VAAL UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

Inspiring thought. Shaping talent.

1966-2026

AUTUMN GRADUATIONS - 2026

MOKETE WA DIKAPESO TSA BAITHUTI WA SEHLA SA LEHWETLA - 2026

DIKAPEŠO TŠA BAITHUTI TŠA SEHLA SA LEHLABULA - 2026

THE 60TH GENERATION OF VUT GRADUATES

APR · 24 · 2026

VAAL UNIVERSITY
OF TECHNOLOGY

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FRIDAY,
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VUT Road to 60 campaign

The VUT Road to 60 campaign is an exciting initiative leading up to the university's diamond jubilee in June 2026. Running from August 2025 to June 2026, the campaign is designed to:

- Celebrate VUT's 60th anniversary by honouring its history and legacy.
- Strengthen institutional pride and identity among staff, students, alumni, and external stakeholders.
- Mobilise resources and partnerships to support the university's long-term sustainability and growth.
- Enhance VUT's reputation and visibility locally, nationally, and internationally.

The campaign includes a series of activations, events, and communications across the university, such as alumni engagement, donor mobilisation, student and staff activations, and outreach to external stakeholders. It is not only a commemorative activity but also a strategic positioning platform that aligns VUT's brand with its long-term ambitions.

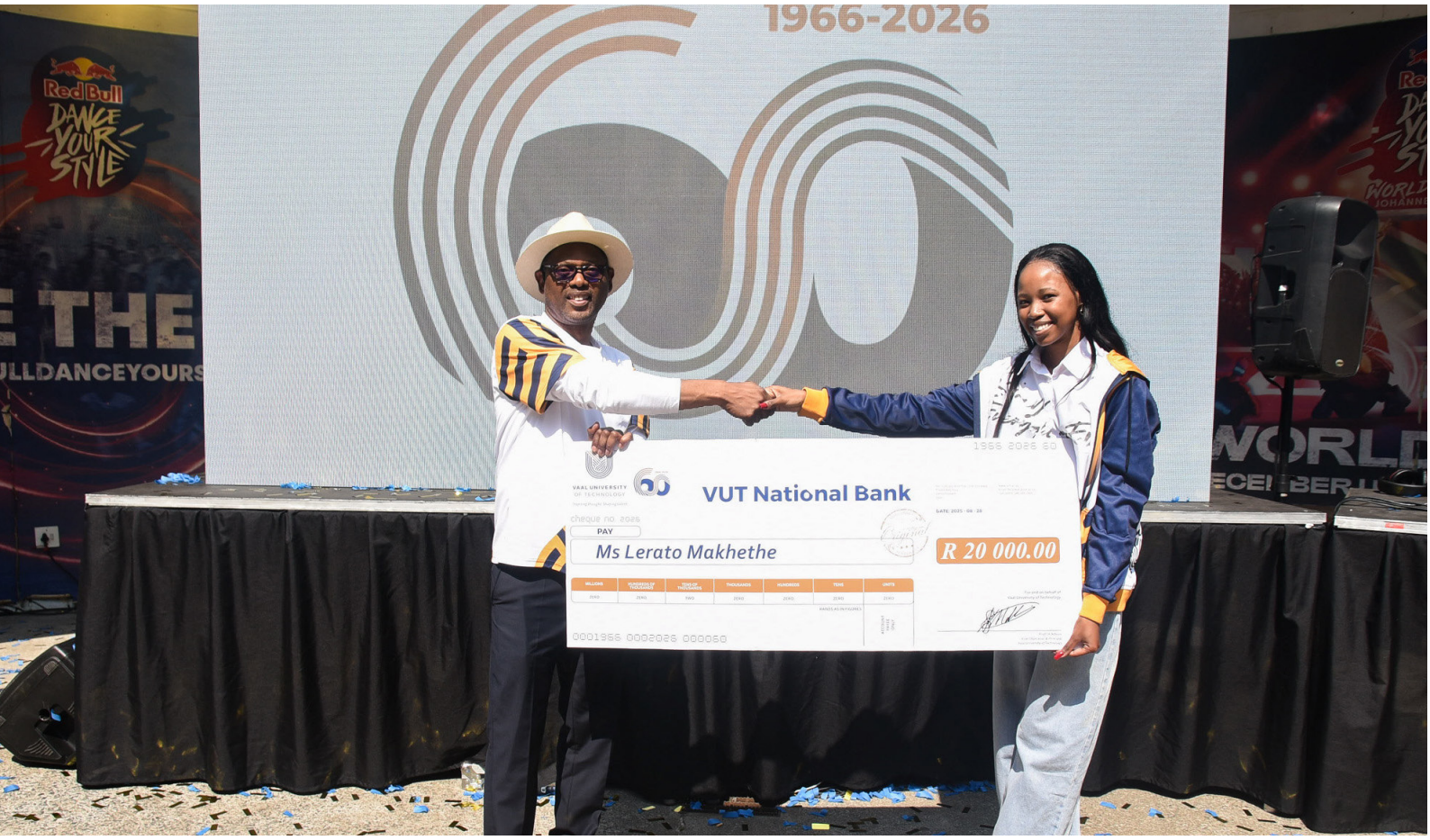
CAMPAIGN LOGO

FLOW OF LEGACY 1966–2026

Designed by Ms Lerato Makhethe, a student in the Department of Visual Arts and Design, this emblem celebrates 60 years of strength, unity, and purpose at the Vaal University of Technology. The '6' and 'o' are seamlessly connected by a ribbon, symbolising an institution that has stood firm and connected for six decades. Incorporating the VUT shield, the four lines complement the original logo. The ribbon, inspired by the Vaal River, flows from the 'o' to the base of the '6', representing a gateway to the future. The design captures VUT's forward-looking vision while honouring its enduring legacy.

Join us as we celebrate the university's past, present, and future.


