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Soshanguve Campus Magazine

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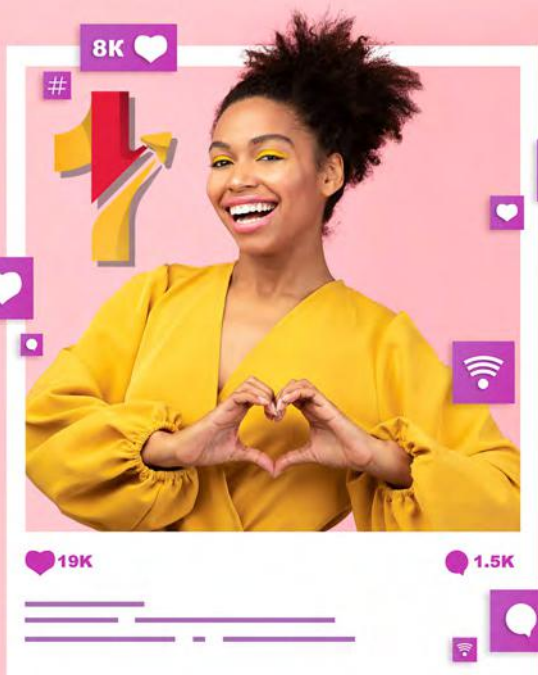
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ONE REPUBLIC - Soshanguve Campus Magazine

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BOOKWORMS UNITE: Soshanguve North Campus Library Hosts Epic Book Exhibition

By Puseletso Mampye

The Soshanguve North Campus Library hosted a Book Exhibition Day on 09 October 2025, aimed at fostering a love and interest of reading amongst students and lecturers. Titus Mashilo, the librarian said, "The main purpose of this event is to encourage students to read more and know that their library has more to offer, other than just coming in here to study for their exams. We also encourage lectures to suggest books that we currently do not have and can be useful." The attendees had an opportunity to explore a variety of books from three different book vendors.

The primary goals of the Book Exhibition were to encourage students and lecturers to develop a reading culture and to enable lecturers to utilise library funds to recommend books that would be beneficial for their courses and research. Michael Brightmore, Managing Director at Academic Marketing Services had this to say "We import everything from the United Kingdom, and we negotiate special prices particularly for students, because the prices of these books is becoming extremely expensive. We specialise in humanities education and business studies." Lecturers were warmly encouraged to attend the event and select books for recommendation, while postgraduate students were also invited to take part and choose books that support their research studies.

The event featured three book vendors, offering a diverse range of books that catered to various interests and academic needs, vendors including RegExpress, Academic Marketing Services, and Van schaik. By hosting the Book Exhibition, the library aimed to promote the use of library resources and foster a community of readers among students and lecturers.

"The plan is that we need to have academic staff to come and view these three vendors that TUT is purchasing books from, reason being we normally have a problem with academic departments not using the budget that the library has to buy books, it is a lot and not being used." Said Siphwe Smous, Library Assistant and one of the event organisers. Overall, the Book Exhibition Day was an initiative to promote reading and academic development among students and lecturers. Students need to learn that knowledge is power, and one can benefit a lot from reading randomly. 📖



Igniting a Passion for Literature: Outreach Brings “My Children! My Africa!” to Life at Lethabong School of specialisation

By Sithabile Nsele

A powerful wave of intellectual energy swept through the halls of Lethabong School of Specialisation, as the Soshanguve Campus Community Office(SCCO) hosted a book review session focused on Athol Fugard's poignant play, *My Children! My Africa*. The outreach, designed to assist Grade 12 learners with their final English literature examinations, was a resounding success, leaving learners feeling more confident and inspired.

The event transformed the school's hall into a dynamic hub of discussion. Instead of a traditional lecture, SCCE volunteers facilitated interactive workshops that deconstructed the play's central themes of education, justice, and generational conflict during the final years of apartheid. Learners engaged in spirited debates, with many taking on the roles of Mr. M, Isabel, and Thami to better understand the characters' motivations and tragic choices. Elvis Malemela, the outreach organiser, “We wanted to give back to our community, so we thought of something that we once straggle with, then we came out with this book *My Children My Africa*. That book it is hard to understand so as a team we decide to help our grade 12 as they will soon be writing their exams,” he stated.

The volunteers provided immediate, constructive feedback on crafting powerful thesis statements and building coherent arguments. The initial apprehension in the room gradually gave way to the confident scratching of pens and the lively exchange of ideas as complex literary concepts became clear and manageable. “When planning this outreach, we first looked at the purpose of the event which was to support Grade 12 learners in understanding “*My Children! My Africa!*” and to

create a meaningful learning experience around it. We wanted to partner with a school that shared our educational focus and had learners who could really benefit from this kind of engagement,” said Nkosingiphile Sefodi, SCCE Outreach and logistics coordinator.

