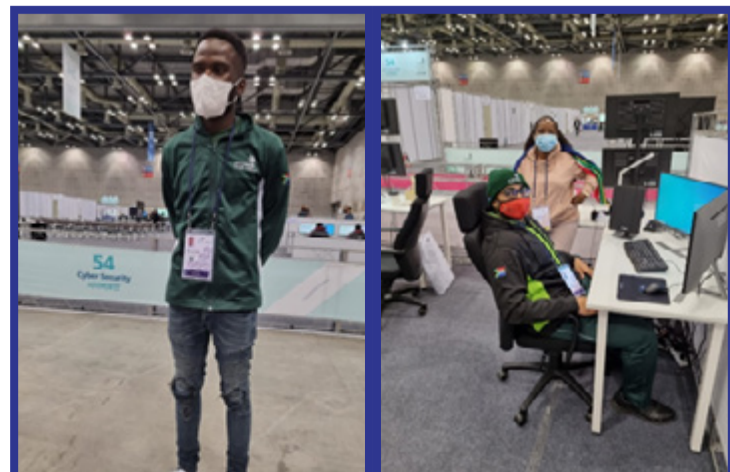


Ms Beverly Kgaboesele, Rustenburg Campus Manager formed part of the South African delegation to Goyang, South Korea. Here she is seen, proudly raising the South African flag at the opening ceremony of the WorldSkills Competition

Ms Beverly Kgaboesele, Rustenburg Campus Manager, formed part of a delegation of TVET College representatives who attended the WorldSkills Competition Special Edition in Goyang, South Korea from 10-18 October 2022. Replacing the WorldSkills Competition Shanghai 2021 that had to be cancelled due to world-wide COVID-19 imposed restrictions, the WorldSkills Competition 2022 Special Edition was hosted across a number of countries, with South Korea being one of them. A 133 competitors competed in 8 different skills categories, namely Mobile Applications Development, IT Software Solutions for Business, Web Technologies, IT Network Systems and Administration, Plastic DYE Engineering, 3D Digital Game Art, Cloud Computing and Cyber Security. South Africa was the only African country competing with predominantly Asian countries in this leg of the WorldSkills Competition.

The South African delegation comprised representatives from the DHET, TVET College Sector and SETAs in support of the TVET College students who were selected to participate in the WorldSkills Competition in South Korea-Goyang. Amongst the competitors were two students from Vuselela TVET College North West Province and Elangeni TVET College, KwaZulu Natal respectively. These two students participated in the IT Software Solutions for Business and IT Network Systems and Administration categories respectively. Although the South African participants did not meet the standards to be awarded medals of excellence, they certainly put South Africa on the map. Certificates of participation were awarded and many lessons were learnt. As one of the dignitaries mentioned, the experiences and skills these students have gained will remain a significant asset for their future, regardless of their results.

Upon their return, the South African team reiterated their dedication to skills development by pledging their commitment to improved communication, increased team effort and better preparation in ensuring future success and the establishment of a long lasting legacy, taking a leaf from the South Koreans themselves in terms of their history on when and how the competition started. A number of recommendations were put forward by the delegates to improve future participation of South Africa in this much needed global skills development initiative. These included, but were not limited to, identifying, promoting and supporting programmes



Vuselela TVET College, North West Province (left) and Elangeni TVET College, KZN (right) each produced a proud competitor at the WorldSkills Competition Special Edition hosted in Goyang, South Korea from 10-18 October 2022

related to the WorldSkills Competition, aligning the TVET College curriculum with critical, scarce skills and the World Skills Programmes to ignite new prospects and identifying gaps in the training-curriculum and the resources required in order to bring about the necessary change.



Pictured above are delegations from countries around the world attending the WorldSkills Competition 2022 Special Edition in Goyang, South Korea from 10-18 October. The South African delegation is pictured here consisting of representatives from DHET, TVET Colleges and SETAs

The Bigger Picture

DHET AND ORBIT COLLEGE LEAVE FOOTPRINT ON INNOVATION AFRICA SUMMIT 2022 By Ms Tebogo Tlhophile- Brits Campus Manager



Pictured from left to right: Dr Nick Balkrishen – RM North West and Mpumalanga, Mr Dika Mokoena – The Principal of ORBIT TVET College, Ms Zelda Fynn – Sci-Bono Discovery Centre ICT Manager, Mr Joao Fidalgo – Intel Corporation Africa Education Lead and Ms Tebogo Tlhophile – ORBIT TVET College Brits Campus Manager

Since the COVID-19 pandemic engulfed the globe in 2020, technological advance and digital skills transformation became synonymous with educational survival. Access to trustworthy connectivity and the non-negotiable reality of applying integrated and blended learning sparked the beginning of a technological revolution that forced education systems and government policy to adapt and adjust to accommodate the new normal.

The Innovation Africa 2022 Summit that was hosted at the Ciêla Resort in Lusaka, Republic of Zambia from 16-18 November 2022 was aimed at addressing matters pertaining to the integration of technology into the teaching and learning curriculum within the context of the pandemic-induced transformation. Hence, presentations and discussions at the summit focused on the important matters of access, equity, information literacy, the professional development of teachers, digital and soft skills, evidence-based policy-making for Edtech and safeguarding students from risks while looking back at lessons learnt from the impact that COVID-19 has on education systems.

Dr Nick Balkrishen, Regional Manager North West and Mpumalanga, Mr Dika Mokoena, Principal of ORBIT College and Ms Tebogo Tlhophile, Brits Campus Manager where the Artificial Intelligence programme is being rolled out in partnership with INTEL, formed part of the South African delegation who attended the summit from 15 to 18 November.

The official opening of the summit took place on 16 November with the official presidential opening address delivered by Mr Hakainde Hichilema, President of the Republic of Zambia. During his opening address, Mr Hichilema touched on the necessity of transforming education systems for the future and the importance of bringing innovation amongst young Africans to the fore. Specific reference was made to major multi-lateral education projects, skills development and the upsurge in ICT investment for education currently experienced on the African continent. The opening address was preceded by a presentation on the summit content by Mr John Glassey, CEO of African Brains that put the essence of and necessity for digital and curricular transformation across the African education sector into perspective.

On 18 November that marked the final day of the summit, the South African Department of Higher Education and Training and ORBIT TVET College represented by Dr Balkrishen and Mr Mokoena respectively had an opportunity to share insights on the power of Artificial Intelligence for the workforce as they shared the stage with Mr Fidalgo from INTEL Corporation Africa during an interview by panel members.



Featured from left to right are Dr Nick Balkrishen, Regional Manager North West and Mpumalanga, Mr Dika Mokoena and Mr Joao Fidalgo, INTEL Corporation Africa with an interviewer on stage on the last day of the summit



The AI Future Workforce programme being showcased at the summit exhibition

ORBIT COLLEGE DELEGATES ATTEND WORLDSKILLS COMPETITION SPECIAL EDITION IN BORDEAUX, FRANCE

By Ms Mariette Viljoen- Corporate Communications Manager

Apart from being represented at the WorldSkills Competition 2022 Special Edition in Salzburg, Austria and Goyang, South Korea, ORBIT College delegates also graced the WorldSkills Competition 2022 Special Edition with their presence in Bordeaux, France. Ms Tebogo Tlhophile, Brits Campus Manager and Mr Refitlhile Baloyi, Rustenburg Campus lecturer formed part of the South African delegation, comprising DHET, TVET College and SETA representatives who supported the South African competitors at the Mobile Robotics WorldSkills Competition from 20 -23 October 2022.