VUT National Bank
Ms Lerato Makhethe
R 20 000.00


1966-2026
Red Bull
DANCE YOUR STYLE
VUT National Bank
PAY
Ms Lerato Makhethe
R 20 000.00

SESOTHO

Letsholo la VUT la Tsela e lebisang dilemong tse 60

Letsholo la VUT la Tsela e lebisang dilemong tse 60 ke mohato o thabisang o lebisang ho jubile ya taemane ya yunivesithi ka Phuptjane 2026. Ho tloha ka Phato 2025 ho isa Phuptjane 2026, letsholo le etseditswe ho:

- Keteka sehopotso sa bo60 sa VUT ka ho hlompha nalane le lefa la yona.
- Matlafatsa boikgantsho le boitsebahatso ba setheo hara basebetsi, baithuti, baithuti ba kgale le bankakarolo ba kantle.
- Kopanya disebediswa le dilekane ho tshehetsa yunivesithi e tsitsitseng le kgolo ya nako e telele.
- Ntlafatsa serithi le ponahalo ya VUT sebakeng sa heno, naheng ka bophara le matjhabeng.

Letsholo lena le kenyelletsa letoto la tshebetso, diketsahalo le dikgokahano ho pholletsa le yunivesithi, jwalo ka boitlamo ba baithuti ba kgale, ho bokella bafani, tshebetso ya baithuti le basebetsi le ho fihlella bankakarolo ba kantle. Ha se ketsahalo ya sehopotso feela empa hape ke sethala sa maemo a leano se hokahanyang letshwao la VUT le ditabatabelo tsa lona tsa nako e telele.

LETSHWAO LA LETSHOLO

PHALLO YA LEFA 1966–2026

Letshwao lena le entswe ke Mof. Lerato Makhethe, moithuti Lefapheng la Bonono le Boqapi ba tsa Pono, le keteka dilemo tse 60 tsa matla, bonngwe le morero Yunivesithing ya Thekenoloji ya Lekwa. '6' le 'o' di hoketswe ka lente, ho tshwantsha setheo se ileng sa ema se tiile mme se hokahane ka dilemo tse mashome a tsheletseng. Ho kenyelletsa thebe ya VUT, mela e mene e tlatsana le letshwao la mantlha. Lelente, le buduletsweng ke Noka ya Lekwa, e phalla ho tloha 'o' ho ya botlaaseng ba '6', e emelang monyako wa bokamoso. Moralo ona o hapa pono e shebileng pele ya VUT ha o ntse o hlompha lefa la wona le tshwarellang.

E ba le rona ha re ntse re keteka yunivesithi ya nakong e fetileng, ya hona jwale le ya bokamoso.

SEPEDI

Lesolo la leeto la VUT la go ya mengwageng ye 60

Lesolo la leeto la VUT la go ya mengwageng ye 60 ke kgato ye e kgahlišago yeo e lebišitšego go taemane ya jubilee ya yunibesithi ka kgwedi ya Ngwatobošego 2026. Go tloga ka kgwedi ya Phato 2025 go fihla ka kgwedi ya Phupu 2026, lesolo le le hlametšwe go:

- Go keteka segopotšo sa ngwaga wa bo 60 sa VUT ka go hlompha histori le bohwa bja yona.
- Go tiiša boikgantšho le boitšhupo bja setheo magareng ga bašomi, baithuti, baithuti ba kgale, le bakgathatema ba ka ntle.
- Go kgoboketša methopo le ditirišano go thekga go tšwelapele le kgolo ya nako ye telele ya yunibesithi.
- Go godiša seriti le ponagatšo ya VUT mo selegaeng, nageng, le boditšhabatšhabeng.

Leeto le le akaretša tlhatlamano ya meletlo, ditiragalo, le dikgokagano go ralala le yunibesithi, bjalo ka tlemano le baithuti ba kgale, go hwetša baabi, meletlo ya baithuti le bašomi, le go fihlelela bakgathatema ba ka ntle. Ga se fela mošomo wa segopotšo eupša ke sefala sa go beakanya maemo a maano ao a kopanyago leina la VUT le phišagelo ya yona ya nako ye telele.

LESWAO LA LESOLO

TŠWETŠOPELE YA BOHWA 1966–2026

Leswao leo le hlamilwe ke Mohumagadi Lerato Makhethe, moithuti ka Lefapheng la Bokgabo bja go Bonwa le Bohlami, le keteka mengwaga ye 60 ya maatla, kopano le maikemišetšo Yunibesithing ya Theknolotši ya Vaal. Dinomoro tše '6' le 'o' tšeo di kgokagantšwe gabotse ka lelente, di laetša setheo seo se emego se tiile ebile se kgokagane mengwagasome ye tshela. Go akaretša seka sa tšhireletšo sa VUT, methaladi ye mene e tlaleletša leswao la mathomo. Lelente, le hlohleleditšwe ke Noka ya Vaal, le elela go tšwa go 'o' go ya motheong wa '6', go emela kgoro ya go ya go bokamoso. Moakanyetšo o laetša pono ya VUT ya go lebelela pele mola o hlompha bohwa bja yona bjo bo sa felego.

Eba le rena ge re keteka tša moragorago, tša bjale, le bokamoso bja yunibesithi.

VAAL UNIVERSITY
OF TECHNOLOGY

MESSAGE TO THE CLASS OF 2026

Esteemed Graduates, Distinguished Guests, Faculty Members, Families, and Friends

Today we gather not only to celebrate an academic milestone, but to honour a journey of perseverance, discipline and hope. Graduation is never merely the conclusion of study. It is the beginning of responsibility. It is the moment when knowledge meets the world and must prove its worth.

To the Class of 2026, you arrive at this stage at a defining moment in the history of the Vaal University of Technology (VUT). In June 2026 the University celebrates its Diamond Jubilee, marking sixty years of academic excellence, innovation and service to society. Your cohort therefore holds a special place in this historic journey. You are the Jubilee graduates, the generation that steps forward as the University marks six decades of shaping talent and transforming lives.

Across those six decades, thousands have walked these halls before you. Engineers who designed bridges and factories. Technologists who powered industries. Educators, entrepreneurs and innovators who shaped communities across South Africa and beyond. Today you join that lineage. You become part of the living legacy of the University.

Your achievement is not yours alone. Behind every graduate stands a constellation of support. Parents who sacrificed. Families who encouraged. Lecturers who guided and challenged. Friends who walked the journey with you. Today we honour them as well, because their belief helped carry you to this moment.

Yet graduation does not take place in isolation from the realities of the world around us. South Africa continues to face profound challenges. Unemployment remains high. Poverty still shadows many communities. Inequality continues to test the promise of our democracy. These are not abstract statistics. They are lived realities that call for courage, innovation and leadership.

But history teaches us that societies are changed not only by policies and institutions. They are changed by people who refuse to accept that things must remain as they are.

