

## Titans Blind Cricket Player of the Season:

*Ephraim Mothapo*

By Lindokuhle Nkosi

**T**hey don't call TUT the Home of Champions for nothing, and Ephraim Mothapo is living proof. At just 29 years old, the visually impaired cricketer has made national headlines after being named the Titans Blind Cricket Player of the Season 2024/25, a well-deserved recognition for one of South Africa's rising stars in disability sport.

Currently the captain of the TUT Blind Cricket Team, Mothapo has led his team through fierce competition in the Tshwane Super League. His leadership, consistency, and tactical skill helped Tshwane Blind clinch the tournament title in its second season.

"Cricket wasn't love at first sight," Mothapo said. "I started out in athletics because I was extremely active as a child. But when cricket was introduced at my primary school at age eight, something just clicked. It was new, challenging, and not many learners were interested, and that drew me in."

Despite being born with albinism and a visual impairment, Ephraim never saw his condition as a barrier, instead, he used it as a lens of focus. "I didn't have to adapt much to blind cricket because it was all I knew. I learned the game through the lens of visual impairment, so in many ways, I started where others might fear to begin."

Mothapo is no stranger to top-level performance. This season, he represented three teams: TUT, the Titans Blind Cricket Team, and the national Blind Proteas. Though humbled by the award, he credits consistency, discipline, and hard work as his guiding principles.

Blind cricket is similar in structure to traditional cricket but modified to allow safe and fair play for visually impaired athletes. A team includes a mix of B1 (completely blind), B2, and B3 players, each with varying levels of vision. Rules around batting orders, overs bowled, and field positioning are adjusted to match players' abilities.

Ephraim plays a key role as both opening batsman and opening bowler in T20 matches and shifts to fourth in the batting order during ODIs to adopt a more aggressive approach. His favourite position on the field is covers, a role his coach, Mike Naidoo, calls "the most important fielding position in cricket."

**"That's where I see my value. I've gone from being seventh in the line-up to a top-order batter and bowler, it's been a journey of growth and confidence."**

Beyond the field, Mothapo is a respected leader. He captains both the TUT and Titans squads and is known for mentoring younger players. "As one of the senior players in age and experience, I try to help others grow both personally and on the field. I want to see blind cricket rise and be taken seriously."

He also commended TUT for its continued support of students with disabilities, particularly through adapted sporting codes like goalball and blind cricket. However, he believes more can be done such as creating a Varsity Blind Cricket League to encourage broader participation. "Sport builds friendship, mental health, and community," he said. "People with disabilities should be encouraged to participate, whether for competition or recreation."

After his playing days, Mothapo plans to stay involved in cricket, either as a coach or scorer. While he acknowledges mentorship from established figures such as Sean Schwan, Francois Neethling, and Asheta Mahabeer, he continues to draw motivation from his current teammates and coaching staff.

Ephraim Mothapo's story is not just about cricket. It is a powerful narrative of perseverance, leadership, and breaking barriers. As TUT continues to create inclusive spaces for student excellence, Mothapo stands as a shining example of what is possible when vision meets opportunity. "Everyone excels in an environment that is conducive," he said. "And TUT has given me that environment." 🏏





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# TUT Pretoria Campus CSRC Inspires Germiston Learners

By Chumile Mafrika

The Pretoria Campus Student Representative Council (CSRC) of Tshwane University of Technology (TUT) recently embarked on a powerful community outreach initiative aimed at empowering Grade 12 learners from Dawnview High School in Germiston. Held on 3 June 2025, the session focused on helping matriculants prepare for life after high school and navigate the path toward tertiary education.

The visit served as an information-sharing session where learners were guided on everything from calculating APS scores and understanding the TUT prospectus to tackling university applications. The CSRC also addressed common student challenges, particularly those linked to NSFAS to help learners make informed decisions about funding their studies.

"This is a great initiative by TUT," said Releborhile Kadeganeng, current RCL President at Dawnview High. "It's something we raised with our School Governing Body, and I feel like I now have a better idea of what to expect in tertiary."

Many learners used the opportunity to ask pressing questions about higher learning a privilege not often available in schools like theirs. Application support was provided on the spot, and learners gained new insight into choosing the right career path.

"The main goal of this program is to bridge the gap between high school and tertiary education," explained Thandazo Seoko, CSRC President. "As student leaders, it's part of our duty to support and embrace the community and to integrate the brilliant minds that will take our institution forward in terms of academic excellence."

The reception from the school's staff was equally warm and appreciative. "It's the first time in my 18 years at this school that we've had such a session," said Dr. T. Khutsherela, Head of Department. "The learners were engaged, the speakers were relatable, and the information shared was incredibly valuable."

In addition to the educational component, the CSRC also donated resources to the school as a gesture that reinforced the spirit of giving back and investing in future students.

