

## **PSIRA ACKNOWLEDGES ICT STUDENT FOR MAKING STRIDES IN SECURITY INDUSTRY**

*By Reuben Marakalala- Media & Communications Officer*

### **Editorial**

By the time you read this, South Africa will have gone through the peak of the third wave of the Covid-19 pandemic. The efforts to vaccinate as many willing South Africans as possible is being countered by the discussion around the rights of those who may not want the jab. One thing is certain, we should not let up on our responsibility to be safe and protect each other's lives by following the basics of washing your hands, practicing social distancing and wearing a mask in public.

We are all learning to adapt to the ‘new normal’, which changes every day. Some of our shortcomings are not related to incompetence or lack of preparation. We find ourselves more in uncharted than familiar waters. It is in this spirit that we need to applaud the current class of students for trying to attain an education and improve their lives at a time when even an occurrence as ‘normal’ as local government elections now requires an investigation on its feasibility. Distance learning requires added discipline and the normal academic pressure, when coupled with Covid -19 anxiety can lead to a mental health storm. Our student support centres (for students) and HR Unit (for staff) remain on stand-by to provide support and care. To remain ‘in orbit’ you must ensure that you are ‘compos mentis’.

Yet, in the midst of all the challenges and uncertainties brought about by the pandemic, the College has had quite a few achievements to reflect on. Read all about them in this edition. Happy reading!

**Editorial team**



*From left to right: Acting Deputy Director: Training & Communication at Private Security Industry Regulator Authority (PSIRA, Dr S Gumedze, Rustenburg Campus NC(V) ITC L2 student, Mr Phakiso Dithhale and ORBIT TVET College Principal, Mr D Mokoena during a handover ceremony held on 09 June 2021, which saw PSIRA donate R10 000 towards Mr Dithhale's tuition fees.*

Rustenburg Campus ITC Level 2 student, Mr Phakiso Dithhale is making strides after developing a security monitoring alarm system designed to combat house burglaries. The alarm system, which Phakiso has coined “Gaurdova”, has three power sources namely electricity, solar power and a battery. He explains that, in case of load shedding, the energy that is harvested will be stored in the device with the battery powering it up. The sensor is used to detect any unusual motion or emergencies. In case of a burglary, the buzzer and vibrator make a sound to the business owner or household owner's phone as an alert.

Private Security Industry Regulatory Authority (PSIRA) officials, spotted the young man on national TV in January 2021, and contacted the College to meet, congratulate and encourage the budding innovator for “bringing a positive shift in the security industry”. A handover ceremony was held on 09 June 2021 at ORBIT College, Central Office, where PSIRA officials handed-over a R10 000 cheque towards Mr Dithhale's tuition fees, as a form of encouragement to him. Acting Deputy Director: Training and Communications, Dr S Gumedze, said Mr Dithhale rose above his peers to innovate such a project using his mathematical and science skills.

“I want my idea to be advanced and to be patented in my name. By advancing and patenting my device, I hope to create jobs in my community and to make people feel free and secure in their community, our country, or globally, said Phakiso about his invention.

# THE BIGGER PICTURE

## MATTER OF PRINCIPAL



**Mr D F Mokoena**  
**ORBIT TVET College Principal**

### **Life expectancy of South Africans had dropped**

According to Statistics South Africa, the population of South Africa was estimated to be 60,14 million people by mid-2021. On Thursday, 5 March 2020, South Africa recorded its first COVID-19 case. Six days later the World Health Organisation declared COVID-19 a global pandemic. Sadly, the first death related to COVID-19 occurred on 27 March 2020. Statistics South Africa reports further that South Africa experienced peaks of deaths in the first and the second waves of the COVID 19 pandemic. The rise in death meant a drop in the 2021 life expectancy at birth for South Africa to an average of 3.5 % for both males and females. On 29 July 2020 the National Institute for Communicable Diseases reported 471 123 positive cases and 7 497 deaths. On 31 July 2021 these figures had increased to 2 447 45 positive cases and 72 013 deaths. Based on the figures from the National Institute for Communicable Diseases, you and I are in agreement with the observation of Stats South Africa that life expectancy at birth for South Africa had

dropped.

### **What should you and I do?**

The question that pops up effortlessly is whether we are going to fold arms and be spectators of this novel Corona Virus, eliminating us one at a time, to a point of no human existence on earth. The answer should be a resounding “NO”! It is therefore very important for us to comply with the protocols issued by the World Health Organisation at all times - wash your hands regularly, wear a mask and observe social distance. I have no doubt that one day we will win this fight if we continue to observe these protocols. As the Principal of the College I have requested the College Council to approve a COVID 19 budget for procurement of personal protective equipment (PPE). Hand sanitisers were mounted at strategic points in all College buildings and staff and students were issued with masks. Through the HR office, I managed to source the services of interns to ensure that every person who enters the College grounds is screened across all sites. The College warmly welcomes the National Programme of Government to have people vaccinated and more especially, the PSET Vaccination Programme that was rolled out between 27 July and 06 August 2021. I would like to encourage all staff who have not yet been vaccinated to approach the identified vaccination site nearest to them and to get their jabs.

### **Teaching and Learning**

Some linguist has coined the COVID – 19 situation as a “new normal”, thereby implying that this is the way things are going to be for a long time to come. As you are aware, we had to adjust timetables for class attendance as a response to different lock down alert levels. These adjustments should not be misconstrued as a call for a *laissez faire* attitude. On the contrary, we need to put more effort into matters of service delivery and ensure that no College stakeholders are short changed during this new normal era. The College is in a process of finalising the development of the ORBIT portal, a platform to assist students with e-learning, more especially when they are off site. I want to express my pride and gratitude at all progress achieved while acknowledging that more still needs to be done. Thank you to all our stakeholders for braving the elements to contribute towards the college being operational even when we were losing staff members to the pandemic. I would like to always keep reminding all of us that, we are part of a very important sector in the country because it is the TVET College sector that has to ensure that we spark the flame that will produce industrialists and game changers to solve the current high unemployment rate in the country. To our students who have personified the ‘remember why you started’ mantra by working closely with the college to initiate the hybrid (remote) teaching and learning approaches as was done in 2020 I want to express my pride and gratitude.

### **Importance of women in our community**

I would be failing my responsibility if I did not single out the role played by women in this struggle to prevail against the pandemic.

# THE BIGGER PICTURE

Allow me to single out our campus managers who ensured compliance with protocols and student safety, right up to the former acting Health Minister, Mme Mamoloko Kubayi for her leadership in increasing vaccination numbers. Let's continue making a difference in the lives of our community and let us never forget why we started in the first place. As a college, we remain cognizant and vigilant against patriarchy and gender based violence, not as lip service, but as an honour to our women as we observe the 150th anniversary of the birth of liberation struggle heroine and human rights campaigner, Charlotte Mannya Maxeke. Happy Women's Month to all of our valued women!

As we brace ourselves to deliver on the targets that we as a college have set for ourselves in 2021, while still having to adhere to strict lockdown regulations and health protocols, I wish to salute each and every council member, colleague and student of ORBIT TVET College for enduring and flying our ORBIT flag high! As we also celebrate TVET College month in August, let us celebrate our unity and progress that we have made as a college of choice!

## NW & MPUMALANGA REGIONAL OFFICE HOSTS SUCCESSFUL CAMPUS MANAGERS CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP

*By Mr Reuben Marakalala- Media & Communications Officer*



*Left to right: Dr N Balkrishen (Regional Manager), Mr S Zungu (DDG TVET Colleges) and Mr D Mokoena (ORBIT College Principal)*

ORBIT TVET College, hosted a Campus Managers' capacity building workshop organised by the Regional Office for North West and Mpumalanga TVET and CET Colleges, on 25 May 2021 at Hunters Rest Hotel, Rustenburg. The event was aimed at developing strategies and successful action plans to ensure improvement of the 2021 NC(V) Engineering results amongst others.