At VUT, you were prepared for precisely such a moment. You were trained not simply to memorise knowledge but to apply it. To question. To design. To build. To solve problems that matter. Whether you enter laboratories, boardrooms, classrooms, factories or start your own enterprises, the education you received here equips you to turn ideas into impact.

The world you enter is one of profound transformation. Technology is reshaping industries. Artificial intelligence is redefining the nature of work. Sustainability and responsible innovation are becoming central to the future of our planet. In such a world, your qualifications are not merely credentials. They are instruments of change.

As the University walks the Road to 60, we reflect not only on where we have come from, but on where we must go. A Jubilee is not simply a celebration of years passed. It is a moment of renewal, a reaffirmation of purpose. For VUT, that purpose remains clear: to produce graduates who are builders of society, creators of opportunity, and custodians of ethical leadership.

You, the Class of 2026, embody that mission.
You are the engineers who will design smarter cities and resilient infrastructure.
You are the technologists who will build the industries of the future.
You are the innovators who will create businesses that generate employment.

You are the thinkers who will challenge complacency and inspire progress.

In years to come, when the history of this Diamond Jubilee is told, your generation will be remembered as the graduates who stepped forward at a decisive moment. The generation that carried sixty years of legacy and transformed it into possibility.

So walk into the world with confidence. Let curiosity guide you. Let integrity define you. Let service to society remain your compass.

May you build boldly.
May you lead with courage.
And may the knowledge you carry from this University illuminate the path ahead.
Congratulations, Class of 2026.

The future now calls your name.

SESOTHO

VC MOLAETSA HO SEHLOPHA SA 2026

Baithuti ba phethetseng dithuto ba Hlomphehileng, Baeti ba Kgabane, Ditho tsa Difakhalthi, Malapa le Metswalle.

Kajeno re bokana eseng feela ho keteka kgatokgolo ya thuto, empa ho hlompha leeto la tiisetso, boitshwaro le tshepo. Ho phethela dithuto ha ho bolele feela pheletso ya thuto. Ke qalo ya boikarabelo. Ke motsotso oo tsebo e kopanang le lefatshe mme e tlameha ho hapa boleng ba yona.

Ho Sehlopha sa 2026, le fihla boemong bona ka nako e bohlokwa nalaneng ya Yunivesithi ya Lekwa ya Thekenoloji (VUT). Ka Phupjane 2026 Yunivesithi e keteka Selemo sa yona sa Jubilee sa Taemane, se supang dilemo tse mashome a tsheletseng tsa bokgabane ba thuto, boqapi le tshebeletso ho setjhaba. Sehlopha sa lona ka hona se na le sebaka se ikgethang leetong lena la nalane. Le baithuti ba phethetseng dithuto ba Selemo sa Jubilee, moloko o hatelang pele ha Yunivesithi e tshwaya dilemo tse mashome a tsheletseng (60) tsa ho bopa talente le ho fetola maphelo.

Ho phatlalla le dilemo tseo tse mashome a tsheletseng (60), ba dikete ba ile ba tsamaya diholong tseo pele ho lona. Dienjiniere tse radileng marokgo le difeme. Dithekenoloji tse matlafaditseng diindasteri. Mesuwe, borakgwebo le baqapi ba bopileng ditjhaba ho phatlalla le Aforika Borwa le ho feta. Kajeno le ikgokahanya le leloko leo. Le ba karolo ya lefa le phelang la Yunivesithi.

Phihlello ya lona ha se ya lona le le bang. Ka mora moithuti e mong le e mong a phethetseng dithuto ho eme sehlopha sa dinaledi sa tshehetso. Batswadi ba ileng ba itela. Malapa a ileng a kgothalletsa. Barupelli ba ileng ba tataisa le ho phephetsa. Metswalle e ileng ya tsamaya leeto le lona. Kajeno re a ba hlompha le bona, hobane tumelo ya bona e thusitse ho le tlisa motsotsong ona.

Leha ho le jwalo, ho phethela dithuto ha ho etsahale ka ho itsheka thejana dinthong tsa nnete tsa lefatshe le re potolohileng. Aforika Borwa e ntse e tobana le diphephetso tse tebileng. Tlhokeho ya mesebetsi e ntse e phahame. Bofutsana bo ntse bo aparetse ditjhaba tse ngata. Ho se lekane ho ntse ho leka tshepiso ya demokerasi ya rona. Tsena ha se lipalopalo tse sa bonahaleng. Ke dinnete tse phelwang, tse hlokang sebete, boqapi le boetapele.

Empa nalane e re ruta hore ditjhaba di a fetoha e se feela ka melao le dibaka. Di fetolwa ke batho ba hanang ho amohela hore dintho di tlameha ho dula di le jwalo.

VUT, le ne le hlophiswa hantle bakeng sa motsotso wa mofuta ona. Le ne le kwetliswa eseng feela ho hopola tsebo empa ho e sebedisa. Ho botsa lipotso. Ho rala. Ho aha. Ho rarolla mathata a bohlokwa. Hore na le kena dilaborathoring, dikantoro tsa boto, dikantoro tsa thuto, difeme kapa ho qala kgwebo ya hao, thuto eo le e fumaneng mona e le hlomella ho fetola mehopolo hore e be kgahlamelo.

Lefatshe leo le kenang ho lona ke le leng la phetoho e tebileng. Thekenoloji e ntse e fetola diindasteri. Bohlale ba maiketsetso (AI) bo ntse bo hlalosa boemo ba mosebetsi ka ditsela tse fapaneng. Boitlhokomelo le boqapi bo nang le boikarabelo di ba bohareng ba bokamoso ba polanete ya rona. Lefatsheng le jwalo, mangolo a lona a thuto ha se phihlello ya thuto feela. Ke disebediswa tsa phetoho.

Ha Yunivesithi e tsamaya tsela ya ho ya mashomeng a tsheletseng (60), re hopola eseng feela moo re tswang teng, empa le moo re tlamehang ho ya teng. Mokete wa Selemo sa Jubilee ha se feela ho keteka dilemo tse fetileng. Ke motsotso wa ntjhafatso, ho tiisa botjha nnetefatso ya morero. Bakeng sa VUT, morero oo o ntse o hlakile: ho hlahisa baithuti ba phethetseng dithuto bao e leng baahi ba setjhaba, bathehi ba menyetla le batshireletsi ba boetapele ba boitshwaro bo botle.