This outreach forms part of a broader mission by the TUT CSRC to uplift local communities through student-led initiatives. Its proof that real change can start with young people stepping up to share knowledge and create opportunity. 🌱

**"The main goal of this program is to bridge the gap between high school and tertiary education"**

*Thandazo Seoko*

CSRC President  
Pretoria Campus



■ Dr T Khutsherela head of committee department & CSRC President Thandazo Seoko



■ The Pretoria Campus CSRC committee and the President of Dawnview high school



■ CSRC helping out learners of Dawnview High



# Voices of Freedom *at Coffee Theatre*



■ Choir

By Nombuzo Sithole

The Directorate of Extracurricular Development (DED) brought powerful storytelling and emotion to the stage with its drama showcase on Friday, 23 May 2025, at the Coffee Theatre on TUT's Pretoria Campus. Hosted by the TUT Drama Society, the showcase allowed performers to explore this year's theme, freedom, with a specific focus on gender-based violence (GBV), one of South Africa's most pressing social issues.

Unlike typical group showcases, this event featured solo performances, where each actor told their unique story through the lens of freedom, creativity, and resistance. Performers were encouraged to express personal interpretations of freedom many highlighting how GBV challenges that very notion.

"Today's drama showcase was about showing off the talent that lives within our student body," said Jean Claude, the MC of the event. "We learned so much about freedom and how differently it's understood. Events like this help students grow both academically and personally, offering a healthy outlet for creativity and emotional expression. I encourage others to join; sometimes we all need a break from the books," he added.

The line-up included Nnino Makola, Malekgu Selota, Tandai Chikohwa, Asande Mtshali, Dineo Ngope, Phuti Sako, Sibusiso Mahlangu, Goitsimang Mosenyi, and Bonolo Chidi. Each performance struck a chord with the

audience, emphasizing the reality that for many, freedom remains an ongoing struggle—especially in the context of GBV.

Audience members were moved, often responding with cheers, claps, and standing ovations. Complementing the dramatic acts, the TUT Pretoria Campus Choir also graced the stage, their harmonies elevating the emotional tone of the evening.

Judge Rodney Phukubje reflected on the judging process:

"Choosing the winner was incredibly tough. The standard of performance was high, and each participant delivered something special. But in the end, only one could win. Still, I want every actor here to continue developing their craft and chasing their dreams."

That winner was Tandai Chikohwa, who delivered a captivating solo performance.

"I had a beautiful experience today. Showcasing the power of storytelling, music, and vocabulary on this stage was deeply fulfilling," Chikohwa shared. "Winning feels surreal. I've spent the last two months refining my monologue, working on articulation, vocabulary, and projection. It wasn't easy, but the outcome was worth every second."

The DED's drama showcase served as a vibrant reminder that art is not just entertainment, it is a voice for change, healing, and self-discovery. With performances like these, the Coffee Theatre has truly become a stage for stories that matter. 🌟



■ Dineo Ngope - Performer



■ Sibusiso Mahlangu - Performer



■ Tandai Chikohwa - Winner



# TUT & City of Tshwane in Community Clean-Up

By Michelle Mojafi

In a powerful show of collaboration, Tshwane University of Technology's (TUT) Soshanguve South Campus teamed up with the City of Tshwane on Friday, 25 April, for a community upliftment campaign under the Re a Spana initiative. The joint effort focused on improving service delivery in Region 1, Block L, through street maintenance, waste collection, and by-law enforcement.

The Re a Spana program, driven by the City of Tshwane, aims to clean up urban spaces while involving local residents including students in building a safe, healthy environment.

"We are cleaning up our city, enforcing bylaws, and working with students to give us ideas on how to improve this place," said MMC for Economic Development and Spatial Planning, Sarah Mabotsa. "We want to turn this area into a green precinct where students can plant trees and relax on the grass between classes," she added.

The campaign saw TUT staff, students, and city officials work side-by-side to clean the campus and nearby areas. For Mr. Isaac Mahapa, Head of Landscape and Waste Management at TUT, the project couldn't have come at a better time.

"This was long overdue," said Mahapa. "But it shouldn't just be the city's responsibility. TUT and the City of Tshwane must both ensure our students and staff live in a clean and comfortable environment."

Students also rolled up their sleeves to take part in the clean-up, showing pride in giving back. "I took part because I wanted to contribute to the well-being of our community. Collecting litter and working alongside fellow students and city officials was fulfilling. It felt great to see the city's leadership showing real care," said Kabelo Prince Maphosa, an Advanced Diploma student in Public Affairs.

The success of the day left students feeling seen and valued with promises from city officials to return and continue the work. "We'll be back next week to keep cleaning and supporting you," said Mabotsa, ending the day on a hopeful note.