The Regional Manager for North West & Mpumalanga TVET and CET Colleges, Dr Nick Balkrishen conducted a presentation highlighting the challenges affecting teaching and learning, including the decline in the performance of engineering results. In attendance were campus managers from ORBIT, Taletso and Vuselela Colleges (North West Province), and Gert Sibande, Enhlanzeni and Nkangala Colleges

(Mpumalanga), regional office officials as well as other key stakeholders, which included the Vice-Chancellor of the North West University, Professor. D Kwadi.

The newly appointed Deputy Director-General for TVET Colleges, Mr S Zungu delivered a keynote address and emphasised the importance of conducting such a workshop, especially with one of the mandates for TVET Colleges being to produce qualified and skilled artisans to close the skills gap required by the country, as outlined in the National Development Plan (NDP) 2030. The DDG also touched on the ongoing WIFI Project set out by the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET) to digitise TVET Colleges. Currently, a significant number of colleges across the country have WIFI connectivity on-campus to make it easier for current and prospective students to access programmes-related information online. The DDG also indicated that the

DHET is committed to completing this project in its entirety. He furthermore said that government has invested billions through NSFAS funding for Colleges to execute the mandate of the National Skills Development Strategy. During the session, the Vice-Chancellor of the North West University, Prof. D Kgwadi shared valuable strategies on successful stakeholder relations, including managing student protests. Managing Director of Aerobuddies Consulting, Mr J Phalwane was also present, and articulated the importance of communication and the appreciation of staff within the organisation, including key strategies for successful leadership. This high profile event proved to be extremely successful, leaving all campus managers in attendance positive and capacitated to keep making a difference at their respective institutions during extraordinary times.



*The workshop was attended by Campus Managers from North West Province and Mpumalanga TVET Colleges and other notable stakeholders. Acting Director: TVET Colleges NW, Mr Z Nkomo was the programmed director, alongside Dr S Mlangeni.*

# THE BIGGER PICTURE

## DEPUTY PUBLIC PROTECTOR VISITS ORBIT COLLEGE

By Ms Tshegofatso Rapoo- E-Media & Communications Administrator



The Deputy Public Protector (3rd from right on the first row) and her team met with the Senior Management, Academic Board members and Student Support officials and SRC members of ORBIT College to address funding challenges by various institutions of higher learning

ORBIT College had the pleasure of hosting Deputy Public Protector, Ms Kholeka Gcaleka and her team on 21 May 2021, following students' concerns about access (or lack thereof) to tertiary education in the country. Amongst key matters discussed during the meeting, which was also attended by the Senior Management, Academic Board members, Student Support officials and SRC members of the College, was the issue of NSFAS funding and how students who were not funded by NSFAS in 2020 despite having met the progression criteria can be assisted going forward. Advocate Gcaleka indicated that her office was fully aware of the plight of poor students and the struggles they face at tertiary institutions across the country, and that their intentions were to intervene to help alleviate the suffering of current and prospective

students to have access to tertiary education. Following the fruitful meeting, NSFAS has since recommended that these students be approved based on the results reflecting that the students had progressed. The recommendation will also apply to other TVET Colleges who have students in a similar position if they still have a tuition budget allocation available. This will form part of the clean-up of the 2020 funding cycle. The College would like to thank the Deputy Public Protector and her team for the meaningful engagement, which was aimed at emerging with lasting solutions.

## IMPLEMENTATION OF POST PROVISION NORMS (PPN) PROJECT AT ORBIT COLLEGE

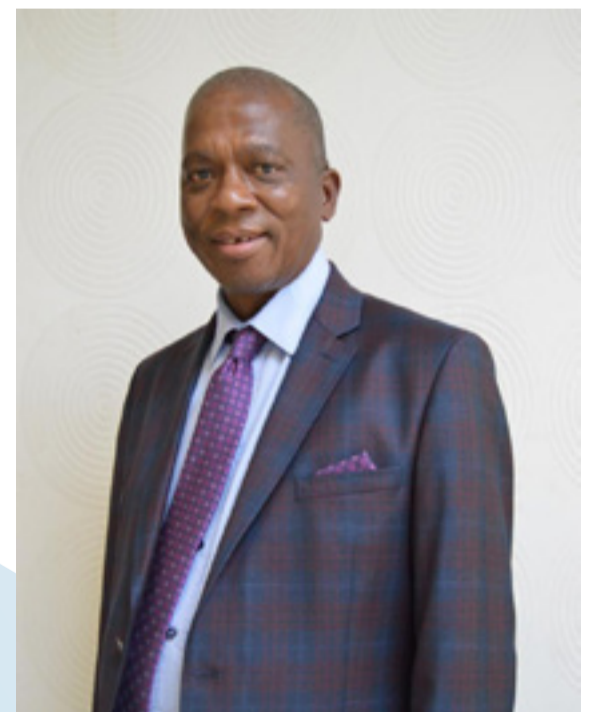
By Mr Solly Matjiane- Deputy Principal Corporate Services

The Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET) has initiated a countrywide project for TVET Colleges, aimed at developing and implementing organisational structures to suit the needs of each College. DHET has since developed and approved a Post Provision Norms (PPN) procedure manual intended to guide the implementation of the project, particularly at College level.

ORBIT College, along with other TVET Colleges, has since been tasked with establishing a Post Provisioning Norms Colleges Implementation Committee (PPNCIC). The committee is a multi-stakeholder grouping of members of Senior Management, Campus Managers, HR Manager, a College Council representative and two representatives from each of the recognised Trade Unions and will be in existence for three years. The College Implementation Committee (CIC) has been mandated to decide on the organisational structure that the college will implement. After decisions have been taken, the committee will then match and place employees on the organisational structure, which will contain both old and new posts.

The implementation of PPN is being rolled out in phases to ensure the retention of as many existing staff as possible and to ensure that no staff offering or supporting ministerial programmes are disadvantaged:

- *Phase 1: Matching and Placement*- This involves the matching and placement of existing ministerial staff against the standardised college structure and in line with college allocation
- *Phase 2: Migration*- This phase relates to the migration of identified ministerial staff from college to PERSAL payroll in line with the model allocations and college structure.



Mr M S Matjiane  
Deputy Principal: Corporate Services

# THE BIGGER PICTURE

Recruitment of currently existing vacant funded posts may also be considered during this phase depending on the availability of funds.

• *Phase 3: Recruitment – Critical Posts*- The recruitment of critical posts which relate to new or existing critical posts in line with model allocations and college structure.

• *Phase 4: Recruitment – Remaining Posts*- The recruitment of remaining allocated posts to ensure full implementation in line with model allocations and college structure.

To date the PPNCIC at ORBIT College, which reports to both DHET and Regional Oversight Committee (ROC), has managed to visit all college sites to engage staff members on how and when the project will roll out. The placement of employees is currently underway, and critical posts that have been identified by the committee are expected to be filled during the 2021/22 financial year, while the remaining posts will be filled by the end of 2022. The organisational structure of ORBIT College comprises 443 posts. This means that, going forward, the college cannot have a number of employees exceeding this number at any given point. Since the initiation of the PPN project in 2016, DHET has been and will continue to be in constant and continuous consultation with the management of the College, College Councils and organised labour unions. As the CIC Deputy Chairperson, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to the PPNCIC at ORBIT College for their continued commitment, hard work and objectivity thus far in ensuring that the process is fair and transparent.



## REGIONAL WORKSHOP FOR PERSONAL ASSISTANTS

*By Ms Oratile Matlapeng- Call Centre Administrator*



*Dr N Balkrishen handing over a gift of appreciation to one of the speakers, Ms O Matlapeng*

Personal Assistants perform a variety of administrative and clerical duties necessary to ensure the smooth running of an organisation. To this end, the North West and Mpumalanga TVET Colleges Regional Office and ORBIT College organised a regional PA workshop from 02 – 04 June 2021, aimed at equipping PAs to Principals with tools and knowledge to handle their varied responsibilities in an efficient manner. Various speakers were invited to share their insight in their respective during the three-



*The Regional Manager for North West and Mpumalanga TVET Colleges, Dr N Balkrishen outlined the purpose of the workshop as well as the expectations, which link College PAs and the Office of the Regional Manager*

day long workshop, to assist PAs to better manage their time, organise their office space and how to deal with individuals from all walks of life. Also in attendance were the Regional Manager for North West and Mpumalanga TVET Colleges, Dr N Balkrishen,

Director: NW & MP TVET Colleges, Mr Z Nkomo and ORBIT TVET College Principal, Mr D Mokoena.