Lona, Sehlopha sa 2026, le emela mosebetsi oo.

Le dienjiniere tse tla rala metse e bohlale le meralo ya motheo e matla.
Le borathekenoloji ba tla aha diindasteri tsa bokamoso.
Le baqapi ba tla theha dikgwebo tse thehang mesebetsi.
Le banahani ba tla phephetsa boikaaketsi mme le kgothalletse tswelopele.

Dilemong tse tlang, ha nalane ya Selemo sena sa Jubilee sa Taemane e phethwa, moloko wa lona o tla hopolwa e le wa baithuti ba phethileng dithuto ba ileng ba hatela pele ka nako e bohlokwa. Moloko o nkileng dilemo tse mashome a tsheletseng (60) tsa lefa mme wa le fetola kgoneho.

Ka hoo, tsamayang lefatsheng ka boitshepo. Dumellang thahasello ya tsebo e le etelle pele. Dumellang botshepehi bo le hlalose. Dumellang tshebeletso setjhabeng e dule e le khamphase ya lona..
E ka le ka aha ka sebete.

E ka le ka etella pele ka ho hloka tshabo.
Mme e ka bohlale boo le bo jereng ho tswa Yunivesithing ena bo ka kgantsha tsela e ka pele.

Re a le lebohisa, Sehlopha sa 2026.

Bokamoso bo bitsa lebitso la hao.

SEPEDI

MOLAETŠA WA VC GO SEHLOPHA SA 2026

Dialoga tše di Hlomphegago, Baeng, Maloko a Difakhalthi, Meloko le Bagwera.

Lehono ga re kgobokane fela go keteka kgato ye bohlokwa ya thto, eupša go hlompha leeto la go phegelela, boitshwaro le kholofelo. Go aloga ga se feela phetho ya thuto. Ke mathomo a maikarabelo. Ke motsotso wo tsebo e kopanago le lefase moo e swanetše go hlatsela mohola wa yona.

Go Sehlopha sa 2026, o fihla mo nakong ye ka motsotso wo o hlalošago histori ya Yunibesithi ya Theknolotši ya Vaal (VUT). Ka Ngwatobošego 2026 Yunibesithi e keteka Jubilee ya yona ya Taemane, e swaya mengwaga ye masometshela ya bokgoni bja tša thuto, boitlhamelo le tirelo go setšhaba. Ka fao sehlopha sa gago se swere lefelo le le kgethegilego leetong le la histori. Le dialoga tša Jubilee, moloko wo o gatelago pele ge Yunibesithi e swaya mengwagasome ye tshela ya go bopa talente le go fetoša maphelo.

Mengwagasomeng yeo e tshela, ba dikete ba sepetše diholo tše pele ga gago. Baentšeneere bao ba hlamilego maporogo le difeme. Ditsebi tša theknolotši tšeo di matlafaditšego diintaseteri. Barutiši, bagwebi le bahlami bao ba bopilego ditšhaba go ralala Afrika Borwa le ka ntle ga yona. Lehono o tsenela lešika leo. O ba karolo ya bohwa bjo bo phelago bja Yunibesithi.

Phihlelelo ya gago ga se ya gago o nnoši. Ka morago ga sealoga se sengwe le se sengwe go eme sehlopha sa dinaledi sa thekgo. Batswadi bao ba ilego ba itima. Malapa ao a be go a hlohletša. Bafahloši bao ba go hlahlilego le go go hlohla. Bagwera bao ba sepetšego leeto le wena. Lehono re hlompha wena le bona, ka gobane tumelo ya bona e thušitše go go rwala go fihla motsotsong wo.

Lege go le bjalo go aloga ga go direge ka go ikarola go dilo tša kgonthe tša lefase leo le re dikologilego. Afrika Borwa e tšwela pele go lebana le dihlotlo tše di tseneletšego. Go hlokega ga mešomo go sa dutše go le godimo. Bodiidi bo sa dutše bo aparetše ditšhaba tše dintši. Go se lekalekane go tšwela pele go leka tshepišo ya temokrasi ya rena. Tše ga se dipalopalo tšeo di sa kwagalego. Ke dilo tša kgonthe tšeo di nyakago sebete, boitlhamelo le boetapele.

Efela histori e re ruta gore ditšhaba ga di fetošwe fela ke dipholisi le ditheo. Di fetošwa ke batho bao ba ganago go amogela gore dilo di swanetše go dula di le bjalo.

Mo VUT, o be o lokišetšwa motsotso o bjalo ka o. Ga se wa hlahlwa go no swara tsebo ka hlogo efela o tlwaetšwa go e diriša. Go botšiša. Go hlama. Go aga. Go rarolla mathata ao a lego bohlokwa. Go sa šetšwe gore o tsena dilaborathoring, diphapoši tša boto, diphapošing tša borutelo, difeme goba o thoma dikgwebo tša gago, thuto yeo o e hweditšego mo e go hlomela go fetoša dikgopolo go ba khuetšo.

Lefase leo o tsenago go lona ke la phetogo ye e tseneletšego. Theknolotši e bopa diintasteri lefsa. Bohlale bja maitirelo bo hlaloša leswa tlhago ya mošomo. Go swarelela le boitlhamelo bjo bo nago le maikarabelo di fetoga dilo tše bohlokwa go bokamoso bja pholanete ya rena. Lefaseng le bjalo, mangwalo a gago ga se fela mangwalo a go hlatsela. Ke didirišwa tša phetogo.

Ge Yunibesithi e sepela Tsela ya go ya go 60, ga re naganišiše fela ka moo re tšwago gona, eupša le moo re swanetšego go ya gona. Jubilee ga se fela keteko ya mengwaga e fetilego. Ke motsotso wa mpshafatšo, le tiišetšo gape ya morero. Go VUT, morero woo o dula o le molaleng: go tšweletša dialoga tšeo e lego baagi ba setšhaba, bahlami ba dibaka, le bahlokomedi ba boetapele bja maitshwaro a mabotse. Lena, Sehlopha sa 2026, le akaretša thomo yeo.