This collaboration is more than just a clean-up, it's a step toward a more sustainable, student-friendly environment. It proves what's possible when students, institutions, and local government work together to build better communities. 🌱



Sarah Mabotsa, MMC for Economic Development and Spatial Planning



Kabelo Prince Maphosa



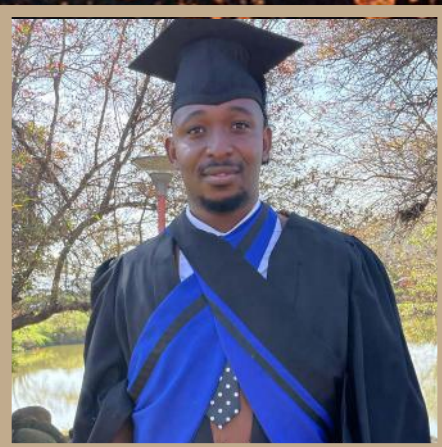
Isaac Mahapa (Head of Landscape and Waste Management at TUT)



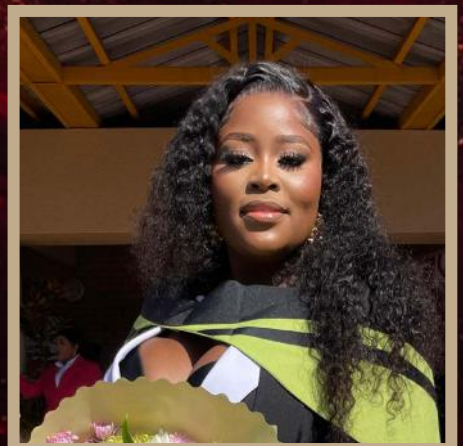
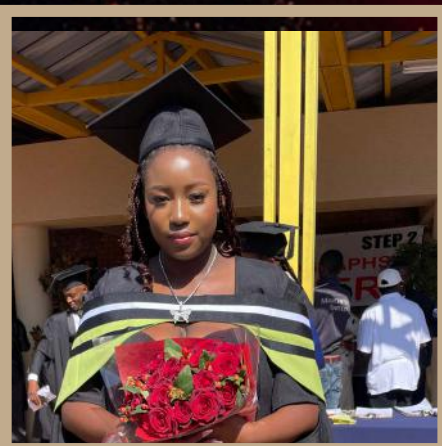




# Graduations









# Readathon and Writeathon Inspires Students

By Michelle Mojafi

The Tshwane University of Technology (TUT) Arts Campus Library hosted a three-day Readathon and Writeathon event from 14 to 16 May 2025 under the theme "From Pages to Progress: Read, Write, Sustain." The event featured a Readathon on 14 May, a Writeathon on 15 May, and a Poetry Session on 16 May.

According to the library, the event aimed to open up a magical world of literary engagement for students. "We're not just helping, Readathon and Writeathon is our baby," said library head M.C. Mashaba. "Our goal is to ensure students come into the library, utilize our resources, and develop a love for reading and writing. Events like these support academic success while fostering a lifelong love of learning."

Event organizer Chantell Khumalo explained that the theme was designed to inspire students to explore the possibilities of reading and writing. "Books are valuable, we don't just read them; we interpret them through our unique imaginations. We wanted to challenge the idea that reading is boring and make the library a safe, welcoming space for creativity," she said.

The atmosphere during the event was warm and inclusive, drawing in students who weren't originally planning to attend. One such student was Tanique Grootboom, a second-year Performing Arts student, who unexpectedly won the spontaneous poetry competition. "I didn't think I stood a chance, especially because I wrote such a simple poem, but to my surprise, the audience loved it," she said.

While the event was considered a success, organizers acknowledged that attendance was affected by class schedules. Despite this, the library remains committed to creating platforms that promote reading, writing, and creative expression among students.

The Readathon and Writeathon served as a powerful reminder that the library is more than a quiet study space, it is a creative hub where students are encouraged to engage, imagine, and grow. 🌱



■ Chantell Khumalo, Event Organizer



■ MC Mashaba, Library Head Arts Campus



■ Tanique Grootboom, 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Performing Arts and MC Mashaba



# Men's Role in Building Respect and Equality

By Chumile Mafrika

**T**he Tshwane University of Technology (TUT) recently hosted a Gender-Based Violence Men's Talk at its Pretoria Campus, a dynamic and thought-provoking gathering aimed at challenging harmful stereotypes around masculinity and gender-based violence (GBV). The event created a safe, inclusive space for men, particularly students, who are often discouraged from speaking about their emotions, trauma, or lived experiences related to GBV.

Although the spotlight was on young men, the event welcomed women and students of all backgrounds. This inclusivity emphasized the shared responsibility in confronting GBV and in promoting a culture rooted in empathy, equality, and mutual respect.