The impact of the outreach was profoundly visible in the heightened confidence of the Lethabong learners. Where there had once been uncertainty about the play's bleak ending and political nuances, there was now a sense of clarity and personal interpretation. Students were heard passionately defending their readings of Thami's choices or Mr. M's dedication to education, demonstrating that they had moved from passive readers to active critics of the text. Odirile Sibande, a Grade 12 learner who participated, shared her personal breakthrough. “I always found the ending of the play so depressing and frustrating, but during the discussion, one of the volunteers asked us to consider it not as an end, but as a desperate call to action. It completely changed my perspective. I no longer feel anxious about writing my essay; I feel like I have a strong, personal interpretation to argue,” he said.

Ultimately, the SCCE's outreach to Lethabong accomplished far more than a simple exam preparation session. It built a vital bridge between university students and aspiring scholars, fostering a shared passion for one of South Africa's most important literary works. The event succeeded not only in demystifying a prescribed text but also in empowering a new generation of learners to confidently add their own voices to the enduring conversation that *My Children! My Africa!* so powerfully began. 🌟



Directorate of Extra Curricular Development Book and Drama society
Coach Blessing Nkabinde



Soshanguve Campus Community Engagement Facilitator
Elvis Malemela

Coffee break workshop

supports TUT-SASUF collaboration

By Sithabile Nsele

TUT-SASUF Student Network (South Africa-Sweden University Forum) hosted a vibrant intellectual Coffee Break Session and Workshop at the Soshanguve Campus, Student centre. The event, organised by the TUT-SASUF Student Network in collaboration with the Faculty of Information and Communication Technology, successfully brought together a diverse cohort of students, academics and professionals.

The day was conceived as more than a meeting; it was a strategic initiative to strengthen the bonds within the SASUF partnership. The event provided a unique, informal platform for dialogue.

The "coffee break" concept proved to be a masterstroke, as the relaxed atmosphere quickly dissolved formal barriers, encouraging open and genuine conversations among attendees.

According to Nokwanda Khumalo, TUT-SASUF Student Network chairperson: "The reason why we are doing this coffee break session, is to educate and create understanding so that next year, when we introduce more programmes, students are informed. Opportunities and everything else are there, therefore we participate and make things vibrant," she said.

The air was filled with the rich aroma of coffee and the lively hum of discussions that spanned academic interests, cross-cultural experiences and future collaborative possibilities.

Following the initial networking session, the event transitioned into a more structured workshop. This segment, curated by the Faculty of Information and Communication Technology, delved deeper into pertinent themes at the intersection of technology and global development.

"We do not want to dictate to students to become the game changers nor to identify what their problem is or the solution they should propose. Students should have already conceptualised how they would want to solve the problem," said Caiphus Motadi from the Internationalisation Office at Tshwane University of Technology.

While the specific workshop content was tailored to the registered participants, its overarching aim was to equip students with practical skills and insights, fostering innovation and research excellence. The workshop facilitated a dynamic exchange of knowledge, where students were not passive recipients but active contributors to the discourse. 🌐



Prof Pius Owolawi
Faculty of ICT Assistant Dean



Student leaders who attended the session



Thulane Mthombeni
Soshanguve Campus SASUF Representative



We do not want to dictate to students to become the game changers nor to identify what their problem is or the solution they should propose. Students should have already conceptualised how they would want to solve the problem.

Caiphus Motadi



Prof Dee Khosa

named Faculty of Humanities Lecturer of the Year 2024–2025

By Kgothatso Monono

The Faculty of Humanities celebrates a notable achievement as Prof Dee Khosa is named the Lecturer of the Year 2024-2025.

For Prof Khosa, this accolade is both humbling and profoundly significant. "I feel deeply honoured, blessed, and genuinely appreciative. This recognition affirms the diligence, dedication, and passion I invest in my teaching. It serves as a reminder that the commitment to student success does not go unrecognized," she stated.

Prof Khosa's teaching approach focuses on creating engaging, meaningful, and transformative learning experiences. Within the Faculty of Humanities, she believes that students learn most effectively when lessons are relatable and stimulate critical thinking.

"I aim to make the content accessible, practical, and impactful," she explained. She integrates activities that spark participation, critical thinking, and reflection, ensuring that students gain not only knowledge but also confidence.