Ke lena baentšeneare bao ba tlago hlama ditoropo tše bohlale le mananeokgoparara ao a tiilego. Ke lena ditsebi tša theknolotši tšeo di tla agago diintasteri tša ka moso. Ke lena bahlami ba dilo tše mpsha bao ba tla hlola dikgwebo tšeo di tšweletšago mešomo. Ke lena batho ba go nagana bao ba tla hlohlago go ikgotsofatša le go hlohleletša tšwelopele.

Mengwageng ye e tlago, ge histori ya Jubilee ye ya Taemane e anegwa, moloko wa lena o tla gopolwa bjalo ka dialoga tšeo di ilego tša gatelapele ka motsotso wa mafelelo. Moloko wo o rwelego mengwaga ye masometshela ya bohwa gomme wa e fetoša gore e be kgonagalo.

Ka fao sepela lefaseng ka boitshepo. Anke go rata go tseba go go hlahle. Anke potego e go hlaloše. A tirelo setšhabeng e dule e le tlhahlo ya gago.

Eke o ka aga ka sebete.
Eke o ka etela pele ka sebete.
Gomme tsebo yeo o e rwelego go tšwa Yunibesithing ye e boneše tsela yeo e lego ka pele.
Re a le lebogiša, Sehlopha sa 2026.

Bokamoso bjale bo bitša leina la gago.

VAAL UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

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Chancellor
LL.M (Yale), LLB (Unibo);B.Iuris.

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Chairperson of Council : 2025 – 2027
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BSc : Computer Sciences (VISTA)

Prof SK Ndlovu
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Adv S Vilakazi
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Executive Leadership Development (Harvard University),
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Dr MG Kanakana-Katumba
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Dphil (UJ), MSE (GWU), MBA (NMMU),
BTECH (TUT) and ND (TUT)

Prof SM Nelana
Deputy Vice-Chancellor:
Research, Innovation, Commercialisation and Internationalisation
PhD (UJ), MSc (UWC), BSc Hons (UWC), BSc (UWC)

Ms N Dhumazi CA(SA)
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MBA (Henley Business School), MCOM (UP); BCOMPT
Hons (UNISA), BCOM (UNIVEN)

VAAL UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

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Management Sciences
PhD (NWU), DTech: (VUT), ADHE (UFS), MSC (CUT), BBA (MSU), ADP (UFS)

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Archbishop Emeritus D Tutu - Humanities

2006:
Prof M Hinoul – Extraordinary Professorship
Dr Adv PDF Tlakula - Legal Studies
Dr M Oliphant - Sports Management

2008:
M Mangena - Applied Sciences
Adv IA Semenya - Law
DN Koloane - Fine Arts
SM Pityana - Humanities
Adv G Bizos - Law
Archbishop WHN Ndungane - Humanities

2011:
H Masekela - Human Sciences

2012:
Reverend BE Lekganyane - Human Sciences
M Mohapi (posthumously) - Human Sciences

2013:
Judge MM Mabesele - Human Sciences
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2016:
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2018:
M Meyer - Management Sciences
T Makgoe - Human Sciences

2019:
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VAAL UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS
MOKGWA WA TSAMAISO YA MOSEBETSI | TATELANO YA LENANEO

The Academic Procession enters the Desmond Tutu Great Hall
Mokoloko o kena setsing sa kopanelo Desmond Tutu
Molokoloko wa Dirutegi o tsena ka Holong ya Desmond Tutu

The Vice-Chancellor & Principal Constitutes the Congregation
Motlatsa-Motjhanselara le Mosuwehlooho o Bula Mosebetsi Semmuso
Motlatša Mokhatshelara le Hlogo o Bula Kopano Semmušo

NATIONAL ANTHEM
PINA YA SETJHABA | KOŠA YA SETŠHABA

PRAYER AND WELCOME
THAPELO LE KAMOHELO | THAPELO LE KAMOGELO

PRESENTATION OF GRADUANDS
DIKAPESO | DIKAPEŠO

Executive Dean
Dini ya Phethahatso | Diniphethiši

CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE TO STUDENTS
TAKALETSO YA MAHLOHONOLO HO BAITHUTI | MOLAETŠA WA DITEBOGIŠO GO BAITHUTI
Vice-Chancellor & Principal
Motlatsa-Motjhanselara le Mosuwehlooho | Motlatša Mokhantshela le Hlogo

Vice-Chancellor & Principal Dissolves the Congregation
Motlatsa-Motjhanselara le Mosuwehlooho o Qhala Kopano | Motlatša Mokhatshelara le Hlogo o Phatlalatša Kopano

The Academic Procession leaves the hall, followed by Guests.
Mokoloko o tswa setsing sa kopanelo, o latelwa ke baeti ba bohlokwa.| Molokoloko wa Dirutegi o tšwa ka holong, o latelwa ke Baeng

The congregation is requested to rise and remain standing when the academic procession enters and leaves the hall.
Phutheho e koptjwa ho ema ha Mokoloko o tswa setsing sa kopanelo | Batho ba kgopelwa go ema ge molokoloko wa dirutegi o tsena le go tšwa ka holong.

NATIONAL ANTHEM

Nkosi sikelel' Afrika
Maluphakanyisw' uphondo lwayo,
Yizwa imithandazo yethu,
Nkosi sikelela, thina lusapho lwayo.

Morena boloka setjhaba sa heso,
O fedise dintwa le matshwenyeho,
O se boloke, O se boloke setjhaba sa heso,
Setjhaba sa South Afrika - South Afrika.

Uit die blou van onse hemel,
Uit die diepte van ons see,
Oor ons ewige gebergtes,
Waar die kranse antwoord gee,

Sounds the call to come together,
And united we shall stand,
Let us live and strive for freedom,
In South Africa our land.

VAAL UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ditsebiso | Ditsebišo

In order to maintain the dignity of the ceremony, you are requested to take note of the following:

- The congregation is requested to rise and remain standing when the academic procession enters and leaves the hall.
- Do not move around during the ceremony in order to take photographs.
- Please refrain from unacceptable actions such as whistling.
- Please switch off your cellphone.
- We strive to conduct the ceremonies in a dignified manner, please do not leave the hall before the graduation proceedings have been concluded.
- Qualifications of candidates who are unable to attend the graduation ceremony will be conferred in absentia.