## ORBIT WELCOMES NEW DEPUTY PRINCIPAL FINANCE

The College would like to officially welcome the Acting Deputy Principal Finance, Mr Stefan Senekal, who joined the College in February 2021. Mr Senekal started his career in 2005 at the Auditor General as an administrative clerk. He was promoted to manager and also acted as Senior Manager while in the service of the AG. Since December 2020 he has been working in collaboration with the Accounting Firm, Moores NW in his capacity as Senior Manager. It is clear that Mr Senekal's extensive experience and sound knowledge of the Finance Sector will benefit ORBIT College tremendously.



*Mr S Senekal  
Acting Deputy Principal: Finance*

# THE BIGGER PICTURE

## HIGHER HEALTH UPDATE ON VACCINATION OF PSET STAFF UNDER A PRIORITY ROLLOUT PLAN 27 to 06 AUGUST 2021

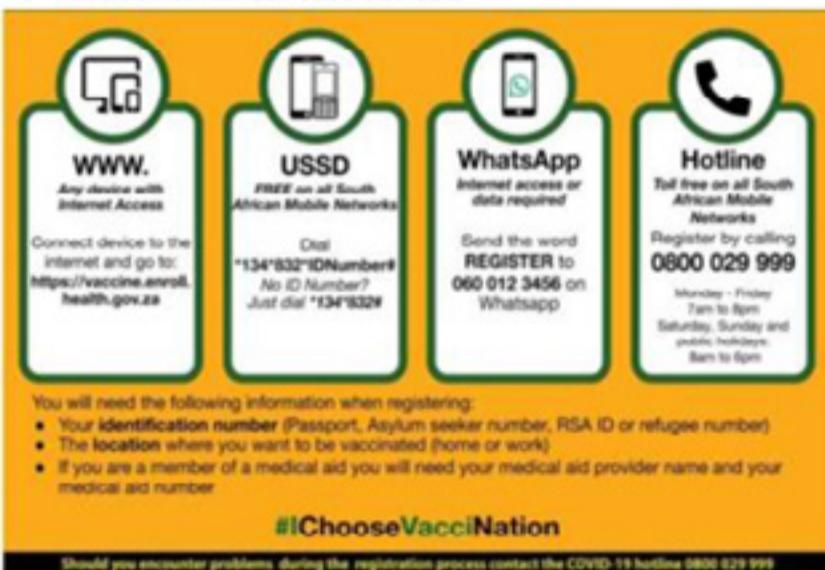
Minister of Higher Education and Training, Science and Technology, Blade Nzimande announced the implementation of the PSET priority vaccination plan on 23 July 2021

Higher Health, in association with the National Department of Health opened an additional 2000 vaccination sites, in every metro and across all district and sub-districts in our country, to accommodate the implementation of the PSET vaccination plan from 27 July to 06 August 2021. Vaccinations would be administered every day between 08h00 to 17h00, prioritising PSET sector staff over the age of 35 years. Staff were advised to register for vaccination on the EVDS system as soon as possible and to then visit the identified vaccination sites nearest to them and to join the higher education queue upon their arrival. A number of ORBIT College staff have already made use of this opportunity by registering on EVDS and visiting a vaccination site near them to get their jobs.

Vaccination of staff and students younger than 35 will commence as soon as the national vaccination rollout opens up for this population on 1 September 2021.

### ELECTRONIC VACCINATION DATA SYSTEM (EVDS) SELF REGISTRATION

1. Self-Registration Web portal: <https://vaccine.enroll.health.gov.za>
2. USSD: Dial \*134\*832\*ID Number# (No ID? – Just Dial \*134\*832#)
3. WhatsApp Portal: Send word "REGISTER" to 060 012 3456 on WhatsApp
4. Toll-free hotline: Call 0800 029 999



#### Who must register?

- All Healthcare Workers (public & private) who intend to be vaccinated in Phase I
- From 16 April citizens aged 60 years and older
- From 1 July citizens aged 50 years and older
- From 1 September citizens between the ages of 18 and 34 should enroll on the Electronic Vaccination Data System (EVDS) on <http://vaccine.enroll.health.gov.za/>

Please direct questions to Support email: [evds.hcwsselfregistration@health.gov.za](mailto:evds.hcwsselfregistration@health.gov.za) (link sends e-mail)

#### What will the information be used for?

Information submitted during registration will be used to:

- Identify eligible vaccination beneficiaries
- Plan supply of vaccines and ancillary items
- Allocate beneficiaries to their nearest available service point
- Communicate with enrolled individuals about the vaccination program, including but not limited to:
  - eligibility
  - where they will be vaccinated
  - follow-up vaccination appointments.

#### What do you need to register?

1. Access to the internet on any device (cellphone, laptop, tablet, desktop etc.)
2. Your ID number or Passport (non-RSA), general contact information (your cellphone number will be used as the primary mode of communication).
3. Information about your employment (primary employer and location of work)
4. Where relevant, your professional registration details, and medical aid are also requested.
5. With all information at hand registration should take approximately 2-3 minutes (Three steps)

# HR CORNER



Mr GM Mafojane  
HR Manager

The world is faced with a difficult era due to the deadly COVID19 pandemic which impacts immensely on both private and public workspace operations and the economies of countries across the globe. Sustained future employability, health and safety and the physical and psychological well-being of individuals are all areas that have been and still are affected severely by the pandemic. Change is inevitable as employers have no choice but to adapt to the “new normal” and adjust the allocation of resources. The traditional way of getting things done has become irrelevant as employers have to face the blatant reality of implementing hybrid working arrangements without collapsing operations.

The pandemic and its irrevocable impact on our circumstances are testing management’s innovation and flexibility, as no stone can be left unturned to ensure that strategies are in place to curb the spread of the virus, employees are supported across all dimensions and that fears are alleviated through clear communication and the establishment of proper COVID-related structures. Change management and mind-set adjustment are more necessary and urgent than ever for all College management and staff.

I would like to share my heartfelt condolences to the families of the Deputy Principal Finance, Mr Thato Mokhethi and Brits Campus Head of Administration, Mr Andre Vermaak who both succumbed to COVID 19 this year. The two colleagues served the college with devotion and commitment. May their souls rest in eternal peace. There are also colleagues who lost close family members due to COVID 19. May the good Lord comfort and give you all strength to continue leading your lives amid your sorrow and grief.

## HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

### NEW APPOINTMENTS

Allow me to appreciate the HR team’s dedication and commitment in ensuring that core business and other units within the College are supported by accelerating the following appointments from January 2021 to date:

Name of employee	Post	Appointment date	Site
Mdingazwe M	Snr Lecturer R191 Eng Studies		Mankwe
Molokwane M	Snr Lecturer ERD	01/01/2021	Mankwe
Moabelo MH	Lecturer Electrical	01/01/2021	Brits
Molete KO	Snr Lecturer Life Orientation	01/01/2021	Rustenburg
Segano FG	Snr Lecturer Transport & Logistics	01/04/2021	Mankwe
Muthimunye	Lecturer Electrical	01/05/2021	Mankwe
Ngwenya SR	Lecturer Electrical	22/02/2021	Mankwe
Ngwenya AN	Lecturer Business Studies	11/02/2021	Rustenburg
Mashifane KP	Lecturer Electrical	09/02/2021	Mankwe
Serame T	Foreman	01/03/2021	Mankwe
Moleko KD	HoD Artisan Development	10/05/2021	Rustenburg
Matlou MP	CFE Manager	10/05/2021	Central Office
Phakalane OC	Lecturer - Accounting	01/04/2021	Rustenburg
Mbele M	Lecturer Business Studies	12/07/2021	Rustenburg
Madiba B	Lecturer English	12/07/2021	Rustenburg
Matsile DK	Lecturer Hospitality	19/07/2021	Mankwe
Molebala MM	Lecturer Office Admin	01/08/2021	Mankwe
Tsele MS	Lecture English	12/07/2021	Mankwe
Anderson J	Lecturer - Hair care	23/06/2021	Rustenburg

Congratulations to all these staff members! We are looking forward to their positive initiatives and creativity in taking the college the new heights. I know that your appointments will add value to our institution.