For Prof Khosa, the greatest reward of teaching is witnessing the incredible transformation of students. "Seeing students grow from uncertainty to confidence is truly fulfilling," she said. Moments of gratitude from students reaffirm her commitment to shaping futures. One of the recent messages she received:

"We wanted to take a moment to express our heartfelt gratitude for the internship opportunity you provided us. Your support has been instrumental in helping us gain practical experience and skills during a challenging period of unemployment. We are truly grateful for your investment in our future."

Such messages remind Prof Khosa why she chose academia: to empower, uplift, and open doors for students.

Her guiding philosophy is simple yet powerful: engagement. Prof Khosa regularly invites industry professionals to deliver guest lectures, ensuring that what students learn mirrors the realities of the working world. This approach enriches the curriculum, strengthens industry alignment, and prepares students for their professional journeys by connecting them with real voices and real challenges.

Balancing the many responsibilities in academia, teaching, administration, research, and community engagement is a significant challenge. But Prof Khosa approaches these demands with resilience, effective time management, and a strong support network.

Prof Khosa enhances her teaching through the use of multiple digital tools. Brightspace provides a structured learning platform, while WhatsApp and email ensure that communication remains easy, immediate, and accessible, particularly for students navigating digital or personal obstacles. These methods support a hybrid learning experience that is flexible, responsive, and centred around student needs.

Prof Khosa draws her motivation directly from her students.

"Their growth, excitement, and hope for the future push me to continue improving," she shared. Continuous professional development and



collaboration with industry partners also help her stay aligned with evolving teaching and learning trends.

Although she is based in the Humanities, Prof Khosa offers a universal message applicable to all students across disciplines: "Stay committed, be curious, embrace challenges, and remain open to learning. Excellence comes from discipline, passion, and a willingness to go beyond what is expected."

Prof Khosa is especially excited about expanding industry partnerships through new MoUs designed to increase Work Integrated Learning (WIL) opportunities. These collaborations bridge academic theory and professional practice, an achievement she is immensely proud of.

She wants the TUT community to know that her journey is rooted in passion, resilience, and unwavering dedication. Her mission is clear: to empower students, enrich the learning experience, and create pathways that lead to real opportunities. Every milestone she reaches is shared with her students, colleagues, and industry partners who support her work.

As Lecturer of the Year, Prof Khosa stands as an inspiring example of academic excellence and transformational leadership within the Faculty of Humanities, an educator whose impact will be felt for years to come. 🌟

“ Stay committed, be curious, embrace challenges, and remain open to learning. Excellence comes from discipline, passion, and a willingness to go beyond what is expected.

Prof Dee Khosa

Dr Anna Segooa

named Faculty of ICT Lecturer of the Year 2024–2025

By Kgothatso Monono

The Faculty of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) proudly celebrates Dr Mmatshuene Anna Segooa, Senior Lecturer in the Department of Informatics, who has been honoured with the Lecturer of the Year 2024–2025 Award at the 2025 Academic Excellence Awards. This recognition celebrates Dr Segooa's unwavering dedication to academic excellence, innovative teaching, and student empowerment, as well as her remarkable contributions to advancing international partnerships and research excellence within the faculty.

A dynamic force within the Faculty, Dr Segooa has championed internationalisation and cross-border collaboration. She spearheaded the Erasmus+ partnership (2020–2023) with the Universidad Politécnica de Valencia (UPV) in Spain, enabling postgraduate exchange programmes and staff mobility that broadened TUT's global footprint.

The success of this initiative secured a follow-up funding cycle (2023–2026), opening new opportunities for both students and staff in August 2025 and January 2026. Building on this momentum, Dr Segooa is now expanding the programme to include African partnerships, with a strong focus on universities in Kenya, further positioning TUT as a hub for continental collaboration and academic innovation.

Renowned for her student-centred teaching approach, Dr Segooa blends technology and pedagogy to create engaging, inclusive learning environments. She integrates modern tools such as Microsoft Teams, D2L Brightspace, and Google Docs into her teaching, promoting flipped classrooms, project-based learning, and peer collaboration.

Dr Segooa's influence extends beyond the lecture hall. She is ranked among TUT's Top 500 academic authors, and has contributed actively to Senate (her term ended recently on 1 November 2025) and the Women in Leadership Executive, and plays a strategic role in curriculum design, postgraduate supervision, and short learning programme development.

Her passion for youth outreach and women's empowerment in ICT continues to inspire young learners to pursue careers in technology. Her training in Finland through the Vocational Teacher Education Programme and Train-the-Trainer initiative has further enriched her teaching methods, embedding international best practices into her work at TUT. During the 2025 Faculty of ICT excellence awards ceremony, Dr Segooa was recognised as the Emerging Researchers of the year – Winner and Women Researcher of the year: Runner up.