South Africa was proudly represented by four participants in the categories, Robotics, Health and Mechanical Engineering CAD respectively. Other countries that competed in the WorldSkills Competition in France included, amongst others Austria, China, Saudi Arabia, Jamaica, Finland, India, Japan and Kazakhstan. Competitors were required to build a robot that would manage the distribution of essential items in a hospital environment. Competitors had to design, build and program robots that would autonomously read instructions on a wall board and then pickup and deliver medical supplies to specified hospital rooms. Vice versa, dispensary support robots were required to autonomously recognize, pickup and deliver hazardous material to the hazardous material dispensary bin.



South African participants taking part in the Mobile Robotics challenge at WorldSkills Competition in Bordeaux, France

experience of competing on international level against highly skilled participants has proved to be more than rewarding.

China, Korea and Japan proved their skills by receiving the gold, silver and bronze medals respectively. Although none of the South African participants qualified to receive a medal of excellence, the



Academic Matters

THE 2022 ACADEMIC YEAR IN REVIEW

By Mr Phineas Nkai - Academic Programmes Manager



Mr Phineas Nkai
Vocational Programmes Manager

The 2022 academic year saw institutions of higher learning having to adjust to life after the many COVID-19 lockdown periods that had to be endured during 2020 and 2021. It may be said that organizational operations are back to normal, but are they really? The COVID-19 pandemic surely had an impact on quite a number of operations at TVET colleges throughout the country – both negative and positive. Where the pandemic hindered college plans to effectively and efficiently offer teaching and learning, we had to rise to the challenge. Where the pandemic presented never-seen-before opportunities, we had to take advantage of them, to adapt to the changing times for the purposes of remaining relevant.

First online learning programme offered

The college has officially launched a fully online learning programme. A group of students were registered for the Human Resource Management (HRM) N4 programme at Rustenburg Campus as fully online students for the second semester of 2022. With this initiative the college had finally responded to the demands of many students, who had wished to study while at home or at work. Hundreds of applications were received from potential students, showing a significant interest in this specific mode of learning delivery. For the pilot phase, only 32 students were accepted and registered. Some of these students have now completed their

first examinations following participating in teaching and learning through online means and the college is optimistic that the students that have written final examinations, will pass and progress to the N5 level of the programme.

Pursuing fully online studies was a first for the bulk of the students who were accepted and registered for our online programme. The students were excited to be the very first group to study via these means for a qualification at our college. The excitement could be seen in how they engaged with the lecturers, how they were logged in on time for their online live classes in the evenings, and how they became creative in responding during assessments offered via the college e-learning portal that is accessed through lms.myorbit.co.za. However, the same students also had to adjust, as the country went through the worst season of load shedding ever experienced. The implementation of high levels of load shedding threatened the ability of the college to continue with effective online teaching, as without electricity, the live classes become negatively affected due to devices being low on batteries and cell phone towers that were turned off, affecting network connections. Our online students worked together with our dedicated lecturers to find effective solutions and we are proud to say that they managed to overcome most of the challenges.

Online learning has many benefits for the college and prospective students in its surrounds. By its nature, it allows for education to be accessible to students that would otherwise struggle to acquire a qualification, should they be living too far away from a TVET college campus. Students studying from home save on transport costs and have the opportunity to seek work, while they study. Students who are already employed are able to acquire a qualification that could assist them to receive a promotion at work, or to become officially qualified should they not have had a formal qualification before. Through offering online learning, the college is also able to take pride in how this mode of learning delivery provides increased access to education to its surrounding communities. There is also less pressure on the existing physical college infrastructure which ensures that the college can focus on improving the effectiveness of its offerings.

Following the success of the HRM N4 online learning mode of learning delivery, the college envisages expanding online learning programmes. Students who are awaiting their HRM N4 results to be released in the first week of January 2023, will be allowed to proceed to complete their N5 certificates via the online offering mode. The college also has plans to offer the Public Management (PM) N4 programme fully online at the Rustenburg Campus from January 2023. Students have applied, and the process of admissions is currently taking place. It is the academic vision of the college to realise the full implementation of a blended learning approach at the college in the future, ensuring that we meet the demands of a world responding to the Fourth Industrial Revolution.

Improved student academic performance

Following the release of results in January 2022, the college continued to implement necessary interventions to improve the performance of students in all programmes. The college waited with baited breath for the all results to be released, following the implementation of said interventions. As things stand, the overall pass rate of R191 Engineering programmes improved by an exciting 9% from Trimester 3 of 2021 to Trimester 1 of 2022. This is a much-needed improvement as Engineering programmes have proved to be challenging for many students in the past. Subjects such as Power Machines and Strength of Materials and Structures, which had regular low pass rates, had pass rates in excess of 90% in the latest results, with one of our campuses achieving 100% pass rate for one these subjects. The college hopes to maintain this trajectory with the next round of results.

The overall pass rate of our R191 Business Studies programmes increased to figures that positioned the college again as one of the Top 10 best-performing colleges for these results. The pass rate for Semester 2 of 2021 placed the college in the Top 12 – a remarkable improvement from being Number 24 in a country comprising 50 TVET colleges. Lecturers and all other academic staff, as well as dedicated students, worked very hard to ensure that the college reclaim its position in the Top 10. When R191 Business Studies overall pass rates of all colleges are compared, ORBIT College is now ranked number 6! This is indeed a great achievement. Information Processing N6, a R191 Business Studies subject, that had a consistently low pass rate managed to improve by over 30% on average. Information Processing N6 has proved to be a challenging subject throughout the entire country. The college has continued to work extra hard to ensure that this achievement is maintained and improved, with the aim to become the number 1 college following the release of Semester 2 2022 results.

Looking to the future

It goes without saying that the future of economics in our country and beyond, must be intentionally pursued within the context of the 4th Industrial Revolution. The college has already started offering online learning and plans to increase its scope. To ensure we are not left behind, our lecturers have received training in 21st Century Digital Transformation Skills. All lecturers have been provided with laptops and data to enable them to explore ways and means to deliver teaching through technology. An Artificial Intelligence (AI) Centre has been launched at the Brits Campus, providing some of our staff members as well as students with training in this field. Our college remains a Huawei ICT academy, offering relevant 4IR skills programmes to some of our students each year. The college has also been challenged by the DHET to start offering QCTO accredited on-demand skills programmes that will allow students to work or start a small business immediately upon successful completion of the course. The college intends on responding to this call in the 2023 academic year.

The future indeed looks promising, and as a TVET college – an institution positioned to assist the country in closing the wide skills gap that exists - we have a duty to offer relevant programmes to students to enable them to assimilate successfully into the economy of the country, either as needed labour or as entrepreneurs. The college continues to adjust its strategies to ensure that this goal is achieved.