# HR CORNER

## Pension Administration Training

To ensure the urgent, yet effective processing of the pension cases on the PCM system the DHET scheduled a pension administration workshop which will be hosted by ORBIT TVET College. The session will be attended by delegates from all TVET Colleges in the North West Province, i.e. ORBIT, Taletso and Vuselela Colleges. The session was initially planned for the first week of July, but has to be rescheduled to take place on Friday, 06 August due to national lockdown level 4 restrictions.

## Human Resource Development

Congratulations to all College employees who enrolled for further studies and who passed their examinations during the first semester. Hard work and commitment towards your studies is a formidable combination to prepare you for improved performance in the workplace and possible future promotion.

A number of training interventions have been successfully carried out since January 2021:

- fifteen management board members were trained on emotional intelligence and diversity management
- 32 staff members were trained on Occupational Health and Safety (OHS)

Unfortunately a number of training sessions had to be postponed due to the national lockdown regulations that were imposed. These included ICDL training for fifty employees, customer service training for fifteen staff members, training on archiving and record keeping for fifteen staff members and assessor and moderator training for thirty lecturers. All of these training interventions will be rescheduled once the country moves to national lockdown Level 2.

A total number of 49 staff members were funded for further studies through the college bursary scheme during the first semester. We expect this number to increase following applications received for the second semester.

We wish to extend our congratulations to staff members who successfully completed their qualifications.

## In Memoriam

The ORBIT College family was deeply saddened by the untimely passing of our beloved colleagues. Deputy Principal Finance, Mr Thato Mokhethi died on 21 January 2021, and was laid to rest on 25 January 2021, while Brits Campus Head of Administration, Mr Andre Vermaak, was laid to rest on 02 August 2021 after succumbing to Covid-19 complications on 21 July 2021. The College would also like to extend its deepest condolences to our sister College, Gert Sibande TVET College, following the passing of Principal, Ms Portia Mange on 30 June 2021 due to medical complications. Our thoughts and prayers also go out to the families of former Regional Managers for North and Mpumalanga TVET Colleges, Dr Endrico Pedro, who passed away on 28 January 2021 due to Covid-19 complications; and former Director: TVET Colleges, Reverend Billy Mogale, who died on April 2021. We will always remember their immense contributions in the TVET College Sector.



**Mr Andre Vermaak**  
Brits Campus HoA



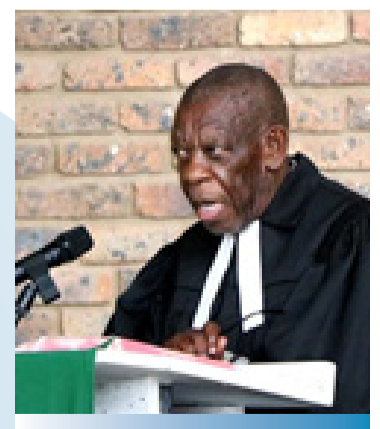
**Mr Thato Mokhethi**  
Former Deputy Principal  
Finance



**Ms Portia Mange**  
Gert Sibande College  
Principal



**Dr Enrico Pedro**  
Former Regional Manager:  
NW & MP TVET Colleges



**Rev. Billy Mogale**  
Former Director: NW &  
MP TVET Colleges



# HR CORNER

## Staff Wellness Programme

A number of staff wellness initiatives were organised since January 2021. The College showed its support for the national GBV campaign by providing t-shirts for all staff. Male staff received t-shirts bearing the tagline “NOT IN MY NAME”, and female staff received t-shirts with a “BREAK THE SILENCE”.

A financial literacy session was arranged and attended by the central office staff during which they were sensitised of the importance of budgeting and having investments. Two screening and testing opportunities and COVID19 vaccination awareness and consultation sessions were arranged with specialists (an ideologist, optometrist, dietician and dentist). The sessions were early attended by staff.

## Africa Day Celebrations

Staff and students of the College took part in a number of exciting activities across all sites on 25 May 2021. This was in celebration of the successes of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU now the AU), in the fight against colonialism and apartheid. The progress that Africa has made was acknowledged while reflecting upon the common challenges that the continent faces in a global environment.



## Youth Day

This year National Youth Day and Youth Month were celebrated under the theme: “Youth Power; Growing South Africa Together in The Period Of Covid-19. In remembrance, honour and salute of this historical day, Brits Campus staff and students came dressed in school uniform on 14 June 2021.



# CAMPUS ACADEMIC MATTERS

## TEACHING AND LEARNING DURING A PANDEMIC

By Mr P Nkai - Vocational Programmes Manager



**Mr P Nkai**  
**Vocational Programmes Manager**

The COVID-19 pandemic has ensured that we are reminded of the old saying by a Greek Philosopher - the only constant in life is change. Almost overnight, TVET colleges in our country have had to adjust their modes of learning delivery due to COVID19 safety regulations that had forced a reduction to the number of students allowed to attend physical classes in college campuses. If only a reduced number of students were allowed on campus, those not scheduled to attend physical lessons still needed a way to learn. An urgent plan was therefore necessary to teach students remotely.

### Remote teaching and learning

Following making the necessary adjustments to ensure that college campuses are made safe from COVID19, such as arranging for physical distancing in classrooms and arranging for rotational timetables. the college sought to reach the students that had to continue some of their learning at home. The following was done as an introduction to the college's remote teaching and learning strategy:

- Lecturers created WhatsApp groups with their students in efforts to facilitate direct communication and begin the sharing of learning material with students.
- The college website was used to communicate important information to students, and to also provide students with some learning material and previous question papers.
- The college's Facebook page was used to keep students in the loop with developments at campuses.
- The college's online tutor system located at campus Student Support Academic Labs, the AST (Academic Support Technologies) Tutor, which offers directed online lessons in subjects such as Maths, Science, Life Orientation and English, continued to be used by lecturers and students to reinforce learning content.

### Imagining new methods to teaching and learning

Inasmuch as the COVID19 Pandemic has disadvantaged a number of teaching and learning processes within educational institutions, it has also created opportunities for institutions to be innovative and creative. As the academic unit, we envision lecturers using all sorts of technology-related resources for teaching in the classroom and online, to enable uninterrupted learning delivery. We also envision students that are provided with the necessary resources to learn online. We envision high-technology smart classrooms to ensure that students are given access to the world through continued internet access. We envision a fully implemented blended learning approach at the college, ensuring that students are able to use technology to reinforce all the theory and practical learning content received. All these strategies will ensure that teaching and learning at ORBIT TVET College continues with or without COVID19 restrictions, leading to the success of all the college's students.

# CAMPUS ACADEMIC MATTERS

## SECOND SUCCESSFUL VIRTUAL GRADUATION CEREMONY FOR ORBIT COLLEGE

By Tshegofatso Rapoo- E-Media & Communications Administrator



ORBIT College celebrated approximately 450 National N Diplomandi and NQF Level 4 graduates during a Virtual Graduation Ceremony which took place on 19 May 2021. Due to the continuing national lockdown regulations set by the South African Government, in response to the Covid-19 pandemic which prohibits mass gatherings, the College took yet another uncommon decision to host the 2021 graduation ceremony virtually.