VAAL UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY
APPLIED & COMPUTER SCIENCES

FACULTY OF APPLIED COMPUTER SCIENCES — 17H00 - 24 APRIL 2026

DIPLOMA IN **AGRICULTURAL MANAGEMENT** — M+3

KEKANA Mahontse Herbert Solly
MATHEBULA Debora Thandy
SITHOLE Edward Mandlheya

DIPLOMA IN **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY** — M+3

MAGAGANE Ntladi Freeman

NATIONAL DIPLOMA IN **ANALYTICAL CHEMISTRY** — M+3

HANS Mendy

ADVANCED DIPLOMA IN **BIOMEDICAL TECHNOLOGY** — M+4

CUM LAUDE*
SHIBAMBU Makungo Charity*

BUTHELEZI Mpume
CHOANE Refentse
KAKISHA Masilo Brendan
LUBOBO Nwabisa Faith
MASINGA Nyeleti Sharon
MASUDUBELE Kgotso
MOKATSE Francina Mantsaci
MOTHWA Roselyn
MOTLOUNG Mantwa Topsy
NTLEMEZA Nanamhlanje
OTIMILE Keamogetswe Keletso
RANALA Lezel Lehlabile
SEBOLELA Ntokozo
THAGE Nthabiseng Koketso
VAN WYK Linore Alletta Roseline

POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN **BIOMEDICAL TECHNOLOGY** M+5

CUM LAUDE*
NJOMI Afika*

SAMBO Matello Eliza

POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN **BIOTECHNOLOGY** M+5

NCUBE Lungelo

POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY** M+5

MOLOKOMME Puledi Peter

MASTER OF APPLIED SCIENCES IN **BIOTECHNOLOGY** M+6

NKOMO Fortunate

DISSERTATION: INVESTIGATING THE EFFECT OF CRUDE WATER EXTRACTS OF TULBAGHIA VIOLACEA ON THE GENE EXPRESSION OF CHECKPOINT PROTEINS AND ANTIGEN-PRESENTING COMPLEX IN AN ORAL CANCER CELL LINE.

SUPERVISOR: Prof CC Ssemakalu
CO-SUPERVISOR: Dr S Takaidza

MASTER OF APPLIED SCIENCES IN **CHEMISTRY** M+6

MAHUWA Fhulufhelo Elice

DISSERTATION: CHARACTERIZATION OF INDUSTRIAL COLLAGEN AND ITS APPLICATION AS A CORROSION INHIBITOR ON MILD STEEL AND ALUMINIUM SURFACES IN ACIDIC MEDIA.

SUPERVISOR: Prof MJ Klink
CO-SUPERVISORS: Dr Q Sikakana & Dr IA Lawal

ROEBUCK Conor James

DISSERTATION: L. SATIVA (HEMP) USED IN DIFFERENT GROWTH METHODS AS PHYTOREMEDIATION OF HEAVY METALS IN CONTAMINATED SOIL.

SUPERVISOR: Prof MJ Klink
CO-SUPERVISORS: Prof FM Mtunzi & Dr H Chiririwa

TWALA Moses Jabulane

DISSERTATION: ASSESSMENT OF DRINKING WATER TREATMENT PLANTS USING PHYSICO-CHEMICAL AND MICROBIAL INDICES IN PARYS, NGWATHE MUNICIPALITY (SOUTH AFRICA).

SUPERVISOR: Prof SJ Modise
CO-SUPERVISORS: Prof FM Mtunzi & Dr M Monapathi

VAAL UNIVERSITY
OF TECHNOLOGY
APPLIED & COMPUTER
SCIENCES

MASTER OF **INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY** M+6

CUM LAUDE*

NTINI Yongama Serge*

DISSERTATION: A PERSONAL IOT-BASED RECOMMENDATION SYSTEM FOR WEIGHT-LOSS PRACTITIONERS.

SUPERVISOR: Dr T Otunniyi
CO-SUPERVISOR: Mr E Sibanda

MALATJI Kgomotso Juliet

DISSERTATION: ADOPTION OF TELEMEDICINE IN GAUTENG DURING COVID-19.

SUPERVISOR: Dr N Sonhera
CO-SUPERVISOR: Prof T Zuva

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN **BIOTECHNOLOGY** M+7

ADELEKE Doyinsola Mufuliat

THESIS: DEVELOPMENT OF QUALITY EVALUATION OF INFANT COMPLEMENTARY FOOD FROM MAIZE, SOYBEAN AND ORANGE FLESHED SWEET POTATOES.

PROMOTER: Prof A Egal
CO- PROMOTERS: Prof T Padayachee & Prof SJ Modise

BIOGRAPHY:

Doyinsola Adeleke was born and raised in Oyo State, Nigeria. She is married to Prince Rasaq Ademola Adeleke, and together they are blessed with two charming children. She holds a Bachelor of Science (BSc, Hons with Second Class Upper Division) in Food Science and Technology and a Master of Science (MSc with Distinction) in Food Processing and Storage Technology from the Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta, Nigeria. She subsequently enrolled for a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Biotechnology at the Vaal University of Technology, where she specialized in food product formulation, fermentation technology, and microbial community analysis. Throughout her doctoral studies, she conducted extensive research extending beyond South Africa, with part of her work undertaken in Belgium and South Korea. Her research focused on the development of nutrient-dense complementary foods aimed at combating malnutrition. In recognition of her academic excellence, she was awarded the BOF Special Research Fund from Ghent University in 2023. Doyinsola has published several research articles in reputable journals, including Applied Food Research and Food and Humanity, and has presented her research at seminars, workshops, and conferences. She is also an active peer reviewer for a number of international journals and is a member of professional bodies, including the Nigerian Institute of Food Science and Technology. Throughout her programme, she served as a dedicated tutor and mentor to undergraduate students.