HR Matters

FROM THE HR MANAGER'S DESK By Mr Gilbert Mafojane- HR Manager



Mr Gilbert Mafojane
HR Manager

We are at the end of yet another year which had its highlights and challenges. The HR unit worked tirelessly throughout the performance cycle to ensure that labour peace within the College prevails. It would be amiss of me not to appreciate the team for the immense support they gave me with the aim of ensuring that deadlines on submissions are adhered to. Campus MANCO members and social partners were engaged in labour relations, human resource development and HR administration through roadshows in order to improve quality of submissions and to reduce the volume of grievances.

Human resource development

The best of luck to all College employees who sat for their examinations during the second semester. Hard work and commitment towards your studies will prepare you for possible future promotions and also lead to improved performance.

Staff training

A number of training interventions took place during the latter part of the year:

- Twenty College council members were trained on Corporate Governance (TVET College Governance)
- Fourteen Management Board members were trained on various programmes such as Corporate Governance Ethics, Exam Management, Digital Transformation and Open Learning
- Two hundred and twelve (212) lecturers were trained on various programmes intended for subject knowledge and teaching methodology
- Fifteen student support staff were trained on various programmes such as Customer Service, Records Management and Archiving and Occupational Health and Safety, in line with their Key Performance Areas (KRAs)
- One hundred and ninety three (193) support staff were trained on a variety of programmes related to their field of expertise such as Project Management, SDF, First aid, Firefighting, Evacuation, SHE Reps, Customer Service, Records Management and Corporate Governance in an effort to improve staff performance
- Fifty nine groundsman and cleaners were trained on Occupational Health and Safety and Performance Management Development, amongst others



HR pesonnel from the three North West TVET Colleges- ORBIT, Taletso and Vuselela Colleges

Furthermore, the College played host for DHET training on improved qualifications, which was attended by HR personnel from all the North West TVET Colleges in the North West Province i.e. Taletso, Vuselela and ORBIT College. This intervention was scheduled to capacitate the said employees on the administration of improved qualifications in an attempt to address the current backlog. Colleges are expected to thoroughly verify, make calculations and forward the documentation to the relevant DHET office for processing without delay. Failure to do so may culminate in running the risk of inviting unnecessary disputes.

Establishment of committees

The College established the Labour Forum which was launched by the Regional and Head Office, on 02 November 2022. The purpose of the forum is to provide a formally arranged platform (College Relations Forum) where the principal and / or delegated management representatives and union representatives can discuss matters of mutual interest affecting employees in the college. The committee comprises Senior Management, the HR Manager, the Labour Relations Officer, Campus Managers and one representative from each union i.e. NEHAWU, SADTU, PSA and NAPTOSA. The launch was successful, with the terms of reference being signed immediately after the session by all parties

The College also established the industrial management action team on the aforementioned date, aimed at ensuring uniform standards and measures in preparation and management of any industrial action. The committee comprises Senior Management, the HR Manager, the Labour Relations Officer, Campus Managers and the Head of Security at each site. During the launch, the committee was taken through their roles and terms of reference.

Staff bursaries

The College funded more than twenty five lecturers for their studies to obtain teaching qualifications and to gain subject knowledge. The College also funded twenty two support staff employees to obtain academic qualifications through recognised institutions. Approximately 95 percent of all bursary applications were approved.

Skills development grant

Twenty lecturers received bursaries from MQA to obtain teacher qualifications. ETDP SETA also funded three skills programmes intended for academic staff, which will be implemented early next year (2023). In addition to this, an additional four staff members were funded by ETDP SETA to obtain TVET-related teacher qualifications, while MQA will fund ten lecturers to obtain their teacher qualifications. Lastly, MQA has also funded the placement of three staff members in industry. This project will be implemented in January 2023.

Performance Management Development Systems (PMDS)

The College successfully completed the moderation of 2021-22 PMDS annual assessments in July 2022. With central moderation being finalised on 10 November 2022, all spreadsheets and other supporting documents were forwarded to the regional head office for further handling and processing. Support staff members are now submitting 2022-2023 mid-term reviews which will be moderated early in 2023.

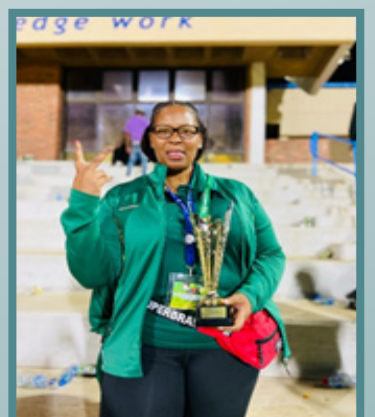
From the HR Office we would like to wish all staff a well-earned rest and festive season. Enjoy this special time of the year with your families and friends. May you have a blessed Christmas time and may you all return to ORBIT College refreshed and healthy in 2023.

In memoriam

The College would like to once again express its most sincere condolences to the family and friends of the late Ms DQ Tabane, who was an NCV Life Orientation lecturer at Rustenburg Campus, following her untimely passing on 27 September 2022. Ms Tabane served the College with pride and zeal, and she will forever be in our hearts. May her soul continue to rest in eternal peace.



The Collective Bargaining Unit from DHET (seated on stage) was available to answer any questions by members on the newly formed Labour Forum. Pictured from left to right: Mr J Manana (NW & Mpumalanga Regional Office), Mr ZG Mbongwa (DHET- Head Office), Mr R Mutavhatsindi (DHET Head office) and speaker Ms Ms E Maluleka (DHET- Head Office)



The late Ms Queen Tabane
NCV Life Orientation lecturer

HR Matters

NEW APPOINTMENTS

Congratulations to the following newly appointed staff members. We look forward to working with them and wish them well in their future endeavours.



Ms BL Poss
Lecturer English
Mankwe Campus
Appointed on 15 Aug 2022



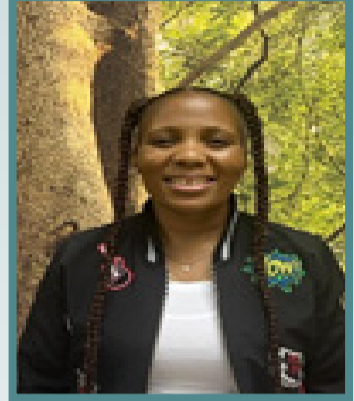
Ms CT ModibediSnr
Snr Lecturer O
Mankwe Campus
Appointed on 01 Sept 2022



Ms BL Makgaka
Lecturer Mathematics
Mankwe Campus
Appointed on 11 Sept 2022



Ms FT Mafela
Lecturer OA
Rustenburg Campus
Appointed on 01 Oct 2022



Ms MH Nthimo
Snr Lecturer R191 BS
Rustenburg Campus
Appointed on 01 Oct 2022



Mr HCS Lunga
HoD Artisan Development
Rustenburg Campus
Appointed on 01 Nov 2022



Ms TJ Malatsi
Lecturer Applied Accounting
Rustenburg Campus
Appointed on 01 Nov 2022



Mr KD Moleko
Business Development & Innovation
Manager
Central Office
Appointed on 01 Dec 2022



Mr PR Motlhaga
Supply Chain Manager
Central Office
Appointed on 01 Dec 2022



ORBIT TVET COLLEGE
Management would like to
wish you and your loved
ones a
MERRY
Christmas
AND
HAPPY NEW YEAR

In The Fast Lane

FROM THE MARKETING AND RECRUITMENT DESK

By Ms Wilheminah Modisane – Marketing and Recruitment Officer

Just a pack of successful activities

The marketing and recruitment strategy for 2022 was successfully and amicably implemented, with visible outcomes recorded. The team responded to invitations, covering substantial ground. Our mandate has been to educate the college community at large about the value of TVET College education and the TVET sector as a whole and we are making efforts to meet the educational demands of our community, as stated in our vision statement, "A global institution of excellence, surpassing community needs." To ensure that we successfully reach out to the college markets, we effectively and efficiently implement a number of direct marketing and recruitment drives, such as career exhibitions, open days, awareness programmes, stakeholder liaison sessions, promotional campaigns, school visits, amongst others.