Five Top Achievers who obtained an average of no less than 70%, were also recognised during the ceremony. Mankwe Campus Educare student, Ms KM Mocuminyane was awarded the renowned 'DUX Student Award' for Report 191 Business Studies, after she achieved an average of 74.17% and four

distinctions. The DUX Award for National Certificate (Vocational) studies was scooped by Ms Makobe BH, also from Mankwe Campus, after she obtained an impressive average of 84.67% and seven distinctions. They received cash prizes and gifts, courtesy of our proud sponsors, Absa and Nedbank.

The ceremony, which was "attended" by graduates, their family members, DHET officials, external college partners and staff members, was streamed live via the College YouTube channel.

Before the commencement of the official conferring of certificates and diplomas, the Chairperson of the College, Dr Kabelo Moloantoa acknowledged all guests in attendance. This was followed by a live panel discussion by the Principal, Mr Dika Mokoena, Brits Campus Manager, Ms Tebogo Tlhopile, Mankwe Campus Manager, Ms Welheminah Molapi, Rustenburg Campus Manager, Ms Beverley Kgaboesele and Ms Tshegofatso Rapoo from the Communications Unit who facilitated the discussion. The discussion centred around how the Covid-19 pandemic has accelerated the digital transformation of higher education, and how institutions of higher learning now have to look into using innovative methods to overcome the challenges of the moment, without sacrificing the quality of teaching and learning. This was the second virtual graduation ceremony that ORBIT College has hosted. In November 2021, 446 graduates were acknowledged during the first ever Virtual Graduation Ceremony of the College; making ORBIT College the first TVET College to host such an event. The Management and staff of ORBIT College would like to take this opportunity and congratulate the graduates on this important milestone in their lives, and wish them well in their future endeavours.

A live panel discussion was hosted before the official graduation ceremony to reflect on how the Covid-19 pandemic has accelerated the digital transformation of higher education, and how institutions of higher learning now have to look into using innovative methods to overcome the challenges of the moment, without sacrificing the quality of teaching and learning.



Pictured from left to right: Ms Tshegofatso Rapoo (Communications Unit), Dr Kabelo Moloantoa (College Council Chairperson), Mr Dika Mokoena (Principal), Ms Beverley Kgaboesele (Rustenburg Campus Manager), Ms Tebogo Tlhopile (Brits Campus Manager) and Ms Welheminah Molapi (Mankwe Campus Manager)

# CAMPUS ACADEMIC MATTERS

## NATIONAL N DIPLOMA TOP ACHIEVERS



**Ms KM Mocuminyane-**  
**Top Achiever & Dux Award recipient**  
**National N Diploma Educare Report**  
**191 Business Studies**  
**Mankwe Campus**



**Ms M Matshediso**  
**Top Achiever**  
**National N Diploma Human**  
**Resource Management**  
**Mankwe Campus**



**Ms N Malesa**  
**Academic Excellence Achiever**  
**for achieving 100% for Office**  
**Practice N5**  
**National N Diploma**  
**Management Assistant**  
**Brits Campus**

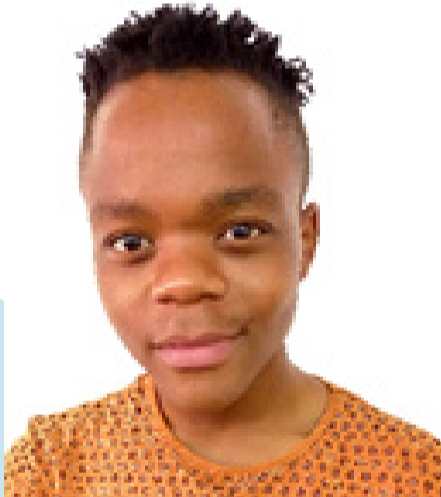


**Ms RR Montwedi**  
**Top Achiever**  
**National N Diploma**  
**Management Assistant**  
**Rustenburg Campus**

## NATIONAL CERTIFICATE (VOCATIONAL) TOP ACHIEVERS



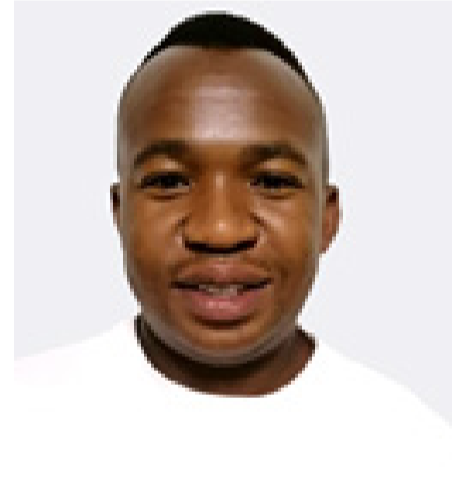
**Ms BH Makobe**  
**Top Achiever and DUX Award**  
**recipient**  
**National Certificate (Vocational)**  
**Transport & Logistics**  
**Mankwe Campus**



**Mr GM Mathibela**  
**Electrical Infrastructure**  
**Construction**  
**Mankwe Campus**



**Mr F Mashaba**  
**Engineering & Related Design**  
**Rustenburg Campus**



**Mr RK Thipe**  
**Academic Excellence Achiever**  
**for achieving 100% for**  
**Engineering Graphics and**  
**Design Level 3**  
**National Certificate**  
**(Vocational)**  
**Mankwe Campus**



**Ms TS Sere**  
**NCV Tourism**  
**Mankwe Campus**



**Ms RL Zimba**  
**Top Achiever**  
**NCV Management**  
**Brits Campus**



**Mr EM Coulter**  
**NCV Finance, Economics &**  
**Accounting**  
**Rustenburg Campus**  
**which saw PSIRA donate R10**  
**000 towards Mr Dithale's**  
**tuition fees.**



# CAMPUS ACADEMIC MATTERS

## DOMESTIC TOURISM SUPPORT PROGRAMME

By Julia Senoelo- Tourism Lecturer



Arising from the findings of a study commissioned by the National Department of Tourism (NDT), which amongst other things determined that locals do not travel or consume tourism products enough, the Domestic Tourism Growth Strategy (DTGS) was enacted to address these challenges. In essence DTSP seeks to create a robust and self-sustaining domestic tourism economy by making affordable and compelling tourism experiences accessible for the domestic tourism market.

Pursuant to the above the Department: Economic Development, Environment, Conservation and Tourism (DEDECT) in collaboration with the North West Parks & Tourism Board (NWPTB), Moses Kotane Local Municipality and NDT implemented the Domestic Tourism Support Programme from 11 – 12 March 2021 at Mankwe Campus with the aim of affording tourism students an opportunity to explore tourism attractions in their region.

On day one, Mankwe Campus Tourism students, accompanied by their lecturer, Ms J Senoelo and two other colleagues, Ms J Marakalala and Mr RT Nokale, visited the Mphebotho Cultural Museum in Pilanesburg, for various exhibitions and drumming sessions. After enjoying a scrumptious lunch at the museum, students were checked into various guest houses in the area.

On day two, the group went on a game drive at Pilanesberg Nature Reserve, where they were fortunate to see most members of the Big Five. The group then proceeded to Abusheni Bush Camp, where they took part in indigenous games and team building activities. Lunch was served after which the delegation returned to the college. The College would like to extend its gratitude to the Department of Tourism for the incredible and eye-opening experience granted to our tourism students.

## HAIRDRESSING WORKSHOP FOR HAIRCARE STUDENTS

By Tshegofatso Rapoo- E-Media & Communications Administrator

Rustenburg Campus Haircare students Level 2, 4 and 5 attended a three day workshop hosted by Soft n Free at the Campus from 05 – 07 May 2021.

Representing Soft n Free, hair expert, Mr Josh Ndala gave the students in-depth theoretical and practical training on hairdressing techniques, equipping them with essential hairdressing skills to be competitive hairdressers in the hairdressing industry.