Several speakers and attendees shared raw, personal accounts of surviving or witnessing abuse, turning pain into purpose. Their stories resonated deeply, illustrating the need for open dialogue, healing, and proactive change. Beyond reflection, the event also provided tools for growth, healthy masculinity, and self-empowerment.

"The message I would like to convey to young black men who may be struggling with their attitude and behaviour is this: true bravery is when there is very little chance of winning, but you keep fighting. Sometimes, the problems we face are caused by ourselves," said Andrew Makhushu, Head of SGLD at Pretoria Campus.

One of the event's key themes was brotherhood. Male students expressed a commitment to holding each other accountable and working together to stand against GBV, on campus and in their communities. Many students called for more frequent and extended events, suggesting a three-day men's talk at a larger venue to accommodate growing interest.

The strong turnout exceeded expectations, nearly filling the venue, a notable success given the often low male attendance at such discussions. It demonstrated a shift in attitude among students, signalling that more young men are ready to engage meaningfully in conversations around masculinity, healing, and social justice.

**"The issue of gender-based violence is a national crisis. As an institution that is part of the broader society, we are not immune to what happens in our communities. That's why it's important to empower male students to understand and address the effects of GBV."**

*Fernando Makhani*

Guest speaker and motivational mentor

The talk was more than a one-way dialogue, it became a powerful exchange of inspiration. Students moved speakers with their honesty and eagerness to grow, while speakers offered students validation, wisdom, and guidance. Topics ranged from building healthy relationships and managing emotions, to understanding sexual health and the power of vulnerability.

By the end of the event, students walked away not only informed—but inspired. With the support of the Student Governance and Leadership Development (SGLD) office, this initiative marked a bold step toward a more respectful, conscious, and united student culture at TUT. 🌱



■ Andrew Makhushu HOD SGLD Pretoria Campus



■ Fernando Makhani



■ Students who attended the event



# New Podcast: Amplifying Student Voices

By Andziwe Magoda

**O**n May 15, the Directorate of Extracurricular Development at Tshwane University of Technology's Soshanguve South Campus officially launched the CampusVibe Podcast, proudly sponsored by HONOR. The goal of the podcast is to provide students with a platform to express their ideas, share experiences, and engage in conversations about topics that matter to them.

During the launch, both hosts and attendees emphasized the importance of giving students a safe space to voice their thoughts. Covering a wide range of issues, from student well-being and campus life to academic challenges and career development, the podcast promises to reflect the diverse experiences of TUT students.

Tumelo Moabelo, Mr. TUT Prince from Ga-Rankuwa Campus, praised the initiative, noting that, "The podcast will greatly benefit students because it's led by students who truly understand what their peers want to talk and even complain about."

Puseletso Enhle, the winner of the CampusVibe Host title, expressed her gratitude:

"I am so overwhelmed. I didn't think I'd win the CampusVibe Host title, so I'm super grateful. I'd like to thank Emalahleni Campus students for supporting me, I really appreciate it."

To earn the hosting spot, participants had to record a short, creative video promoting CampusVibeCast, encouraging fellow students to tune in. They posted their videos on TikTok, Instagram, and Facebook while tagging @CampusVibeTUT.

The podcast is set to foster a strong sense of community, spark meaningful conversations, and spotlight the wide range of perspectives that shape student life. As it grows, CampusVibe Podcast hopes to connect students across all campuses and ensure that every voice is heard. 🎧



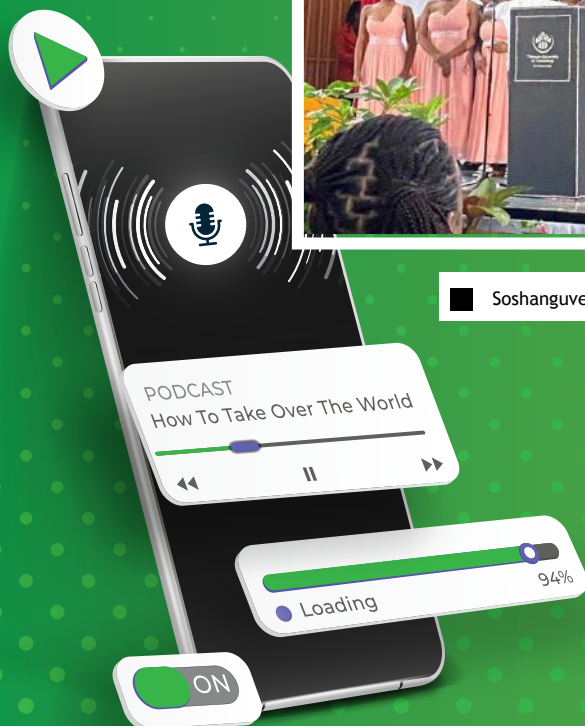
James Sithole



Soshanguve choir



ETumelo Moabelo,  
Mr TUT Prince Ga-Rankuwa



**"The podcast will greatly benefit students because it's led by students who truly understand what their peers want to talk and even complain about."**

*Tumelo Moabelo*  
Mr. TUT Prince - Ga-Rankuwa Campus



# TUT Fights

## Alcohol & Substance Abuse

By Azola Nontosi

**T**he campaign against alcohol, drugs, and substance abuse, hosted by the Directorate of Health and Wellness in partnership with the CSRC and Student Governance and Leadership Development (SGLD), was more than a university initiative, it was a lifeline.