The Lecturer of the Year 2024–2025 Award acknowledges more than individual achievement; it honours a career devoted to transforming education, empowering students, and strengthening global connections. Through her leadership, mentorship, and innovative spirit, Dr Anna Segooa continues to elevate the Faculty of ICT, proving that passionate, forward-thinking educators are the cornerstone of academic excellence.

The Faculty of ICT congratulates Dr Segooa on this well-deserved recognition and thanks her for embodying the values of innovation, inclusion, and impact that define TUT's commitment to shaping the future of digital education. 🌟



SCCE students earn Gold Star for community impact

By Puseletso Mampye

Soshanguve Campus Community Engagement (SCCE) honoured students who made a meaningful difference in the community through a certification handover ceremony recognising their outreach work across the year. Held at the South Campus, the event celebrated the dedication of students who volunteered in wards 34 and 35, the communities surrounding both Soshanguve campuses.

Students who participated in SCCE programmes that enabled them to develop skills while contributing to the well-being of the Soshanguve community all received certificates. Their involvement strengthened the University's efforts to promote social responsibility through active participation.

Dr Etienne van Wyk, Executive Dean of the Faculty of ICT and Interim Campus Rector, delivered a message of appreciation on behalf of management. He thanked the students for their commitment and reflected on the value of volunteerism. "I don't have many regrets in life but one thing I really regret is not utilising all my opportunities to grow as a professional person through volunteering while I was still at Varsity, because that's what I have gathered from your speeches," he said.

Committee representatives echoed this sentiment in their remarks, highlighting how the SCCE initiative has offered students opportunities to grow, engage and make a positive impact.

Nkosingiphile Sefodi, SCCE Outreach and Logistics Coordinator, who received multiple certificates in recognition of his dedication, was among the iconic achievers. "It has been a wonderful journey to be part of this committee. I have found a family on campus and I would happily spend most of my time here even if it means being overworked. I hope that by next year we will grow more and spread the word so that more people can be impacted by the work we do," he said.

Students also reflected on the challenges and rewards of the year. "It was a really hard journey, but during the second semester, we pulled up our socks and did our best. I am extremely proud of my committee and to the incoming committee for next year, I wish them all the best," said Wandiswa Mthethwa, SCCE Chairperson.

The ceremony reinforced the importance of student-led community engagement, recognising their efforts as a driving force for continued development and positive change. 🌟



SCCE student volunteers



From left SCCE Facilitator Elvis Malemela, Tiyane Nkuna Student Volunteer and Lakie Mokoena SCCE Liaison Officer



“I don't have many regrets in life but one thing I really regret is not utilising all my opportunities to grow as a professional person through volunteering while I was still at Varsity, because that's what I have gathered from your speeches.

Dr Etienne van Wyk

Bridging Academia and Industry:

Public Management Hosts Impactful Career Seminar

By Sithabile Nsele

In a strategic effort to bridge the gap between academic learning and the demands of the professional world, the Department of Public Management, in partnership with the Department of Employment and Labour, hosted a highly impactful career seminar on 28 October 2025. Held at South Campus, Building 14-113, the event centred on the timely and relevant theme: "Professional Edge: Prospects for Employability and Career Advancement."

The seminar aimed to equip students with practical insights and essential tools to navigate an increasingly competitive job market. It provided an invaluable platform for soon-to-be graduates to engage directly with industry experts and gain real-world perspectives.

"The event is primarily about fostering interactive sessions and bridging the gap between our students and the public sector. Our guest department, the Department of Employment and Labour, is here to engage with our students and highlight the various opportunities available in the public sector," said Nkosinathi Mahlalela, Integrated Learning Coordinator for the Department of Public Management.

Presenters from the Department of Employment and Labour delivered rich and informative sessions covering a broad spectrum of career-related topics. Students received guidance on labour market trends, effective interview strategies, and crafting compelling CVs and cover letters. The programme also tackled essential processes such as registering on the national work-seekers' database and accessing career counselling services.

DEL & PES Career Counsellor Benrickgo Daniels further emphasized what is expected from students during job interviews, offering practical tips on how to confidently respond to questions. He also urged students to remain vigilant against job scams, stressing the importance of verifying employment opportunities.

The atmosphere throughout the seminar was highly interactive, with students actively engaging during networking and Q&A segments. Many took advantage of the opportunity to ask pressing questions, gaining

clarity and direction regarding their career paths.

Reflecting on the day's success, House Committee Chairperson Amogelang Seboko said, "The career seminar was very helpful for the students. It provided useful information on how to create a CV, how to identify job scams, and which legitimate platforms to use when searching for employment. The speaker had extensive experience, shared real-life advice, and offered personal stories. It was a valuable and positive experience that helped students better understand what employers look for when evaluating CVs."