The training allowed the students an opportunity to interpret and adapt to the hairdressing salon practices in a meaningful way



Haircare students Level 2, 4 and 5 were treated to a three day workshop presented by hair expert, Mr Josh Ndala (in front) from Soft n Free

# CAMPUS ACADEMIC MATTERS



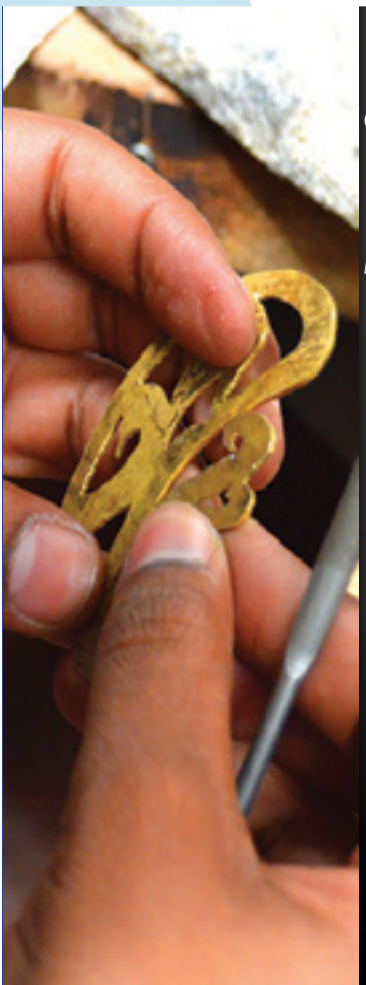
**Mr MJ Nkomo**  
NCV Level 2 Management  
student  
Brits Campus



**Ms N Mashabela**  
NCV Level 4 OA student  
Brits Campus

## IN MEMORIAM

Brits Campus NCV Level 2 Management student, Mr Mpho Jeremiah Nkomo passed away following a car accident on 26 June 2021. Mpho was one of the 2021 Wellness Peer Mentors, and will be dearly missed by his peers who have described him as “cheerful, opinionated, focused, always helpful and one of the most brilliant students”. Ms Nthabiseng Mashabela, Level 4 Office Administration student at Brits Campus was also laid to rest on 25 March 2021. May their souls rest in eternal peace.



👉 **JEWELLERY  
MANUFACTURE  
& DESIGN  
@  
RUSTENBURG  
CAMPUS**



👉 **CIVIL  
ENGINEERING  
@  
BRITS  
CAMPUS**



👉 **TOURISM  
@  
MANKWE  
CAMPUS**



👉 **POPULAR  
MUSIC  
PERFORMANCE  
@  
RUSTENBURG  
CAMPUS**

# COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

## CENTRE FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP TEAM VISITS SISTER COLLEGE FOR BEST PRACTICES

By Ms Nthabiseng Mosala- CfERI Marketing and Admin Officer

ORBIT TVET College Centre for Entrepreneurship Rapid Incubator (CfERI) team visited one of the best Centre for Entrepreneur centres in the country, False Bay TVET College Centre for Entrepreneurship Rapid Incubator.

Mr Peter Matlou (Centre Manager), Mr Mashilo Chauke (Business Development Manager), Ms Gontse Motaung (Executive Assistant to the Principal) and Ms Nthabiseng Mosala (Marketing/Admin officer for CfEri) undertook the visit on 05 May 2021.

The purpose of the visit was to share best practice with the Falsebay TVET College CfEri team and learn the Centre's policies and procedures in order to run the Centre successfully and efficiently. The False Bay CfEri specialises in manufacturing. The methodology components and four independent and interdependent elements the centre deals in are:

1. Learning- Learning linked to GrowthWheel
2. Coaching/mentoring- Leadership and personal development based on Growth Wheel Models
3. Support- Market & Financial Linkages; Business Administration; Compliance & Infrastructure
4. Personal mastery workshops- Workshops to build the emotional

The ORBIT College CfERI team looks forward to hosting the False Bay CfERI team in the near future.

During the visit to False Bay College, the ORBIT College also visited Furntech Incubator on 07 May 2021. Furntech Incubator is South Africa's only Centre of Excellence in the furniture industry, and is the first port of call for anyone looking for information on business incubation and or skills development in furniture manufacturing. Furntech's dedication to quality service delivery and its national footprint has resulted in the Fibre Processing and Manufacturing Sector Education and Training Authority (FP & M SETA) recognizing Furntech as



**Furntech workshop space-manufactures modern furniture**

the Institute of Sectoral and Occupational Excellence for the industry.

The incubator offers incubation programmes and business support development services to the youth and local SMMEs. Furntech incubator also has 7 different branches across the country that offers the same services to the locals.

The ORBIT team received a warm welcome from Ms Beryl Aries, the National Office Accountant and Mr Legshaan Ariefdien, the Chief Operating Officer.



**From left to right: Ms Nthabiseng Mosala, Ms Gontse Motaung, Mr Peter Matlou, Mr Steve Reid (Centre Manager), Mr Mashilo Chauke and Mr Abraham Oliver (Programme Manager)**



**From left to right: Ms Nthabiseng Mosala (ORBIT College Marketing/Admin officer for CfEri Ms Gontse Motaung (ORBIT College Executive Assistant to the Principal), Mr Matlou (ORBIT College CfERI Centre Manager) and Ms Ncebakazi Mathanzima (False Bay CfERI Technical Manager), in the workshop for SMMEs manufacturing aluminium, wood work and steel products**



# ORBIT TVET COLLEGE

## ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BECOMING AN ENTREPRENEUR OR INTERESTED IN ESTABLISHING A VIABLE BUSINESS?

ORBIT TVET College in partnership with SEDA (Small Enterprise Development Agency) is offering an equal, unbiased, once in a life time opportunity to join an incubation programme in the motor industry.

### ARE YOU:

- . Young, energetic, innovative, opportunistic and willing to take calculated risks?
- . Passionate about cars?
- . Clued up about technology?

Then ORBIT TVET College Centre of Entrepreneurship Rapid Incubator is here to serve you:

### SERVICES OFFERED:

- Initiate and provide information on entrepreneurship
- Assist with company registration
- Training on entrepreneurship skills
- Business idea/concept development
- Market research
- Business development
- Access to funds
- Mentoring and coaching

### For more information contact :

Mashilo Chauke – 014 594 2322 - 014 594 2122 or [mchauke@orbitcollege.co.za](mailto:mchauke@orbitcollege.co.za)  
Nthabiseng Mosala - [nmosala@orbitcollege.co.za](mailto:nmosala@orbitcollege.co.za)

### Or visit Mankwe Campus at the address below:

Centre for Entrepreneurship Rapid Incubator (CfEri)  
Mankwe Campus  
ORBIT TVET College  
Stand no. 230 Unit 2  
Mogwase  
0314





# COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

## SOLDIERING ON IN THE MIDST OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

By Ms Wilheminah Modisane – Marketing and Recruitment Officer

Indeed, this era of the pandemic that we are living in proves to be challenging at times, but life must go on! Since March 2020 to date, Covid-19 pandemic has been in our midst, and we all had to adjust and work around it. On this note, the marketing and recruitment team soldiered on, and continued to engage with the community at large regarding our educational services; whilst observing strict measures as per the Covid-19 safety protocols.



*It was business as usual at Marikana Secondary School as the team interacted with Grade 12 learners during their career day event hosted on 03 June 2021*

As the team is determined to keep our key stakeholders informed, we have successfully managed to reach out to our prospective students through career exhibitions. In 2021 the College was represented at approximately eight (8) career expos. The College participated in the annual roving career exhibition during the month of March by visiting two Afrikaans/English medium schools namely Bergsig Academy and Rustenburg Hoërskool in our catchment area. Numerous secondary schools hosted mini career expos for their learners with the College supporting by ensuring our attendance at mini expos hosted by Mmanape, Manamakgotha, Tlhabane Technical & Commercial, Holy Family, JM Ntsime, Marikana, Shadrack F Zibi, Motlhaputseng, Morare, Gabonewe and Reipuseng. All mini career expos allowed for interaction with learners but in a controlled manner, and as per permitted number of people at gatherings.