ABSTRACT:

This study developed a nutrient-rich complementary food from locally sourced maize, soybean, and orange-fleshed sweet potato (OFSP) flours, using fermentation to enhance nutritional and microbial quality. A composite blend (76% maize, 17% soybean, 7% OFSP) was formulated, and spontaneous, starter culture–mediated, and back-slopping fermentations were evaluated for their effects on physicochemical, nutritional, and microbial properties. Comprehensive analyses, including proximate composition, amino acid profiling, mineral and β-carotene content, and functional properties were conducted on the individual flours and the composite blend, with statistical significance at $p \leq 0.05$. Fermentation dynamics were monitored through changes in pH, viscosity, and microbial enumeration, complemented by 16S rRNA gene sequencing for microbial community profiling. Soybean flour was highest in protein (36.69%) and fat (24.88%), maize provided energy (346.06 kcal/100 g), and OFSP contributed carbohydrates (82.19%), β-carotene (37.33 mg/100 g), and potassium (1170 mg/100 g). Fermentation improved the blend's protein (15.00 to 18.55–19.45%), reduced crude fibre (4.25 to 3.95%). The pH decreased from 6.26 to 3.94 (with Lactobacillus plantarum) and 4.25 (SB24), correlating with improved microbial safety and reduced viscosity (from 2700–2800 cPs to 1200–1500 cPs), yielding a consistency suitable for infant feeding. Among the starter cultures, L. plantarum was most effective in enhancing protein content and lactic acid production (834.47 mg/100 g), though spontaneous fermentation also produced comparable benefits. High-throughput sequencing identified beneficial fermentative genera (Lactococcus, Enterococcus, Pediococcus, Bacillus, Paenibacillus), while back-slopping fermentation exhibited superior microbial quality with reduced spoilage bacteria. This study offers the first molecular insight into maize–soybean–OFSP fermentation and highlights back-slopping as a

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN **BIOTECHNOLOGY** M+7

practical, scalable method to improve nutritional quality and safety of complementary foods, supporting efforts to combat infant malnutrition in Sub-Saharan Africa.

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN **BIOTECHNOLOGY** M+7

EKWUJURU Ezinne Uchechi

THESIS: DEVELOPMENT OF SENSITIVE PHOTOELECTROCHEMICAL IMMUNOSENSORS FOR THE DETECTION OF OVARIAN CANCER BIOMARKERS-CA125, HE4 AND CEA.

PROMOTER: Prof MJ Klink
CO- PROMOTERS: Prof CC Ssemakalu & Dr MG Peleyeju

BIOGRAPHY:

Ezinne Uchechi Ekwujuru is the youngest of five children, a position that nurtured her resilience, determination, and strong sense of responsibility. Growing up in a supportive family environment, she developed a deep passion for education from an early age. She obtained both her B. Tech and MSc. degrees in Biotechnology from the Federal University of Technology, Owerri, Nigeria. She went on to pursue a PhD in Biotechnology in Vaal University of Technology, focusing on innovative nanomaterial-based biosensing technologies. Her research has been presented at an international conference in Spain and other local conferences, and has resulted in four publications in reputable peer-reviewed journals as follows: Electrochemical and photoelectrochemical immunosensors for the detection of ovarian cancer biomarkers, published in Sensors (Impact factor of 3.5). A highly sensitive photoelectrochemical immunosensor for cancer antigen (CA 125) based on a nanoplatform of carbon dots and cadmium sulphide, published in RSC Advances (IF of 4.6). Photoelectrochemical immunoassay of cancer biomarker HE4 on disposable electrodes modified with MPA-stabilized CdTe quantum dots, published in Sensing and Bio-Sensing Research (IF 4.9). Characterization and Antimicrobial Assessment of Cadmium Sulfide Nanoparticles, published in International Journal of Molecular Sciences (IF 4.9). Additional manuscripts are currently in preparation. Her outstanding research contributions earned her two awards during the Faculty's Research and Innovation Week: Outstanding Achievement in Research and Innovation (Materials Science Research Group) and Outstanding Research Excellence in PhD Biotechnology.

ABSTRACT:

Cancer-related deaths continue to rise, increasing the need for improved early diagnostic methods. Ovarian cancer has a particularly high mortality rate because early-stage symptoms are often non-specific, leading to late diagnosis and poor survival rates. This study aimed to develop highly sensitive photoelectrochemical (PEC) immunosensors for the early detection of the three major ovarian cancer biomarkers: CA125, HE4, and CEA. Various nanomaterials were employed including bacteriorhodopsin, cadmium sulphide nanoparticles, carbon nanodots, cadmium telluride quantum dots, and mesoporous titanium dioxide. These materials were synthesized and characterized using several analytical techniques such as UV–Vis, FTIR, SEM, TEM, EDX and XRD. The nanomaterials were used to fabricate PEC immunosensors on screen-printed carbon electrodes. Electrochemical techniques such as cyclic voltammetry, electrochemical impedance spectroscopy and differential pulse voltammetry were employed to monitor each stage of electrode modification and analyte detection. The PEC sensors showed very low detection limits for CA125, HE4, and CEA across wide linear detection ranges. They also outperformed the ELISA used for validation. Corresponding electrochemical immunosensors were also developed for comparison. Results showed that PEC immunosensors exhibited higher sensitivity and lower detection limits than the electrochemical counterparts. All sensors demonstrated good selectivity, stability, reproducibility, and repeatability. Successful recovery results in spiked serum samples confirmed their potential for clinical applications. Overall, the developed PEC immunosensing platforms provide a promising approach for sensitive detection of ovarian

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN **BIOTECHNOLOGY** M+7

cancer biomarkers and other clinically important analytes.

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN **BIOTECHNOLOGY** M+7

SIMELANE Lerato

THESIS: DIVERSITY OF MICROSATELLITE AND TOLL-LIKE RECEPTOR LOCI IN SOUTH AFRICAN ANTELOPES.

PROMOTER: Dr S Takaidza
CO- PROMOTERS: Prof DL Dalton, Dr MT Sethusa & Prof BP Njobeh

BIOGRAPHY:

Lerato Simelane is a Johannesburg based entrepreneur, mother and scholar whose life journey is defined by resilience, purpose, and unwavering determination. Her academic journey started at VUT where she did her undergraduate studies and then moved to University of Johannesburg where she obtained a master's degree in biotechnology. She then came back to VUT to pursue her PhD. Both her master's and PhD studies were funded by the National Research Foundation (NRF). During her master's she was awarded a scholarship to conduct part of her research in Belgium at the University of Ghent. Her PhD was conducted in collaboration with SANBI. Lerato has 1 publication and 2 manuscripts under peer review. Beyond academia, Lerato is the founder of Love Lee enterprise, a growing beauty hub that creates opportunities for women in the beauty industry to start and expand their own businesses. Her work in entrepreneurship has enabled other women to access professional spaces and grow their own income streams, making a meaningful impact within her community. Lerato's journey is a testament to perseverance, strength, and purpose, showing that it is possible to raise a family, build a business and achieve academic excellence.