The Department of Public Management reaffirmed its dedication not only to academic excellence but also to graduate readiness. The 2025 Career Seminar stood as a testament to this commitment, successfully empowering students with the professional edge needed to embark on and excel in their careers.



from left Mndeni Ndwandwe, Benrickgo Daniels, Nkosinathi Mahlalela and Dr Levy Ndou



Amogelang Seboko, Chairperson of the house committee



TUT Triple Crown ceremony

shines spotlight on beauty and empowerment

By Puseletso Mampye

The Soshanguve Campus hosted a dazzling Triple Crown ceremony celebrating Miss Plus Size, Mr TUT and Miss TUT, showcasing the confidence and talent of Tshwane University of Technology (TUT) students. Held at Batter Boys Village in Montana, the event brought together excited contestants who competed for top titles in an atmosphere of pride and empowerment.

The competition offered a platform for students to express their beauty, charisma, confidence and stage presence, all of which were taken into account in the judges' decisions.

Jack Sibanyoni, the event organiser, said social participation and development are important elements in the holistic development of future-ready graduates. "We annually host this event to instil self-confidence in students and display their talents, beauty and charisma. It is through events such as this that their presentation skills and confidence are developed," he said.

Students, families and staff attended in numbers, showing their strong support for the contenders.

Lerato Setlago was crowned Miss TUT, Primrose Ntobela won the Miss Plus Size title and Samkelo Shongwe secured the Mr TUT crown. In addition to the recognition of their dedication throughout the competition, the winners' prizes will come in handy to support their academic journey.

"I am grateful and honoured for winning the Miss TUT Soshanguve Queen crown. I have always dreamt about leaving a mark at TUT and winning this title is a great opportunity for me to do that," said Setlago.

The event was also a celebration of inclusivity and self-acceptance. "It is a bit overwhelming to be crowned Mr TUT Soshanguve Campus 2025. It was quite a challenging journey to the finals, but through hard work and dedication I made it and won the title," said Shongwe, who credited coach Brenda Mahlalela for guiding the contestants through the journey.

Shongwe added that his motivation came from challenging a common pageant myth. "I was the first male on stage and took first place," he said.

The Directorate of Extracurricular Development's commitment to creating platforms for students to excel shone through during the event. The newly crowned ambassadors will certainly inspire fellow students to embrace confidence, pursue excellence and represent TUT with pride. 🌟



From left Miss TUT, Mr TUT and Miss Plus Size



I am grateful and honoured for winning the Miss TUT Soshanguve Queen crown. I have always dreamt about leaving a mark at TUT and winning this title is a great opportunity for me to do that.

Lerato Setlago, Miss TUT



Primrose Ntobela

Crowned Miss TUT Plus Size 2025/2026: A Bold Voice for Confidence, Courage, and Change

By Kgothatso Monono

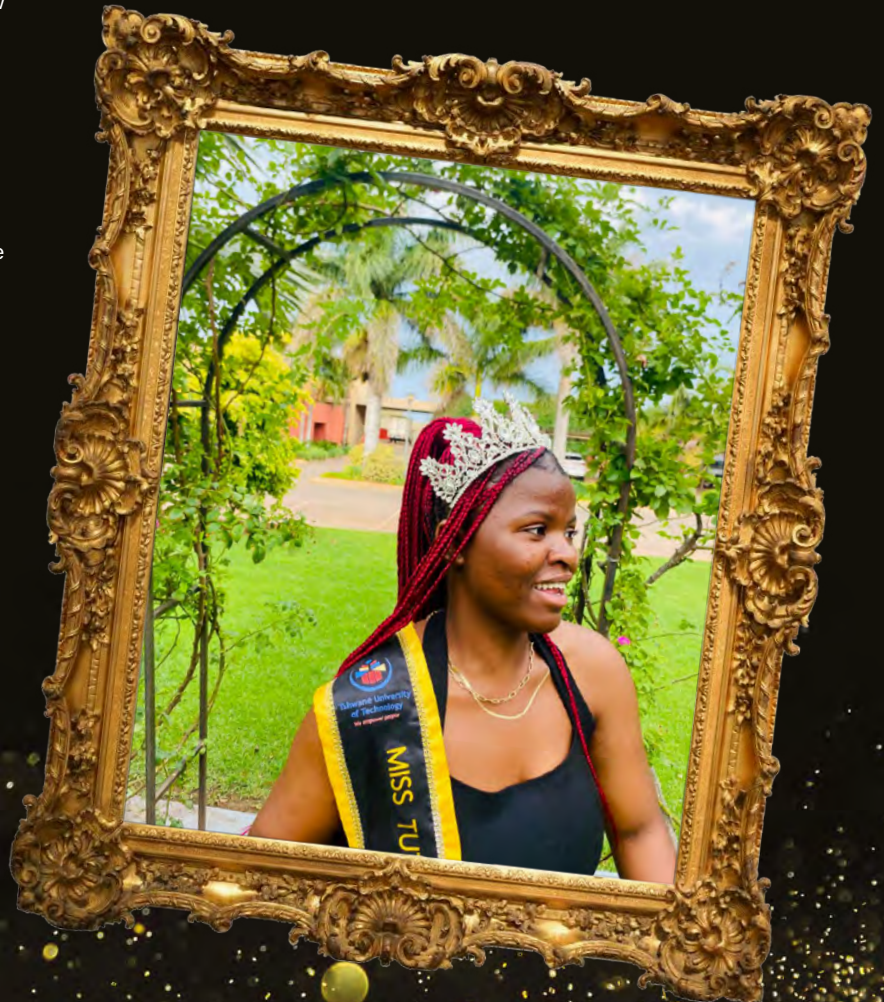
At just 19 years old, Primrose Nothando Ntobela has stepped into the spotlight as Miss TUT Plus Size 2025/2026, and she is already proving that her reign will be about far more than beauty. A second-year IT student in the Faculty of ICT, Primrose is redefining what it means to lead with purpose, strength, and authenticity.