*The College was well represented at Manamakgotha Secondary School Career Exhibition that was hosted for Grade 12, 11 and 9 learners on 04 May 2021*

Information-sharing sessions were also conducted. The College attended an outreach programme that was hosted at Tsholetsa Disability Centre in Tlhabane, which mainly targeted the disabled youth and out-of-school youth. The College also supported a DHET promotional campaign drive 'Apply Now! School Activation Campaign' by doing presentations at Puo-phaa and Lerothodi secondary schools, situated in the Madibeng sub-district area.



*The College supported the outreach programme in collaboration with UNISA, which was hosted for the disabled youth of Tsholetsa Disability Centre in Tlhabane on 24 March 2021*

Naaupoort Secondary School situated in the rural farm outskirts of Naaupoort was visited, where the team interacted with learners from Grade 12, 11 & 9 regarding study opportunities available in the College. At least one Community College in Klipgat Village – Tswelelopele CLC was also visited, where information was shared amongst AET Level 4 learners and out-of-school youth of Klipgat community.

With the Covid-19 pandemic still in our midst, the marketing and recruitment team will continue finding innovative ways to keep the community that we serve informed, because they have a right to about the public education and training services we can offer to them!

# COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

## ORBIT TVET COLLEGE LIAISES WITH STAKEHOLDERS

By Ms Oratile Matlapeng- Calle Centre Administrator



Mr P Manganyi (Brits Hospital), Nurse Tsotetsi (Brits Hospital), Ms S Sebogodi (ORBIT College), Ms T Tlhophile (ORBIT College), Ms O Matlapeng (ORBIT College), Mr S Isaacs (Brits Hospital) and Dr Sindani (Brits Hospital)

The ORBIT TVET College business brunch is hosted annually to strengthen and build partnerships with our stakeholders in an effort to place our students for internships. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the College was unable to host this prestigious event and other plans had to be made to engage both existing and potential business partners. The College then opted to have individual meetings with identified partners and hand over a small care packages to show our appreciation and gratitude for giving us the opportunity to meet.

Delegations comprising campus representatives led by Ms O Matlapeng from Central Office, visited the following stakeholders: Brits District Hospital, Department of Social Development, Department

of Road & Safety, Robert Bosch, CET Brits, Department of Health, Golden Leopards Resort, Siluma Electrical & Building Construction, Moses Kotane Hospital, Moses Kotane Department of Education, Mogwase SAPS Academy, Department of Social Development Mogwase, Netcare Ferncrest, Techni Cool-Air Contractor, Colour Me, Anglo American, Sisonke Health, Department Of Community Safety & Transport Management – NW and Impala Platinum Limited.



Ms A Haasbroek (TechniCool), Ms O Matlapeng (ORBIT College) and Ms A Deyzel (TechniCool)

The visits took place over a period of three weeks, and the positive feedback and buy-in from our partners to be a welcome reward in these uncertain times. In 2021, the College will look to build and expand our partnership base further, by implementing more PR drives and liaison initiatives.

Ms T Tlhophile – Brits Campus Manager, Ms S Sebogodi – Brits Campus Student Support Officer, Mr K Tsheola – Brits Campus Career Development Officer, Ms D Senoamadi - Mankwe Campus Student Support Officer, Mr M Mabayi – Academic Lab Officer accompanied Ms Matlapeng to the PR visits.



Ms E Ngwato (ORBIT College), Chief Provincial Inspector Mohlabai (Dept. of Road Safety and Transport), Ms O Matlapeng (ORBIT College) and Ms S Sebogodi (ORBIT College)

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TVET College Month...

## 2021 Virtual Open Day

Watch us live on



Tuesday | 17 September 2021 | 10:00



# STUDENT SUPPORT PITSTOP

## MESSAGE BY SRC PRESIDENT TO STUDENTS AND STAFF



**Ms Karabo Metsieme**  
2021 SRC President

*"The challenge of leadership is to be strong, but not rude; be kind, but not weak; be bold, but not a bully; be thoughtful, but not timid; be proud, but not arrogant; have humour, but without folly" – Tim Rohn*

Dear Orbitants

Thank you for giving me and my fellow Student Representative Council (SRC) members, the opportunity to serve you and for your continued support throughout the 2021 academic year. You are indeed our greatest asset! As the current pilot of the ORBIT students' plane, it is our duty and responsibility to ensure that students have continuous access to information related to their studies.

It goes without saying that the Covid-19 pandemic has affected our usual ways of carrying out our academic activities. In terms of the new teaching and learning modalities, my team and I are always committed to making sure that all the necessary preparations are done to ensure continued academic activity. With the current rotational schedules and remote learning being implemented, the SRC would like to urge our student community to adapt and to work hand-in-hand with the SRC and lecturers to uphold our college vision and mission. Our aim is to be a top achieving college amongst the 50 TVET colleges in South Africa. I believe that if we work as a team with determination, respect and remain goal-driven, we will be in a position to fly the ORBIT TVET College flag even higher. Our door as leaders of the SRC is ALWAYS open to assist students in addressing any challenges that may arise. My team would like to advise students to have a relationship with God, to be prayer warriors as we are facing difficulties with the pandemic. When praying for ourselves, let us remember to pray for our beloved institution as well. We would also like to encourage you to have a proper plan for your studies. Stay focused, work hard and maintain a habit of proper time management. Remember failure is a temporary detour, not a dead end. You are destined for greatness so set your goals. Do not give up on your dreams; you are the greatest version of yourself. Keep shining, walk tall and wear a smile. We shall overcome. The SRC wishes you the best of luck in your studies. Take responsibility for your life, on and off campus. Wear your mask at all times, sanitize and stay safe. Aluta continua, Vitória e certa! (The struggle continues, victory is certain)

Yours in academic excellence.



## STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL (SRC) 2021

SRC elections for outstanding portfolios were concluded on 11 March 2021. In order to comply with the national lockdown regulations, the College hybrid elections which include both manual and electronic voting processes. The newly elected SRC will remain in office until 30 September 2021. Congratulations to all elected members!

1. Karabo Metsieme- President (Rustenburg Campus)
2. Nkosi Gaonathebe- Deputy President (Mankwe Campus)
3. Kelebogile Moraka- Secretary (Mankwe Campus)
4. Kwena Matshatsha- Deputy Secretary (Rustenburg Campus)
5. Ofentse Modisane- Treasurer (Mankwe Campus)
6. Tumelo Thamae- Academic (Brits Campus)



Front row (from left to right): Mr T Thamae, Ms K Moraka, Ms K Metsieme, Mr N Gaonathebe.  
Back Row (from left to right): Mr T Moyo, Ms K Matshatsha, Mr K Melamo, Mr T Serame, Ms O Bomvana, Ms O Modisane & Mr J Mokhutshwane

# STUDENT SUPPORT PITSTOP

7. Joseph Mokhutshwane (DC & Legal)
8. Thato Serame- Wellness (Rustenburg Campus)
9. Themba Moyo- PRO (Brits Campus)
10. Kaone Melamu- Sports & Recreation- (Rustenburg Campus)
11. Onkarabile Bomvana- Arts & Culture (Rustenburg Campus)
12. Sanah Segoto- Gender & Disability (Brits Campus)



2020/21 SRC Members at the training session at Konka

2020/21 SRC- Brits Campus	2020/21 SRC- Mankwe Campus	2020/21 SRC- Rustenburg Campus
1. Joseph Mokhutshwane Chairperson	1. Nkosi Gaonathebe Chairperson	1. Karabo Metsiame Chairperson
2. Sanah Segoto Secretary	2. Kelebogile Moraka Secretary	2. Kwena Matshatsha Secretary
3. Hluphi Boshielo Treasurer	3. Ofentse Modisane Treasurer	3. Boitumelo Mfati Treasurer
4. Tumelo Thamae Academic	4. Olerato Banda Academic	4. Tshepo Sikoane Academic
5. Themba Moyo PRO	5. Magdeline Manyama PRO	5. Bontle Moerane PRO
6. Omphile Sepipi Sports & Recreation	6. Sharlotte Maerman Sports & Recreation	6. Kaone Melamu Sports & Recreation
7. Kgothatso Masilo Arts & Culture	7. Matshediso Gura Arts & Culture	7. Onkarabile Bomvana Arts & Culture
8. Tshilidzi Munyai Health & Wellness	8. Itumeleng Motsomi Health & Wellness	8. Thato Serame Wellness



2020/21 SRC Members at the training session at Konka

## 2020/21 SRC Members at the training session at Konka

The elected student leadership attended training at Konka Soul Adventures from 16 to 18 April 2021 on leadership development, team building, college policies and procedures amongst others. They also had some fun in getting to know each other.