Grade 9 learners of Rauwane Sepeng Secondary School in Tlhabane, had their Career Day on the school's premises on 26 August 2022. They were joined by a variety of speakers, including academics, health officials, young entrepreneurs, representatives from higher education institutions and motivational speakers who shared their professional experiences with the learners, in an effort to instil optimism.

Career exhibitions and outreach campaigns

A total of 33 secondary schools were reached by the team's effective representation of the institution at approximately 21 career expos, one of which specifically targeted out-of-school youth and youth not currently engaged in any type of education, employment, or training. About 400 unemployed, young people were reached when we made our outreach in March at Ledig. The team further supported the National Careers Week Campaign, a DHET initiative that ran from 3 April to 9 April 2022. During the National Careers Week Campaign, a total of five remote communities within the feeding boundaries of our delivery sites were reached. Information about college programmes was shared with a range of target audiences, including learners in Grades 8 to 12, unemployed youth, educators, and out-of-school youth. Most importantly, the youth were also provided information regarding forms of financial support, such as NSFAS.

Celebrating TVET College Month

The College commemorated TVET College Month by hosting a variety of interactive activities aimed at promoting the College Programme Qualification Mix to the general public and prospective students, with a particular emphasis on encouraging female learners to consider STEM-related programmes as an interesting career path to pursue.

After a two-year hold on hosting events due to the COVID-19 pandemic, successful mini-open days were hosted across all learning delivery sites. Open days were held on at Brits Campus on 11 August 2022, Mankwe Campus on 18 August 2022 and Rustenburg Campus on 25 August 2022. We were very strategic in keeping the number of invitations to a minimum in order for the event to benefit all attendees. The strategy was clear: focus on Grade 9 learners in order to increase the intake of our NCV programmes. Schools were requested to send only a specific number of Grade 9 learners and/or other learners who were interested in learning more about the TVET College programmes. Our invitation was also extended to the entire community in order to reach out-of-school youths, NEETs, and CET students. The TVET College Month celebrations were also widely publicised across a variety of local print, electronic, and social media platforms in order to raise awareness about our College and its offerings.

Open day activities mainly targeted secondary schools in the Bojanala District Municipality, which serves as the primary feeding area of the College. Selected secondary schools in the Madibeng sub-district were targeted for the Brits Campus open day while selected secondary schools in the Moses Kotane sub-district were targeted for the Mankwe Campus open day and selected secondary schools in the Rustenburg sub-district were targeted for the Rustenburg Campus open day. The open days were attended by a total of 55 secondary schools, reaching approximately 897 potential students. Learners were taken on guided tours of workshops and simulation facilities where they got to obtain first-hand experience of how practical training is carried out.

Along with the open days, liaison functions for Life Orientation educators and CET facilitators were held to inform them of the TVET College landscape and to keep them up to date on new developments. The sessions took place at the three learning delivery sites on the same day as the open days. During these liaison sessions, we interacted with approximately 156 officials, such as educators, SGB representatives, CET facilitators, community members, campus management, and sub-district officials. Existing relations were strengthened and communication channels enhanced as a result of these successful sessions. As an extended activity during TVET College month, enormous posters were designed, carrying important College information such as a list of NCV programmes, NATED & Occupational programmes offered, contact details of all learning delivery sites, information on online application processes. The posters were distributed to secondary schools on the outskirts of rural communities that do not have easy access to information. A campaign to distribute college information material to English/Afrikaans medium schools was also launched. In a nutshell, the TVET College Month celebrations guaranteed comprehensive coverage of all key stakeholders, and the sector is now better positioned and understood.

THE 2022 MINI-OPEN DAYS WERE HOSTED TO CELEBRATE TVET COLLEGE MONTH ACROSS ALL CAMPUSES



In The Fast Lane

THE 2022 MINI-OPEN DAYS WERE HOSTED TO CELEBRATE TVET COLLEGE MONTH ACROSS ALL CAMPUSES

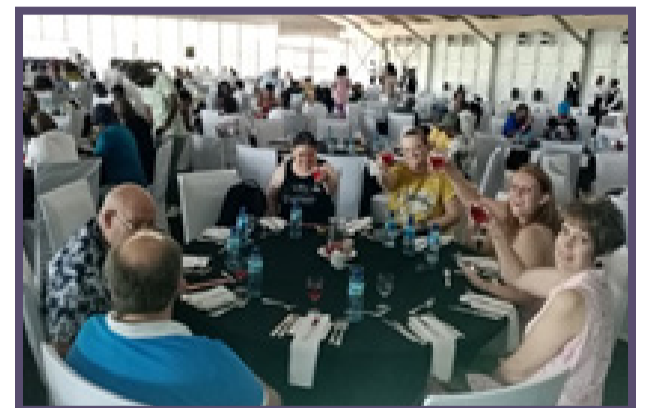


COLLEGE STAFF BID 2022 FAREWELL

By Mr Reuben Marakalala - Media and Communications Officer

Thursday, 01 December 2022 marked a special day on the 2022 calendar as ORBIT College staff gathered at the Green House, Sun City to celebrate milestones achieved and to bid the year farewell. During his address, College Principal, Mr Dika Mokoena remarked that this gathering constituted the first since the COVID-19 pandemic played havoc with the hosting of events. Mr Mokoena congratulated College staff on the improvement of academic results since 2021, applauding and acknowledging the role and contribution of every staff member – whether lecturer, support staff or administrative staff.

After having celebrated College achievements of 2022, staff enjoyed a scrumptious buffet breakfast and then departed to enjoy the day at the Valley of the Waves. The event provided to be a well-deserved break to the entire ORBIT staff complement who had worked hard during the year to ensure that the college is steered in the right direction.



ORBIT TVET College staff members from four (4) sites gathered to celebrate 2022 achievements at the Green House, Sun City where they were addressed by College Principal, Mr Dika Mokoena

Community Connexions

CREATING EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES THROUGH SUSTAINABLE PARTNERSHIPS

By Ms Mariette Viljoen- Corporate Communications Manager



The Business Brunch was an astounding success and was attended by the College partners and stakeholders from SETAs, mining houses, commercial banks and a number of local businesses, industries and local government departments.