Born with a fire to inspire, Primrose uses her platform to champion anti-colourism and body positivity, boldly confronting the insecurities and stereotypes that many young women face. For her, this title is not a crown; it is a responsibility. She is driven by a powerful mission: to uplift and empower dark-skinned women and girls, reminding them that they are worthy, beautiful, and limitless.

Her mantra, "Be unstoppable, unmovable, and unshakeable," captures the essence of who she is. Whether she is in front of a camera or behind a computer screen, debugging code, Primrose shows the same determination, brilliance, and self-belief.

Academic excellence and creativity go hand in hand in her world. When she is not immersed in coding tasks or pageant duties, you will likely find her reading, cooking something comforting, or tidying, activities that bring her peace and balance. Grounded and disciplined, she lives by the belief that "It doesn't matter how you start the race, but how you end it matters." And judging by the path she's carving, her finish will be nothing short of remarkable.

As Miss TUT Plus Size, Primrose hopes to leave a lasting mark, one that inspires students to embrace who they are, walk boldly in their truth, and pursue their dreams without fear. Her journey reminds the TUT community that beauty is diverse, confidence is powerful, and change begins with one courageous voice. 🌟



Be unstoppable, unmovable, and unshakeable.

Primrose Nothando Ntobela, Miss TUT Plus Size



Setlago Lerato

Crowned Miss TUT 2025/2026:

A fearless voice for empowerment and change

By Kgothatso Monono

The spotlight shone brightly on Setlago Lerato as she was crowned Miss TUT 2025/2026, marking a powerful moment not only for her but for the entire university community. With grace, eloquence, and an unshakable passion for social change, Lerato captured the hearts of judges and students alike, proving once again why she is one of the most promising young voices in the modelling and advocacy space.

Born and raised in the culturally rich province of Limpopo, in the rural community of Ga-Mphahlele, Makurung, Lerato carries her roots with pride. Currently in her second year pursuing a Diploma in Informatics, she effortlessly balances academic commitment with a growing presence in the modelling world. Outspoken yet grounded, she lives by the principle that respect is mutual, a guiding principle that accompanies her in every room she enters.

Outside her academic and pageant responsibilities, Lerato is a vibrant creator. Whether she is experimenting with new recipes in the kitchen or crafting exciting TikTok challenges, her energy and creativity shine through. But behind the glitz and glamour lies a young woman with purpose.

With six modelling titles already under her belt, including Miss TUT Soshanguve 2025/2026, Miss National SA 2024/2025, and Face of R37 Limpopo 1st Runner-Up 2023/2024, Lerato is not new to the stage. Yet, becoming Miss TUT is more than a crown to her; it is a platform. A platform she is determined to use to advocate for menstrual equity, a cause she holds close to her heart.

Lerato believes that menstruation is not just a woman's health issue; it is a human rights issue. Her vision is clear: to break the stigma surrounding menstruation and create a campus environment where conversations about menstrual health are normal, open, and free from shame. Through awareness campaigns, educational initiatives, and collaborative efforts, she aims to ensure that every student is empowered to manage their menstrual health with dignity and confidence.