Landile Zwedala from the Tshwane Metropolitan Police Department didn't just deliver statistics, he shared real-life stories from the frontlines.

"We are not here to judge. We're here to help you see what's happening out there, and more importantly, how to avoid it," he said.

Students listened with rapt attention as Florence Munyai, COSUP CAR Coordinator, broke down the myths surrounding hubbly (hookah) smoking.

"Many believe it's harmless, even social," she explained. "But the reality is, it's a gateway, one that leads down a dangerous path. We want you to think twice, not just for yourself, but for your future."

The most emotional moment of the day came from Thabiso Mashabane, a social worker from SSANCA, who gently but firmly laid bare the psychological and emotional chains of addiction.

"Addiction doesn't knock on your door. It walks in quietly, disguised as a way to cope. By the time you realize it, you're drowning. But here's the truth, there is help. And there is hope," said Thabiso

Benedict Sedutla, chairperson from Health and Wellness, emphasized that the goal is not only to raise awareness but also to offer long-term support.

"We want students to know that they have a place to turn to. This is about community. This is about care," said Sedutla.

As the event wrapped up and students walked away, it was evident that something had shifted. Perhaps it was just a seed of thought planted. Or maybe, for some, it was the first step on the road to recovery.

TUT's campaign was a powerful reminder that transformation begins with truth, and that healing often starts with a conversation. 🌱

**"We want students to know that they have a place to turn to. This is about community. This is about care"**

*Benedict Sedutla*

Chairperson from Health and Wellness



■ Constable Landile Zwedala TMPD Social Crime Stop



■ Florence Munyai - COSUP COORDINATOR



# Grown-Ish Seminar

## Tackles Stress and Study Struggles at TUT



Thuli Makhura- SDS practitioner



Thuli Makhura- SDS practitioner

By Azola Norkosi

**T**he Directorate of Health and Wellness hosted an empowering and educational session titled Grown-Ish on Thursday, 16 May 2025, at Tshwane University of Technology's Soshanguve Campus. The event focused on helping students, especially first-years, adjust academically and manage the mental and emotional stress that often comes with university life.

The session was part of the university's commitment to supporting student wellness and academic success. With many students still finding their feet, the seminar served as a lifeline for those navigating the transition into higher education.

Thuli Makhura, a Student Development and Support practitioner, shared valuable tips on how to adopt effective study habits.

"How you manage your time and mental health is the first step to academic success. It's about setting goals with intention," said Thuli Makhura, a Student Development and Support practitioner.

The discussion emphasized the importance of planning, realistic goal setting, and maintaining balance. Winnie Maenetja, spokesperson from the Directorate of Health and Wellness, expanded on how overall well-being directly impacts performance in the classroom.

"University life is both exciting and demanding. Don't be afraid to ask for help your health is important," she said.

The event resonated strongly with attendees. "As a first-year student, the seminar made me feel seen and understood. It truly opened my eyes. Knowing there's a support system at TUT is reassuring," said Sepaki Phokwane, a first-year Language Practice student.

Through events like Grown-Ish, TUT continues to foster a supportive learning environment, reminding students that academic success begins with wellness, and no one has to face it alone. 🌱

**"How you manage your time and mental health is the first step to academic success. It's about setting goals with intention."**

*Thuli Makhura*  
Student Development and Support practitioner





# Culture Through *Traditional Dance*

By Chumile Mafrika

The Tshwane University of Technology (TUT) hosted a vibrant cultural event called Ingoboco, celebrating Zulu heritage, on April 25, 2025, at the Pretoria Campus Fountains. The event aimed to honor tradition, welcome first-year students, and continue the legacy of Ingoboco, which has been held at TUT for several years.

**T**he celebration attracted a large number of students, not only from the Zulu community but also from various other cultural backgrounds. Everyone was welcomed, making it a unifying event across tribes. One of the main highlights of the event was the Zulu cultural dance known as ukugida, a powerful and symbolic dance.

Although the event was deeply centered around Zulu traditions, it embraced multicultural participation. Traditional dancers from different backgrounds showcased their talents, creating a space for all students to reflect on their heritage, even while away from home. The event also served as a refreshing break from academic life.