In his presentation, Mr Dika Mokoena, principal of ORBIT College acknowledged achievements of the College while not shying away from the reality that much work still needs to be done to equip students with the necessary knowledge and skills to establish and successfully run their own companies. Mr Mokoena expressed his gratitude towards companies like Glencore and Tharisa Mining that have been instrumental in enabling the college to produce a number of qualified artisans this year.

Dr Kabelo Moloantsoa, College Council Chairperson reiterated the sentiments expressed by both Dr Balkrishen and Mr Mokoena, but from a governance perspective, stating that education has the

power to eradicate unemployment and inequality and that College curriculums should adequately respond to labour market needs.

SMMEs from the Centre for Entrepreneurship and The Platinum Incubator, students from the INTEL AI laboratory and student artisans from the Centres of Specialisation showcased their skills and products

at the event by enticing guests through meaningful engagement and presentations of their respective journeys and achievements.

The event was rounded off with a delicious finger lunch and lots of opportunity for networking which saw invited guests departing with existing partnerships being strengthened and a number of new partnerships being forged and sealed.



ORBIT College students and an SMME (Director of MekgaboB Creations) of The Platinum Incubator, Ms Bonolo Matome (right), showcased her jewellery pieces at the event. She is pictured here with the CEO of The Platinum Incubator, Ms Sibongile Shongwe

ORBIT TVET College has always been serious about enhancing youth employability and advancing students' employment opportunities by forging sustainable partnerships with various industries and businesses. This year has been no different. On Friday, 02 September the College hosted its annual Business Brunch at Hedgehog's Nest which saw stakeholders from SETAs, mining houses, commercial banks and a number of local businesses, industries and local government departments in attendance.

The event programme included a discussion about the successes and challenges of tertiary education with a specific focus on how ORBIT TVET College can further enhance its capacity to empower more young people through relevant education and training. DHET representative and Regional Manager for Mpumalanga and North West Province TVET Colleges, Dr Nick Balkrishen, delivered a powerful message during which he pointed out that TVET Colleges are not employers but should offer learning that prepares students to function well after securing employment. He made specific reference to the newly acquired INTEL laboratory for Artificial Intelligence (AI) at Brits Campus as a sound example of how the concept of relevant, responsive learning is put into practice at ORBIT College.

In his



The Regional Manager for North West and Mpumalanga TVET Colleges, Dr N Balrishen, brought in the perspective of the Department of Higher Education and Training and highlighted the importance of forging sustainable partnerships (with new and current partners) with the aim of expanding workplace-based learning opportunities for TVET students

CENTRE FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP RAPID INCUBATOR (CFERI) HIGHLIGHTS

By Mr Mashilo Chauke- Business Development Manager, Centre for Entrepreneurship

MTN APP Academy call for registration

Through a partnership with MTN, the CfERI is currently recruiting students to participate in the MTN App of the Year Competition for the 2022/23 financial year. So far, the college has registered a total number of ninety six entries by students.

The MTN Business App Academy is a FREE skills training programme that is open to anyone who has an interest in learning the practicalities of coding and mobile app development. Classes take place on the zero-rated App of the Year website and offer students an opportunity to obtain a SETA accredited NQF Level 5 certificate.

App of the Year

go big go Bozza

App Academy Call for Registrations

Aspiring innovators, sign up for the 2022 MTN Business App Academy!

Calling all innovators, appment coders, and budding tech entrepreneurs. Have you always wanted to learn and explore the business of app development? Do you want to change the world one solution at a time?

Sign up now for the MTN Business App Academy, a FREE app development course taking place virtually on www.appoftheyear.co.za

Learn how to develop mobile app solutions to revolutionize the world, with mentoring and tutoring by some of South Africa's top tech experts and qualify with an NQF Level 5 certificate, for FREE!

App Academy Beginners 19 April 2022	App Academy Intermediate 7 June 2022	App Academy Advanced 26 July 2022
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Take the proficiency assessment here to see where you fit in

Community Connexions

CFERI HIGHLIGHTS CONTINUES...

NYDA & CfERI equip students with entrepreneurial skills



Entrepreneurship information sessions were held at Brits Campus in March 2022 for L4 and N6 students (left) and at Rustenburg Campus (right)

The Centre for Entrepreneurship hosted three successful information sessions across all three campuses during the 2022 academic year.

The CfERI hosted the first session in March 2022 at Brits campus for Level 4 and N6 students in partnership with the National Youth Development Agency (NYDA). This was followed by another session also in March 2022 at Rustenburg Campus where a large number of student SMMEs showed interest. However, it was Mankwe Campus students who came out in large numbers (over two hundred attendees) in July 2022, despite the rainy conditions on the day.

The sessions, which included informative presentations by NYDA and

CfERI representatives, were aimed at sharing information about the importance of entrepreneurship in contributing towards the economy of the country with student and funding opportunities available. The CfERI also used the opportunity to highlight services rendered by the CfERI which include but are not limited to: initiating and providing information on entrepreneurship, assisting with company registration, training on entrepreneurial skills, business/idea concept development, market research, business development, access to funds, mentoring and coaching.

Pop-up market exhibition

The CfERI took part in the Pop-Up Market exhibition for small and medium enterprises organised by NYDA, where clients, supported by the centre, had an opportunity to showcase their products and services. The exhibition took place on 26 – 27 March 2022 at Rustenburg Mall. Pictured on the right is one of the businesses supported by the CfERI that showcased their products.



Fortune Taylor manufactures custom-made garments

Student market day



Ms Malebogo Malapane from Brits Campus walked away with the 'best innovative product of the day' award. She manufactures and sells house detergents, roll-on deodorants and body lotions

The CfERI and the Mankwe Campus Student Support Unit hosted a successful entrepreneurial studentpreneur market day on 30 September 2022 intended to afford students an opportunity to advertise and sell their products to potential clients. A total number of twenty five studentpreneurs exhibited their products and services ranging from food, clothing, beauty and hair products and photography services to carwash and sneakers wash services.

NYDA and First National Bank (FNB) were also in attendance and rendered their services to the public.

Financial Management student and funded studentpreneur, Ms Malebogo Malapane from Brits Campus claimed the "best innovative product of the day" award. Ms Malapane started her own business of manufacturing detergents, perfumes, roll-on detergents and body lotions during lockdown, after gaining inspiration from her former employer. She was recently awarded a R50 000 grant by NYDA towards supporting and growing her business.

Ms Malapane is currently receiving business development support from the CfERI and



The "best-selling business of the day" award was scooped by Mr Caiphus Oto from Rustenburg (Centre-supported client). His services include selling ice coffee, ice tea and chips

will be incubated for the duration of 18 months.