As she steps into her reign as Miss TUT 2025/2026, Lerato promises to be a leader who educates, uplifts, and inspires. Her strength, compassion, and authenticity mark her as a beacon of hope for a more inclusive and informed student community. 🌟

Poised, passionate, and purpose-driven, Setlago Lerato is not just wearing a crown, she is rewriting the narrative.



Samkelo Shongwe

Crowned Mr TUT 2025/2026: A rising star with purpose

By Kgothatso Monono

Samkelo Shongwe emerged victorious as Mr TUT 2025/2026, capturing not only the title but the admiration of many across the university community. Representing Soshanguve Campus, Samkelo stood out with his calm confidence, authenticity, and a presence that spoke louder than any introduction could.

Hailing from the quiet but spirited area of Mayflower in Mpumalanga, Samkelo's journey to the crown is a story of focus and discipline. Now a second-year Diploma in Informatics student, he balances the world of technology with his love for modelling and rugby, two passions that shape his character in unique ways. Whether he is solving problems in class, striking a pose on stage, or pushing himself on the field, Samkelo carries himself with humility and determination.

Samkelo has made it clear that the title comes with a responsibility to serve, uplift, and represent the student body with dignity. "I want to work with passion and dedication so that whoever comes after me will be inspired to do even better," he shared a sentiment that perfectly captures his leadership style.

As Mr TUT 2025/2026, Samkelo aims to use his platform to promote student involvement, inspire confidence among young people, and represent TUT with pride wherever he goes. His vision is driven by hard work, compassion, and the belief that true leadership is measured by the impact one leaves behind.

With his humble nature and strong work ethic, Samkelo Shongwe is not just a titleholder, he is a symbol of rising potential and the bright future of TUT. His journey is only beginning, and the entire institution watches with excitement as he steps into a year of influence, service, and unforgettable moments. 🌟



I want to work with passion and dedication so that whoever comes after me will be inspired to do even better.

Samkelo Shongwe, Mr TUT 2025/2026



Battle of the Residences

unites Soshanguve Campus in Heritage Celebration

By Sithabile Nsele

The Soshanguve Campus came alive as the Battle of the Residences showcased a colourful celebration of South Africa's diverse cultures under the theme #MyHeritageYourHeritage. Hosted by the Directorate of Accommodation, Residence Life and Catering (ARLC) at the Ruth First Hall, the annual Heritage Day Celebration drew students together in a vibrant display of unity and pride.

Ten residences competed in a spirited but friendly showdown, each presenting its unique cultural identity through song, dance and traditional fashion. The energetic performances transformed the hall into a colourful stage of heritage expression, capturing the essence of community and togetherness.

Precious Nyembezi, the event organiser, said the celebration was designed to create space for learning and appreciation. "The reason for hosting this event is to help students learn about different cultures and appreciate the diversity of our tribes," she said.

The performances impressed audiences with their creativity and authenticity. Applause echoed through the hall as students celebrated not only their own traditions but those of others, reinforcing the idea that heritage can unite rather than divide.

TCE1 Residence claimed the top spot, winning four trophies and making a strong return after two years without a victory. "I am truly proud of what we achieved as a team. Winning was not just about competition; it was about unity, creativity and representing our cultures with pride. It has been two years without a win but now history has been restored," said Ipfani Mutheiwana from TCE1.

Other residences also expressed pride in their efforts, saying that the true reward was the shared experience and strengthened bonds among students.

The 2025 *Battle of the Residences* left a legacy of friendship, pride and unity, proving that heritage is a bridge connecting students through understanding, respect and collective celebration. 🌍



Nigerians



EmaSwati





TCE 2 residence



Venda food presentation

VhaVenda



Basotho



AmaZulu



Bapedi



Public Management Celebrates Top Achievers at Awards Ceremony

By Sithabile Nsele

The Department of Public Management honoured its highest achievers at a well-attended Academic Excellence Awards ceremony held on Thursday 30 October 2025. Held at the Soshanguve Campus Student Centre, the event marked a significant moment for the department and students who were recognised for their dedication, hard work and academic excellence.

The Student Centre was filled with anticipation as faculty members, distinguished guests and proud families gathered to celebrate the department's top performers. Associate Professor John Molepo, who spoke on behalf of Dr Mogosti Caiphus Maleka, Senior Lecturer and HoD of Public Management, congratulated the recipients and encouraged all students to continue working hard, reminding them that their academic journey has only begun.

Senior members of the department who presided over the awards, offered praise and guidance to each student. The accolades highlighted the department's ongoing commitment to nurturing excellence and developing future leaders in public management.