## WELLNESS PEER MENTORS (WPMs)

By Ms Yvonne Shilowa- Social Support Coordinator

Wellness Peer Mentors (WPMs) are a crucial part of the support provided by social support officers at the campuses. The objectives of the WPM Programme are to:

- Provide HIV related awareness and prevention and to promote a positive healthy lifestyle for students by empowering students with life skills to make informed decisions.
- Empower our students with leadership skills as Wellness Peer Mentors).
- Assist new students to cope and adjust smoothly to the new learning environment.
- Identify and refer students who are in need of support.



Activities for lessons during training

WPMs were recruited and appointed at all campuses. Currently there are eighty eight WPMs at the College. Training for the WPMs was conducted on 21 -22 May 2021 at Orion Hotel. During the training, WPMs were capacitated in conducting peer to peer conversations and referral processes for students who need further support. Their training also included information on Gender-Based Violence, HIV, Sexually Transmitted Infections and mental health amongst others. Life Skills and Computer lecturers and SSS Officials are supervisors to WPMs. WPMs are tasked with recognising and referring students in need of support, advocating and promoting students' needs, educating through a structured programme, showcasing healthy behaviour and promoting and participating in health and wellness awareness events and campaigns.

# STUDENT SUPPORT PITSTOP

## PSL GIANTS ORLANDO PIRATES SIGNS FORMER ORBIT COLLEGE FC PLAYER



**ORBIT College FC Head Coach, Mr Pogiso Makhoye (left) pictured with the team's former player, Mr Monnapule Saleng who was recently signed to Orlando Pirates FC**

Former ORBIT College FC player, Monnapule Saleng was recently signed to Premier Soccer League giants, Orlando Pirates, after a successful half season with Free State Stars in the GladAfrica Championship, where he bagged 13 goals. Head coach of ORBIT College FC, Mr Pogiso Makhoye says he is not at all surprised about the signing. According to Makhoye, Saleng could have been an AmaZulu or Golden Arrows player two years ago already. “AmaZulu invited him after we played Umvoti in the 2018/19 Nedbank Cup so we took him there for an assessment. They wanted to sign him but only for their MDC team, so I felt this was a step backwards. Golden Arrows then offered him a three-year PSL contract but then dumped us again wanting the boy to play in their MDC team as well, yet he was already 21. I was then stranded with the boy until Free State Stars took him after we played a friendly against them in Bethlehem”.

Makhoye says the young player is a hard worker, and he has no doubts that Saleng will make it at Pirates. “He is destined for the national team”, concluded Makhoye. Prior to signing for Stars, Saleng had scored 27 goals for ORBIT College in the ABC Motsepe League playing on the wing. He spent the past two years at Stars and arrived at Pirates aged 23.



**Mr Monnapule Saleng pictured here with ORBIT College Principal, Mr Dika Mokoena**

## BIG UP TO TVET COLLEGE STUDENTS!

*By Stanley Kekana- Acting Student Support Manager*

It is time to sing the praises of all TVET College students. Covid-19 came unannounced and took the whole world by storm while shattering many people's lives. But in spite of all these challenges, TVET College students remained standing. ORBIT TVET College were no exception.

Departmental (DHET) guidelines in line with Government National Lockdown restrictions were put in place and allowed TVET Colleges to re-open. Albeit adopting a phased-in approach, the ever hard-working TVET College students grabbed the opportunity with both hands. While other sectors were struggling to deal with resuming activities at Level 3 lockdown in June 2020, TVET College students braced themselves and faced their changed reality.

Online teaching and learning, staggered timetables and rotational class attendance became a new vocabulary in their lives. They forged ahead by completing assessments, practicals and examinations. Amidst the challenges, TVET College students came out tops! The number of graduates honoured at the Graduation Ceremony this year, is proof of this achievement.

Their true success will be seen as they shape and position our country for the better as they join the workforce. Undoubtedly, they will face many challenges and difficult times, but with the resilience shown during the Covid-19 pandemic, they will surely succeed.

# STUDENT SUPPORT PITSTOP

## DISABILITY AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

By Ms Nnane Rakhudu- Student Support Academic Coordinator



**M**ankwe Campus hosted the Disability Awareness Campaign earlier in the year. Office Administration Level 4 student, Mr Karabo Modimola, who is wheelchair-bound but has a positive outlook on life, educated his peers greatly about his disability. His message for the day was: “We are not disabled, rather we are differently abled.”

### PAL Training

As part of the academic on-course support, students who have shown interest in assisting their peers, 2021 PALs attended training in March 2021 at Kings Gate Hotel, where they were taught how best they can assist and

handle their peers in achieving academic excellence.



PALs taking part in creative thinking activities



Lecturers supervising PALs doing group work during training

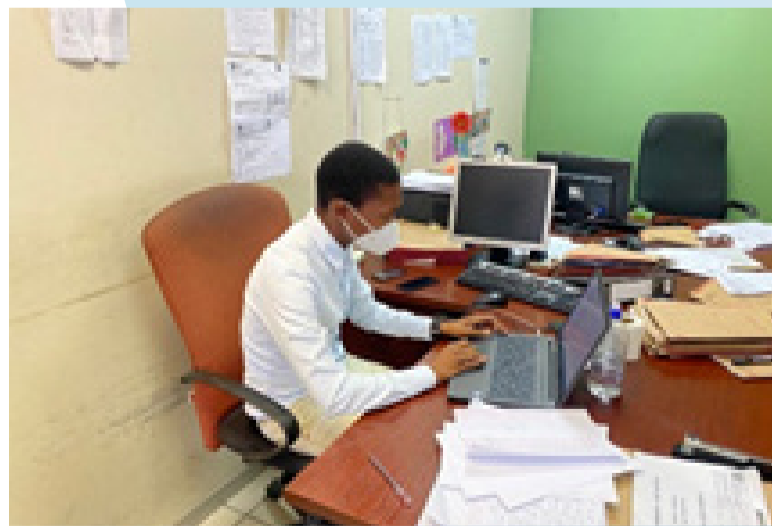
## INSETA MONITORING AND TRAINING

By Ms Nnane Rakhudu- Student Support Academic Coordinator

**O**fficials from the Insurance Sector Education and Training Authority (INSETA) conducted visits to host employers of some of the College students at their places of internship between 18-20 May 2021, to monitor their progress. They were accompanied by Student Support Officials at the different sites (Brits, Mankwe, Rustenburg Campuses and Central Office)



Mr B Mdluli from INSETA monitoring the progress of Rustenburg Campus FN intern, Ms MT Mahube at her host employer, the Department of Health



Brits Campus Mr MR Rankali doing his internship at the Department of Social Development



From left to right, Ms N Rakhudu (Academic Support Coordinator), Mr Siboto (Learning Division Specialist at INSETA), Mr B Nduli and Ms L Peyper (Rustenburg Campus Student Support Officer: Academic) during monitoring and support of interns at Central Office



# ORBIT TVET COLLEGE

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### Did you know?

ORBIT TVET College also specialises in the following exciting programmes:

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