Two ORBIT College graduates & TPI SMMEs receive a massive financial boost from ABSA Bank

By Ms Tshego Rapoo-Maloyi- E-Media & Communications Administrator



From left to right: TPI SMME, Ms Bonolo Matome (Director of MekgaboB Creations), Specialist Public Sector at Absa, Ms Desiree Ntshali, Business Development Manager at The Platinum Incubator, Ms Oratile Segakweng and TPI SMME, Mr Neo Sepharagatlha (Director of AfriGlit) holding the cheques handed over by ABSA to the two graduates on 03 November 2022, at ORBIT College, Central Office, in support of their jewellery businesses

Two ORBIT College graduates and SMMEs of The Platinum Incubator (TPI) situated at Rustenburg Campus, have received financial boosts of R110 000 and R100 000 respectively from ABSA Bank, towards supporting and growing their jewellery businesses.

Mr Neo Sepharagatlha, Director of AfriGlit and Ms Bonolo Matome Director of MekgaboB Creations, were awarded the funding during a handover ceremony which took place on 03 November 2022 at ORBIT College, Central Office. In attendance were ABSA Bank representatives, the Business Development Manager from TPI, the Principal of ORBIT College and management staff members.

The two graduates had been invited to the business brunch hosted by the College in September 2022, where they made brilliant presentations about the support they have received from The Platinum Incubator & ORBIT College enabling them to grow their businesses into lucrative ones. Area Segment Manager at ABSA, Ms Lerato Qoma, who was invited to the business brunch, took note of the two SMMEs and initiated funding for each of them with the team. "As a corporate, this is a proud day for us because ORBIT College is the first TVET College in South Africa we are funding through this initiative. We can only hope that these two SMMEs will pave the way for other TVET Colleges", Specialist Public Sector at ABSA, Ms Desiree Ntshali said.

TPI Business Development Manager, Ms Oratile Segakweng said: "We are truly grateful to ABSA for the funding as it will elevate our SMMEs businesses and make them role players in the economy. An equally elated Mr Dika Mokoena, ORBIT College Principal said the college will continue to monitor the progress of the SMMEs and to support them as best as possible. "It is through hard work that a big corporate such as ABSA bank has noticed your potential, and is today presenting you with this once in a lifetime opportunity", Mr Mokoena said to the two SMMEs.

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Campus Matters

AI (Artificial Intelligence) for future workforce

By Ms Tebogo Tlhopile- Brits Campus Manager



The State of the art AI Lab at Brits Campus

The Artificial Intelligence (AI) programme that is currently rolled out at Brits Campus in partnership with INTEL, is aimed at vocational skilling of youth for future workforce. The skilling journey comprises five stages, offered across 39 modules (212 – 216hours) during which youth are equipped with relevant skills. These stages are focused on Awareness during which a general awareness of AI is gained and Foundation where a foundational technical and career growth skills are built. This is



Ms Tebogo Tlhopile, Brits Campus Manager (second from the left) posing with the first intake of AI students since the launch in July 2022

followed by the Experience stage where students are exposed to working with specific AI domains and technologies, after which the Capstone stage is offered. This stage is where students get hands-on as they build AI solutions based on the knowledge they have gained, preparing them for apprenticeship. Last but certainly not least, students participate in the Practical Training stage whereby they gain exposure to real world challenges and build solutions with industrial impact.

The AI Lab commenced with training of the first group of students in October 2022. As part of the learning programme students are expected to identify a societal problem and through the AI programme find a solution which will benefit the community at large. Online applications for this exciting programme are still open and interested parties may apply.

Senior Management visits Brits Campus

Mr Dika Mokoena, College Principal, Dr Kabelo Moloantoa, College Council Chairperson and Mr Solly Matjiane, Deputy Principal Corporate Services during a visit to Brits Campus on 07 November 2022. The main purpose of the visit was to touch base with campus operations and to offer support and encouragement where needed in pursuit of excellence



Pictured from left to right are Mr Mkandawire, Mr Dika Mokoena, College Principal, Dr Kabelo Moloantoa, College Council Chairperson and Mr Solly Matjiane, Deputy Principal Corporate Services

Celebrating heritage day



Rustenburg campus manager, Ms Beverly Kgaboesele joined forces with Rustenburg Campus staff to celebrate Heritage Day as a special day of wellness for staff by preparing a well-cooked meal for all to enjoy.

Capacity building for private college delegates



Ms Rene Botes, campus examination officer addressed representatives from fourteen private colleges before the onset of their examinations, explaining the processes involved as Rustenburg Campus would be serving as the examination paper distribution point for these colleges.

ICT level 4 student proves his worth



Mr Frans Ntsapodi, ICT Level 4 student at Rustenburg Campus

Mr Frans Ntsapodi, an ICT NCV Level 4 student at Rustenburg Campus, is indeed a dynamic youngster who has high aspirations and loads of innovative skills to share. Not only was Mr Ntsapodi recognised as one of the best Peer Academic Leaders (PALs) at the campus this year, but as an ambitious ICT student with an appetite for innovation, he took the trouble of redesigning the ORBIT College website as part of an ICT project and acted as leader of a team of ICT students who were involved with the installation of 230 new computers at the campus as part of their work-based experience. Under the guidance of ICT lecturer, Mr Jeki, this bright young mind has shown that he has what it takes to make a success of his career in ICT.

Council chairperson and principal visits Rustenburg Campus MANCO



Dr Kabelo Moloantoa, College Council Chairperson (front row, on the right) and College Principal, Mr Dika Mokoena engaged Rustenburg Campus MANCO members during a support visit that was paid to the campus.

In memoriam



The Rustenburg Campus is saddened by the untimely passing of Ms Tshogofatso Precious Mpotsang, a registered Office Administration Level 3 student on Sunday, 20 November 2022 after a brief illness. May her soul rest in eternal peace.

Campus Matters

Data & Information Unit support visit



On 10 October 2022, Ms Lebo Makeki from the Data & Information Unit visited Rustenburg Campus MANCO members to provide support in terms of application and registration procedures and processes for the January 2023 intake. Pictured here Ms Makeki (on the right) explains the required processes to Ms Louise Peyper, Student Support Officer, Ms Thabang Mogaki, Bursary Officer, Ms Pontsho Mosue, Head of Administration, Ms Matlapedi Mahila, Student Support officer and Ms Beverly Kgaboesele, Rustenburg Campus Manager.

Mankwe Campus sport facilities upgrade



The famous footballers pictured with community soccer team members during the hand-over ceremony

On Saturday, 22 October 2022 the newly upgraded sporting facilities at Mankwe Campus were officially handed over to the campus by NGO, Raising Giants, funded by the National Lotteries Commission (NLC).

The upgraded facilities included the swimming pool, gymnasium, soccer field, and netball court while soccer kits and equipment were also handed over.



Pictured at the official hand-over ceremony with Ms Welheminah Molapi, acting Mankwe Campus Manager (second from the right) are former Kaiser Chiefs and Orlando Pirates football celebrities, Neil Tovey, a representative from the Moses Kotane Local Municipality, Edward 'Magents' Motale and Doctor Khumalo (from left to right).

Rustenburg Campus SRC launch first ever book club

By Ms Tshego Rapoo-Maloyi- E-Media & Communications Administrator



The 2022 Student Representative Council (SRC) from Rustenburg Campus launched the first ever College Book Club on 09 September 2022 at Rustenburg Campus Hall B, aimed at encouraging the culture of reading amongst students.