Sphehile Mkhize, caretaker of Ingoboco, explained the purpose of the gathering:

**"The reason we bring Ingoboco to TUT is because many students come from KwaZulu-Natal and feel lost at first. This event helps them find a family away from home, brothers and sisters who share the same roots and values."**

The event was filled with joy, energy, and cultural pride. Even those who did not participate in the performances embraced the spirit of the occasion. Students sang, danced, and cheered in celebration of identity and unity.

"As a first-year student, this event was a warm welcome. It brought us together, made us feel like one, and I'm already looking forward to the next Ingoboco," said Sibongakonke Mdluli, a first-year Education student

Ingoboco continues to be one of the most cherished cultural events at TUT. It encourages inclusivity while celebrating Zulu heritage. More than just a performance, it's a reminder of the power of community, culture, and the joy of coming together.

With smiles, dancing feet, and a deep sense of belonging, the 2025 edition of Ingoboco left a lasting impact on all who attended. 🌟



■ Zulu traditional dance



■ Sphehile Mkhize of iNgoboco leading students



■ Students gathered at Pretoria Campus



# GCIS & TUT Host G20 Public Lecture



By Michelle Mojafi

On Friday, 16 May 2025, the Government Communication and Information System (GCIS), in collaboration with Tshwane University of Technology (TUT), hosted a G20 public lecture at the Soshanguve South Campus. The event featured Deputy Minister in the Presidency, Nonceba Mhlauli, who delivered a keynote address focusing on government functions and international relations.

The aim of the lecture was to educate students about the G20, its global role, and South Africa's involvement as a host country. The event also sought to foster understanding of government structures and empower students to engage with both national and international policy matters.

"We are here today to share knowledge and understand how the government works, particularly in relation to South Africa's role in the G20. We hope to empower students with insight into policy and international affairs so they can contribute meaningfully to national and global development," said Mr. Sandile Nene, Acting Deputy Director-General for Media Policy Development, Market Modelling & Analysis at GCIS.

Deputy Minister Mhlauli emphasized the importance of preparing the next generation of leaders. "This lecture is about engaging young people in public discourse. It's vital that students understand the G20 and its implications so they can take part in shaping policy and contributing to the implementation of agreements in the coming

decade," she said.

GCIS representative Brite Nemaranzhe, who is responsible for monitoring and evaluation of government communication, also shared his thoughts on the significance of the event.

**"It was a privilege to participate in the third G20 public lecture. These platforms allow us to collaborate with students, enrich dialogue, and tackle pressing global, African, and national challenges."**

Students in attendance engaged actively in the discussions, asking informed questions and expressing appreciation for the knowledge shared. "I didn't know much about the G20 before today, but now I understand its relevance and feel inspired to think critically about my future role in public service," said David Moabelo, a first-year Public Affairs student.

The G20 public lecture at TUT proved to be a meaningful step in connecting government institutions with the youth, sparking a deeper awareness of international affairs and encouraging student participation in shaping the future of South Africa within the global context. 🌍



Deputy Minister in the presidency, Nonceba Mhlauli



Mr Sandile Nene, ADDG Media Policy Development, Market Modelling and Analysis



Brite Nemaranzhe from GCIS, Monitoring and Evaluation of Government





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Tel: 012 382 4482 | Email: [sikhosanal@tut.ac.za](mailto:sikhosanal@tut.ac.za)

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presents

# 2025 MOTLHABANE young men's seminar

Theme: Men and Hopefulness -  
Reclaiming Vision, Dignity, and Purpose

**26  
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# BOOK REVIEW EVENT

## - Sparks Honest Feedback for Emerging Author

By Michelle Mojafi

**T**he Directorate of Extracurricular Development at Tshwane University of Technology's Soshanguve North Campus hosted a 2 GREAT short story review on Tuesday, 20 May 2025. The featured story, *The Dark Desires to the Throne*, was written by Denzel Mabona, a final-year Bachelor of Education student. The event brought together students from various faculties to share thoughts and provide constructive feedback on the emerging author's work.

*The Dark Desires to the Throne* is a dark fantasy and political drama that explores themes of power, betrayal, prophecy, and ambition within a fictional kingdom called Omen. The plot follows the rise, mysterious disappearance, and spiritual journey of Prince Lawrance, while his ambitious uncle, Chai Romando, plots to claim the throne.

The story, according to Mabona, was inspired by a dream. "I am one person who dreams a lot, and apparently all my dreams are lucid. In this particular dream, I was the main character, but I didn't want to just write it as my own story. The inspiration definitely came from that dream," said Mabona.



■ Fhulufhelo Ntsieni Author, national book reviewer and founder of Shatter The Silence

Before the review began, facilitators explained the purpose of a book review – both as a promotional tool and as a source of valuable feedback for authors. "A book review is essentially a form of feedback. It includes a brief summary and aims to give honest praise and constructive criticism – all within two minutes," said Fhulufhelo Ntsieni, a national book reviewer, author, and founder of the Shatter the Silence organization.