Lecturer, Xoliswa Ntombela, emphasised the importance of effort and perseverance. "It is an honour to stand before you to celebrate the hard work, commitment and excellence of our students. To those who received awards, congratulations. Your dedication has not gone unnoticed. To those who did not receive awards, remember your journey is just as important. Every time you showed up and put in effort, you were a success."

For many students, the moment was quite emotional. "I received this award for being the best performer in my second year of study. I am overwhelmed, happy and very emotional. I am glad that all my hard work has finally paid off," said Basetsana Matemane, currently a third-year Public Affairs Local Government student.

The event also created space for networking and community building, reinforcing the strong spirit that defines the Public Management cohort. The 2025 Academic Excellence Awards celebrated student success, motivating all students to aspire to even greater achievements. 🌟

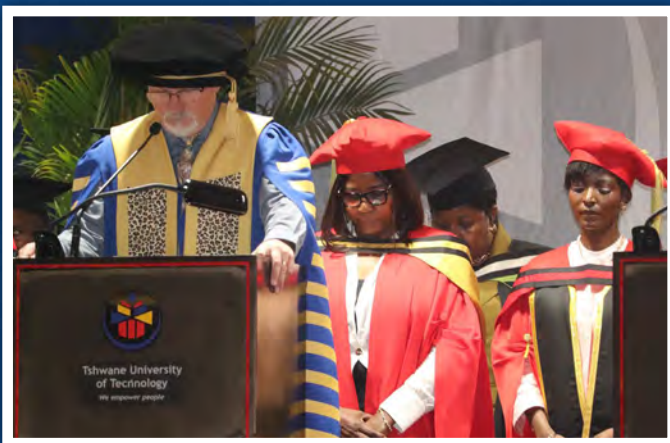
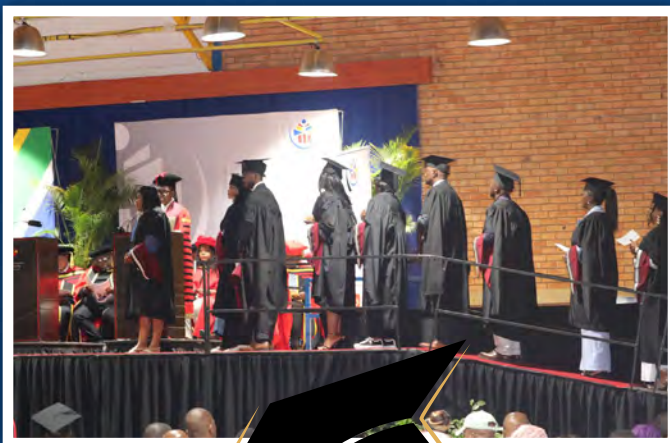


Public Affairs Best Performing student (1st year) Y Mthwa



Public Affairs Local Government Best Performing student (2nd year) B Matemane





Soshanguve Campus Ssprings into Greatness at **2025 GRADUATIONS**

By Puseletso Mampye

The Tshwane University of Technology (TUT) Soshanguve Campus celebrated a major academic milestone as hundreds of graduates were honoured at the 2025 Spring Graduation Ceremony. Held at the Ruth First Hall on the Soshanguve South Campus, the event marked the culmination of years of hard work and determination for graduates across key faculties.

Two sessions were hosted to ensure an organised celebration of excellence. Families, friends and colleagues filled the venue in high spirits, applauding the graduates as they reached one of the most significant moments in their academic journey.

Dr Etienne van Wyk, Executive Dean for the Faculty of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and Interim Campus Rector, commended graduates for their perseverance. He highlighted that the ceremony symbolised academic achievement and the resilience that defines the TUT spirit.

"I found this qualification quite difficult, but I managed to succeed with the help of my superiors and for that I will forever be grateful," said Kineas Maluleke, an Information Technology (Communications Network) graduate.

During the graduations, successful students from the Faculty of ICT and the Faculty of Humanities were celebrated. ICT graduates received qualifications that have equipped them with the technical and problem-solving capabilities needed in a rapidly evolving digital environment. The Faculty of Humanities produced graduates in fields including Education, Journalism and Law, preparing future leaders to inspire and serve their communities.

"I pursued this degree because I fell in love with sharing knowledge, which I can do through teaching," said Education graduate Nhlanhlanhla Madyosi.

Graduates were encouraged to carry forward the values and skills developed during their studies. "Determination and hard work are what you need if you want to become somebody in this world," said Makgomo Choene, an Engineering Computer Systems graduate.

The 2025 Spring Graduation demonstrates TUT's commitment to empowering people through transformative education, preparing graduates for both professional success and positive impact in society. 🌟