Rustenburg Campus SRC member- Disciplinary and Legal Officer, Ms Kelebogile Moraka outlined that SRC also hope to alleviate the reading challenges that students are currently experiencing and to establish a reading community within the college. The first author to be featured on the day was Rustenburg author, Mr Ronnie Letshabo



The Book Club launch was well attended by staff and students from all sites

who shared his journey of becoming an author. Mr Letshabo currently has the following four published books to his name: No Limits: A Motivational Guide for Dealing with Challenges and Living Your Full Potential, Power of a gift, Against all odds and Leadership- Answer to everything.

During the event, students showcased their talents by rendering various musical performances and poetry readings.

The event was well attended by staff and students. The SRC intend to also launch similar book clubs at Brits and Mankwe Campuses.



Rustenburg Campus SRC member- Disciplinary and Legal Officer, Ms Kelebogile Moraka (left) presents a gift to author, Mr Ronnie Letshabo, as a token of appreciation for sharing his insight about publishing books and his journey on becoming an author



On 14 October 2022, Mankwe Campus staff and students joined forces in support of the National 16 days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence (GBV) campaign, by signing a pledging at the campus, vowing to stand up against GBV.

Central Office

BEST PRACTICE VISITS TO DATA & INFORMATION UNIT

By Dr Joe Viljoen- Data & Information Manager



North link team with ORBIT D&I Unit. From left to right: Dr Joe Viljoen: Data & Information Manager (ORBIT), Ms Nicole Ebrahim: Admin Registration (Northlink), Ms Una Finnucane: Senior Registration Officer (Northlink), Ms Barbara Barfoot: Data & Systems Administrator (ORBIT), Ms Sandra Raubenheimer: Deputy Principal: Registrar (Northlink), Mr Ivor Brandt: State Accountant (Northlink) and Ms Lebo Makeki: Data & Information Administrator (ORBIT)

The Data & Information Unit of ORBIT College is widely acknowledged within the TVET College Sector as a leader with regards to online enrolment processes and procedures. To this end, the Data & Information Unit at Central Office had the pleasure of hosting three sister Colleges namely Northlink TVET College on 01 August 2022, Ehlanzeni TVET College on 22 September 2022 and King Hintsa TVET College from 24 – 25 September 2022 respectively.

The purpose of the visits was to share best practices on going live with online enrolments in 2023. Online registration processes and readiness, pre-enrolment preparation and planning, unit capacity building and system management, general system setup and IT requirements were discussed at length. Crucial support functions of the online enrolment process such as communication methods and strategy during the enrolment period, data and information management, student cancellations and de-registration processes and student i-Enabler functions and set-up were also addressed.

The capturing and verification of marks, submission of TVETMIS and M&E to DHET and academic timetabling & attendance capturing, were some of the other college processes that were on the agenda for discussion as well.



Data & Information Manager, Dr Joe Viljoen, sharing his expertise regarding online enrolments with colleagues from Ehlanzeni TVET College during their best practice visit to ORBIT College on 22 September 2022

Informative presentations on the abovementioned topics were done, followed by thorough discussions and the development of online enrolment implementation plans. Best practice documentation such as policies, processes and operational documents were also provided to visiting colleagues to support them with their online enrolments in 2023.

DATA AND PLANNING EXPERT, DR JOE VILJOEN, FLYING THE ORBIT FLAG HIGH!



On 18 August 2022, the North West and Mpumalanga Regional office conducted a campus manager workshop at Nkangala TVET College, Emahlaheni at which Dr Joe Viljoen, Data and Information Manager at ORBIT was invited to present on M&E reporting with special emphasis on the role of the campus manager in M&E data collection at campus level. This presentation culminated into another invitation to Dr Viljoen to present on M&E reporting at a provincial workshop for data capturers held on 05 October 2022 at Vuselela TVET College. Ms Sharon Mboweni from the Regional office expressed her gratitude to Dr Viljoen as follows: "We always value the intellectual contribution you add to our sector hence we keep on asking you to assist the regional office"

CENTRAL OFFICE HEALTH AND WELLNESS PROGRAMME INTERVENTIONS

By Ms Mariette Viljoen- Corporate Communications Manager

The Central Office Wellness Committee strives to fulfil their mandate of promoting a healthy lifestyle and wellbeing amongst colleagues by exposing staff to a variety of physical, mental and social interventions during the course of the year.



The boot camp instructor demonstrates how to perform cardio exercises correctly for maximum effect

Boot camp

Staff members were invited to join a boot camp at Selly Park Secondary sportsground on Friday, 18 November 2022 as part of the 2022 staff wellness programme. An professional boot camp trainer was invited to conduct a cardio workout session that focused on exercising all muscle groups. The session was aimed at starting the weekend by relieving work-related stress through participating in physical exercise. Staff members who participated really work up a sweat as they performed the exercises on a hot and sunny day!

Hiking at Kgaswane Mountain Reserve

On Friday, 25 November 2022 central office staff members were at it again as they visited Kgaswane Mountain Reserve to explore the 5km hiking trail. Although not all staff were able to finish the 5km hike, some staff managed to complete 2.5km of the trail successfully while others waited for their hiking colleagues in the shade at the camping area. Upon the last staff members arriving safely back after the hike, a scrumptious lunch prepared by a service provider was served. Staff members expressed their gratitude towards the committee for organising these outdoor activities as these provide staff with a welcome change of environment that can be enjoyed by all staff.



Student Support Pitstop

STUDENT SUPPORT PITSTOP

By Mr Stanley Kekana- Extra-Curricular Manager & Acting SSS Manager



Mr Stanley Kekana
Extra-Curricular Manager
& Acting SSS Manager

Student Support Services at ORBIT College are set on providing our students with as many opportunities for growth and holistic development as possible. We are serious about the academic, physical, social and mental wellbeing of our students and aspire to support our students in all these aspects as they are groomed at the College to become responsible, employable citizens that are able to contribute meaningfully to the South African economy. 2022 produced a number of exciting highlights that we wish to share and celebrate as the year draws to an end.

Sports, arts & culture

As government eased national COVID-19 restrictions, sports and cultural activities could once more be hosted at stadiums in the presence of excited and eager audiences. The College Extra-Curricular Unit with its mandate of providing leadership and support to the College athletes in Sport, Arts and Culture took advantage of this return to pre-COVID conditions by participating fully in a number of events during 2022.

The College was particularly set on participating in the national activities arranged by College Sport, Arts and Culture South Africa (CoSACSA) to allow our athletes as many opportunities as possible to showcase their skills and talents while ensuring their development in different sporting, art and cultural disciplines.

ORBIT College, as part of North West Provincial teams, attended and participated in the following national CoSACSA events: Track & Field Championships hosted in Limpopo; the Arts & Culture Festival hosted in East London and the Ball Games Championships that took place in Pretoria.