True to this approach, reviewers at the event offered both commendation and critique. Many praised the story's creativity, the relevance of character names, and the overall world-building. However, there were also points of constructive criticism. One concern raised was the pacing of the narrative.

"I think the weakness of the book is pacing," said Mpho Selaelo Molepo, a student in Adult and Community Education and Training (Electrical). "Some parts of the narrative feel slow. The book takes time to reveal what Chai is actually doing."

Despite its availability challenges, the 2 GREAT book in which the short story appears is not yet for sale or stocked in TUT libraries, the event was a valuable platform for discussion and feedback. Reviewers appreciated the opportunity to engage with the work and help the author grow through honest and thoughtful critique.

The event was a success, not only in highlighting student talent but also in building a reading and reviewing culture among TUT students. 📖

# 2 GREAT



■ Denzel Mabona, Author



# Savoring Heritage:

## Masibuye Embo Brings Unity to Students

By Chumile Mafrika

**T**he vibrant spirit of culture and unity echoed across Tshwane University of Technology's Pretoria Campus as the newly formed Xhosa student organization, Masibuye Embo, hosted its inaugural cultural event on 23 May 2025 at the tennis courts. Started by a group of Xhosa students, the initiative aimed to create a cultural home for Xhosa learners at TUT, an opportunity that had long been overdue.

The event celebrated Xhosa heritage through music, poetry, and traditional dance, bringing students together in an atmosphere filled with pride, joy, and a strong sense of identity. With support from the university, the first-time organizers were thrilled to see a turnout larger than expected—proof that the need for cultural representation runs deep.

"This organization aims at bringing Xhosa students together to learn about our culture and diversity," said Lily Nqata, elected Chairperson of the TUT XSA (Xhosa Student Association). "We want to develop one another, exchange knowledge about Xhosa customs and traditions, and support each other as members of one family," she added.

Although the focus was on Xhosa identity and heritage, the event welcomed students from all backgrounds, emphasizing inclusivity and the need for solidarity across cultures. The support of non-Xhosa students strengthened the event's success and showed a collective appreciation for cultural diversity.

"Unity, discipline, and ensuring we emphasize public participation are key. We need to talk openly about our struggles as Xhosa students, our need for a sense of belonging, and the confidence that comes from knowing you are seen," said Aphelele Mdoyi, a fourth-year Advanced Diploma in Public Finance student.

The organizers expressed satisfaction with the smooth execution and the overwhelming support from students, pledging that this was only the beginning. As the event concluded with students singing and dancing to traditional Xhosa songs, the joy and pride were unmistakable, a powerful message that culture has a home at TUT.

Masibuye Embo's debut not only celebrated heritage, it laid the foundation for a growing movement of cultural empowerment, representation, and student unity. 🌍



Students singing and dancing



Participation from students





# Faculty of Economics and Finance Hosts Exam Induction

By Michelle Mojafi

**T**he Faculty of Economics and Finance at Tshwane University of Technology's Ga-Rankuwa Campus hosted an exam induction session on 21 May 2025. The event aimed to help students understand exam rules, manage stress effectively, and become aware of the consequences of non-compliance with academic standards.

Organized by the Academic Council of the Student Faculty Council (SFC) in collaboration with ETO, the session featured keynote speakers from key campus departments, including Examinations, Discipline, and Student Development and Support (SDS).

"The event aimed to empower first-year students with knowledge of exam rules, regulations, and requirements," said Thulare Kgomotso, SFC Secretary. "We focused on understanding exam admission criteria, the importance of predicate marks, and the consequences of failing or repeating modules."

A representative from the Exam Department broke down critical exam logistics and rules, including how predicate marks are calculated. The Discipline Department highlighted serious consequences of misconduct such as cheating during exams, plagiarism in assignments, and the submission of fraudulent medical certificates.

SDS representative Siyabonga Ntshangase addressed students on managing exam-related stress. "Remember to focus on one exam at a time, prioritize sleep, and identify the personal barriers that affect your study routine," he said. "Stress is a normal part of the exam period, but recognizing the symptoms and dealing with them early is key." He also shared a support resource: students experiencing stress or anxiety are encouraged to contact the South African Depression and Anxiety Group (SADAG) at 0800 687 888.

Economics student Lucky Lukukela Mohali shared his thoughts on the session: "I found the exam induction incredibly informative and progressive. It gave me valuable insights into the predicate system, the importance of mental health, disciplinary processes, and how to manage stress. I feel better equipped to face my exams."