National Athletics Championships

The CoSACSA Executive joined forces with Limpopo Athletics to host the National Track and Field Championships from 07- 09 April 2022 at the Peter Mokaba Stadium. The North West Provincial athletics team comprised a total of 52 athletes with ORBIT College athletes making up 21 members of the team. The ORBIT athletes did extremely well by scooping 12 of the 26 medals won by the Province. These included 8 gold and 4 bronze medals. Khambule Chauke from Rustenburg Campus broke his own 2018 CoSACSA high jump record of 1.80m by reaching 1.85m while Kgaogelo Moloisi from Mankwe Campus managed to set a new 3000m record of 8:35,41 for Men U/20.



National Athletics Championships participants from ORBIT College, pictured with Student Support Officer-Social, Mr Paul Tekana (Left-standing)

Arts & Culture Festival

Buffalo City College in conjunction with CoSACSA Executive hosted the National Arts & Culture Festival at the Eastern Cape International Convention Centre from 22 – 25 July 2022. The College was represented in the genres of Pencil Drawing, Charcoal Drawing, Drama, Freestyle Dance, Soprano Solo, Mezzo Soprano Solo, Male and Female Choirs.

The College with its 83 artists, proudly walked away as winners of the Charcoal Drawing and Freestyle Dance genres while being placed fourth and fifth in other genres.

National Ball Games

A total of 86 players attended the National Ball Games in Pretoria that was hosted at the TUT Pretoria West Campus. ORBIT College was represented in Chess, Table Tennis, Rugby, Volleyball, Basketball, Netball and Football. As part of the North West Provincial team, the College managed to collect trophies in Gents Netball (bronze), Ladies Volleyball (silver), Ladies Basketball (silver), Gents Table Tennis (silver), Ladies Table Tennis (bronze) and Gents & Ladies Chess (bronze).

Sport, Arts and Culture speaks a universal language that our students understand and inspires them to excel and change the shape and direction the world is taking. Sport, Arts and Culture breaks down presumably unbreakable barriers that armed forces could not move and gives hope where once there was only despair. Sport, Arts and Culture is a fundamental human right and must be protected, respected and fulfilled without fail. We cannot wait for 2023 to collect all the trophies and medals at our disposal.



Pictured from left to right: Mr Lekau Mamabolo (Capricorn TVET College principal), Mr Buti Manamela (Deputy Minister DHET) and Mr Sam Zungu (DDG DHET) at the National Ball Games that held in Pretoria

Student Representative Council (SRC)

The 2022 SRC attended a capacity building Training Camp held on 15 – 17 July 2022 at Kgaswane Country Lodge in Rustenburg. The team was trained on Project Management, where they were required to submit Portfolios of Evidence. All the SRC members submitted their Portfolios of Evidences (PoEs) and are currently awaiting their certificates. This is an accredited training which was conducted by Peakford Consultants. The SRC indicated that they benefitted immensely from the training and that the knowledge they gained will be useful in their futures.



2022 Student Representative Council



Front row: Ms Deborah Mashigo, Ms Yvonne Mdemela & Ms Vhugala Ngwenya
Back row: Mr Paul Tekana, Ms Kgomotso Segone, Ms Thabiso Mokwatsi, Mr Thuso Molefe & Ms Mmathapedi Mahila

Health and wellness

ORBIT TVET College signed an MoU with Community Media Trust (CMT) to work together in promoting positive healthy living for our students. On 03 November 2022, the ORBIT team, the CMT Team and Higher Health held a meeting to evaluate progress for 2022 and to plan for 2023. The partnership encourages students to take care of their health by providing primary health care services at the campuses together with life skills sessions that are conducted with students.

Some of the topics covered in the life skills sessions are love and sex, family planning, HIV and gender-based violence. Through the partnership, ORBIT College strives to positively impact our students to become responsible, healthy and productive citizens.

Student Support Pitstop

2022 PROVINCIAL AND REGIONAL DEBATE COMPETITION

By Ms Sinnah Lenyai & Ms Yvonne Mdumela



ORBIT College Debate Champions strived for excellence from day one as they participated in the Academic Day in the debate category. The debaters then proceeded to compete at the first ever North West Provincial Debate Competition that consisted of two legs- the first leg was held at ORBIT TVET College, Rustenburg Campus on 29 July 2022 and the final leg which was held at Vuselela TVET College, Potchefstroom Campus on 12 August 2022.

Team ORBIT was crowned the provincial champions, with Ms. Pretty Mohajane bagging the 'Provincial Best Female Speaker'. They proceeded to the next phase, which saw them taking part at the first ever MP & NW Regional Debate competition held on 09 October 2022 at Nkangala TVET College. Even though they lost to team Mpumalanga, they did exceptionally well and obtained position 2 (silver) overall. Our very own Rustenburg Campus student, Mr Kgotsofatso Simane bagged the MP & NW 'Regional Best Male Speaker'.

Throughout this journey, they were supported by their dedicated coaches Ms. Y Mdumela (Social Support Coordinator) and Ms. S Lenyai (English Lecturer- Brits Campus), Mr S Monyeki (Senior Lecturer English- Mankwe Campus) and Ms R Mojaki (English Lecturer- Rustenburg Campus). We thank you for your unwavering hard work and support for our champions.

ORBIT College is proud of you all!

Work placement

By Ms Nnane Rakhudu- Student Support Coordinator (Academic)



Mr T Kepadisa (left) and Ms V Naidoo, both from FOODBEV SACPO inducted students in preparation for the commencement of their internship.

ORBIT College students who have been selected for an opportunity to carry out their internship at FOODBEV & ETDP SETA, attended an induction session on 15 November 2022 at Rustenburg Campus Auditorium.

Ms V Naidoo from FOODBEV SACPO made a presentation on an online app known as Online University Management System (OLUMS), which interns and mentors are expected to make use of when signing daily registers and administering the online logbook. Another official from FOODBEV SACPO, Mr T Kepadisa inducted the interns on what is expected of them in the workplace, including their start date and stipend amounts. FOODBEV SACPO were also presented by Mr A Mokgabudi and Mr V Chengalaryan. Brits Campus Student Support Officer Social, Ms Stephinah Sebogodi, emphasised the expectations of the College in terms of the students' behaviour and their

conduct at the work place.

Our appreciation goes out to the following Student Support officials for the roles they played on the day to ensure that the session was a success: Ms N Rakhudu (Academic Support Coordinator), Ms L Peyper (Student Support Officer Social- Rustenburg Campus), Ms S Mabena (Internet Café Administrator- Rustenburg Campus), Mr T Mahuma (Academic Lab Administrator- Mankwe Campus), Ms O Shuma (SSS Intern- Brits Campus), Ms Z Sitshisa (SSS Intern- Central Office), and Mr T Keetse (SSS Intern- Brits Campus).

Learner profiler SSS in preparation for the 2023 academic year

By Ms N Rakhudu- Student Support Coordinator (Academic)

After a successful twelve months of making use of Learner Profiler, the Student Support Services Academic Unit has renewed the Learner Profiler Licence- an Online Electronic Assessment & Placement Tool which can be utilised for a period of twelve months. This useful online placement tool covers an unlimited number of students to be assessed annually. The new licence is will run until 01 October 2023. The Learner Profiler is customized and includes features such as career guidance, the campus life screener, the alumni screener as well as new reporting updates and innovations.

Arts and culture festival



ORBIT College winners from the 2022 Arts and Culture Festival