The induction event was a success, empowering students, especially first-years, with crucial knowledge about exam protocols, mental wellness, and academic integrity. 🌟



■ Lucky Lukukela Mohali, Economics



■ Siyabonga Ntshangase, SDS Photo Faculty of Economics and Finance



■ Thulare Kgomotso, SFC Secretary





# TUT and SAIGA Host Student Chapter Appointment Ceremony

By Michelle Mojafi

**T**he Department of Public Sector Finance at Tshwane University of Technology, in collaboration with the Southern African Institute of Government Auditors (SAIGA) REA THUSANA, hosted a student chapter appointment ceremony at the Ga-Rankuwa Campus on Friday, 30 May 2025. The event marked a significant step in strengthening the partnership between TUT and SAIGA, aimed at promoting ethics, auditing, and accountability among students.

During the ceremony, SAIGA officially presented its constitution and introduced the newly appointed student chapter leaders. The leaders received signed appointment letters and tokens of appreciation as they pledged their commitment to upholding the organization's values and advancing its mission.

Sipho J. Maluleke, Head of Department for Public Sector Finance, emphasized the value of the partnership. "The partnership with SAIGA is designed to produce enterprising and responsible citizens by providing students with hands-on experience, guest lectures, and seminars," he said. "This collaboration bridges the gap between theory and practice, giving students a deeper understanding of the public finance industry."

Kalushi Sekgoka, Membership Benefits and Servicing Administrator at SAIGA, highlighted the purpose of the event. "The launch of the SAIGA student chapter is a key element of this partnership. It

introduces student leaders, builds institutional relationships, and promotes SAIGA's initiatives while creating a platform for student growth and development."

Newly appointed Chairperson Ikageng Malebye shared her thoughts on the leadership role. "I feel honored and humbled to be appointed as the Chairperson," she said.

**"As a public finance student, it's not just about learning theory but preparing to become a future leader who drives ethical governance and creates a corruption-free government. We are ready to lead with purpose and integrity."**

*Benedict Sedutla*

Chairperson from Health and Wellness

The event concluded on a high note, with student leaders receiving certificates of recognition from SAIGA and pledging to serve their roles with commitment, accountability, and integrity. 🌟



■ Chairperson of the SAIGA student chapter - Ikageng Malebye



■ Kalushi Sekgoka, Membership benefits and servicing administrator (SAIGA)



■ Prof NK Motubatse, Assistant Dean TLT and HOD Dep of Pub Sec Fin, Sipho J Maluleke



# First Aid & Emergency Medical Care

By Michelle Mojafi

On Thursday, 15 May 2025, the Directorate of Health and Wellness, in collaboration with ER24, hosted a first aid demonstration event aimed at increasing awareness and educating individuals on essential first aid skills and emergency medical care. This event was held at the Arts campus, and it featured live demonstrations, interactive exhibits, and information booths, providing attendees with the necessary knowledge and skills to effectively handle emergencies.

Mack Mokgonyana, Event Coordinator, explained that the event aimed to educate students on emergency medical services offered by ER24, a new partner. "ER24 is our new partner so they're going to help students on how to do a CPR demonstration also other services that they offer for students get to know because we come across this situation where students, they just call an ambulance just for minor elements because they don't want to go to the clinic."

During this event demonstrations of how to give CPR were given to students by the ER24 paramedics who emphasized the importance of CPR in saving lives. "CPR is a vital part of the chain of survival with unconscious patients. Early recognition of cardiac arrest, early CPR, early AED, and early activation of ER24 saves lives," said

Dean Slater, ILS- Medic who also demonstrated the significance of proper CPR technique, stressing the need for full chest recoil and cautioning against potential hazards.

Kamogelo Komape, a 2nd-year Jewellery Design Manufacturing student, shared his experience learning CPR. "I've learned that doing CPR is not a thing that you just get the patient and start pumping through their lungs you actually need to go with the process," he said. He also outlined the proper steps to follow during CPR including checking the patient's pulse, performing 30 chest compressions, and administering two rescue breaths.

The event taught students about life-saving skills and knowledge, empowering them to respond to emergencies and support their peers. The number that students should contact in case of medical emergency is 084 124. 📞



■ Kamogelo Komape, 2nd year jewellery design and manufacturing



■ Mokgadi Maponya (NBDconsultant), Dean Slater (ILS-Medic) & Mothepana Mohlahlane (BLS-Med)



**"I've learned that doing CPR is not a thing that you just get the patient and start pumping through their lungs you actually need to go with the process."**

*Kamogelo Komape*

2nd-year Jewellery Design Manufacturing student





# 2025 MOTIVATIONAL *Series*

The 2025 edition of the Motivational Series, hosted by the Student Governance and Leadership Development (SGLD) unit, travelled across all TUT campuses to uplift and inspire students. The series provided a valuable platform for students to engage with motivational speakers, learn from real-life success stories, and explore strategies to overcome academic and personal challenges. Each session fostered a sense of purpose and belonging, reminding students that their dreams are within reach when supported by the right mindset and community. The energy and inspiration captured during these events were truly unforgettable. 🌟