ABSTRACT:

Genetic diversity is essential for the conservation and long-term resilience of antelope species, influencing their adaptability, population viability, and immune responsiveness. This study integrates findings from three research areas: genetic diversity among South African antelope species, population structure in captive herds, and the evolutionary patterns of Toll like receptors (TLRs). Experimental analysis revealed varying levels of heterozygosity and mitochondrial diversity, with black wildebeest, roan antelope, and African buffalo showing reduced genetic diversity, highlighting the need for broader whole genome and functional analyses. In captive populations, impala and blue wildebeest retain relatively high genetic variation, whereas Greater kudu and springbok exhibit low heterozygosity and small effective population sizes, indicating increased risk of inbreeding. Phylogenetic analysis of TLR genes, clusters species into distinct taxonomic groups and shows strong conservation in key immune receptors such as TLR2, TLR4, and TLR9, while higher diversity in TLR7 and TLR8 suggests adaptation to rapidly evolving pathogens. Overall, the study highlights the importance of integrating genetic monitoring and immunogenetic data to strengthen conservation strategies and enhance species resilience.

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN **CHEMISTRY**

M+7

CHAUKE Tebogo Mmamoraga Deborah

THESIS: MONITORING AND ELECTROCOAGULATION SUPPORTED MEMBRANE TREATMENT OF WIRE GALVANIZING EFFLUENT PLANT IN VANDERBIJLPARK, SOUTH AFRICA

PROMOTER: Prof SJ Modise
CO- PROMOTERS: Prof T Mashifana & Dr ME Monapathi

BIOGRAPHY:

Tebogo Mmamoraga Deborah "Tlharipe" Chauke – ke setlhogolo sa Bakwena, ke mokwena wa ga Molotswana wa ga Sabudi sa metsi . She was born and raised in Mohlakeng, Randfontein. She is married to Thabo Chauke, and together they are blessed with two handsome sons. She holds a Diploma in Analytical Chemistry, BTech in Chemistry, BTech in Laboratory Management, Management Development Program (MDP) and MTech in Chemistry, with research focused on medicinal plants. Professionally, she serves as a Group Quality Manager at Premier FMCG, where she oversees nine laboratories both locally and internationally. She has successfully led the implementation of ISO 17025 across these laboratories, with two laboratories already accredited. She has contributed to both the global and local scientific community by presenting her research at major conferences, including the SETAC North America 44th Annual Meeting (USA, November 2023), the 2nd International Conference on Futuristic Materials for Sustainable Development Goals (Vanderbijlpark, April 2025), and the SACI Conference at UNISA (October 2025), where she delivered oral presentations. She has published two scientific manuscripts, with a third currently under review. She has supervised seven interns and one BTech student and is currently serving as a co-supervisor for a masters student at Tshwane University of Technology. She has also moderated undergraduate Environmental Science research projects, in 2024 and 2025.

ABSTRACT:

Her PhD was on the industrial effluent treatment using hybrid electrocoagulation-membrane techniques. Galvanization, a critical industrial process for rust prevention, generates effluents containing heavy metals and other pollutants that pose serious environmental and health risks. This study evaluated the effectiveness of a multi-stage lime–anionic polyacrylamide (PAM), electrocoagulation (EC), and membrane treatment system for effluent generated by a galvanizing plant in Vanderbijlpark, South Africa. The untreated effluent exhibited high concentrations of heavy metals, particularly lead, zinc, manganese, and iron, which far exceeded local discharge limits. In the first treatment step of using lime and (PAM), substantial reductions in heavy metal concentrations were achieved through optimal pH adjustment for hydroxide precipitation. Chloride levels decreased from over 14 000 mg.L-1 to approximately 3 900 mg.L-1, while electrical conductivity reduced from 13 050 µS.m-1 to 2 110 µS.m-1. However, both remained above municipal discharge limits, indicating residual ionic content. The second stage employed electrocoagulation, meticulously optimised through mono-variable experiments and Response Surface Methodology (RSM). Aluminium electrodes in a dipolar configuration at pH 8 exhibited the best performance, achieving 61.4% chloride removal with minimised energy (65.9 kWh·m^{-3}) and electrode consumption (1.08 kg·m^{-3}). In the final stage, reverse osmosis (BW4040) and nanofiltration (NF90) membranes achieved high rejection efficiencies for calcium, magnesium and sulphate. The fully integrated EC–NF90–RO system reduced the chloride concentration to 440 mg·L^{-1} with an overall removal efficiency of 91.2% thereby meeting the regulatory discharge limit (<500 mg·L^{-1}). The integrated lime–PAM–electrocoagulation–membrane treatment sequence

significantly improved effluent quality, effectively reducing heavy metals and high-chloride loads. The findings demonstrate a viable and effective roadmap for cleaning toxic galvanizing wastewater. By sequencing lime-PAM, optimized electrocoagulation, and membrane filtration, a sustainable, scalable solution that can help industries meet environmental regulations is provided.

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN **BIOTECHNOLOGY**

M+7

KHOTHA Doctor Elias

THESIS: FABRICATION OF MORINGA-BASED NANOCOMPOSITES INCORPORATING METAL OXIDES/SULPHIDES FROM SUBSTITUTED UREA AND THIOUREA METAL COMPLEXES FOR WATER TREATMENT

PROMOTER: Prof T Xaba
CO- PROMOTERS: Prof FM Mtunzi & Prof VE Pakade

BIOGRAPHY:

Doctor Elias Khotha was born and raised in a village called Comet from Qwaqwa in the Free State Province. He holds a National Diploma in Analytical Chemistry (NDip Analytical Chemistry 2012), Bachelor of Technology (BTech: Chemistry 2013) and Master of Technology (MTech: Chemistry 2018) degrees from the Vaal University of Technology. He started his doctoral studies in 2021 in the field of nanotechnology focused on wastewater treatment at Vaal University of Technology. He has supervised several BTech, PGDip students and co-supervised one masters student who completed last year. He has attended conferences both local and international where he presented his research work. He is currently working as a Technologist in the Department of Natural Sciences from 2013 till to date.

ABSTRACT:

Water is an essential component of our life. It is the most vital element for humans, animals, and all the living things on Earth. Heavy metal contamination into our water sources is still a major global environmental concern since it affects aquatic ecosystems, plants, animals and human's health. Consuming contaminated water can pose severe health risks, causing various diseases such as cholera, diarrhoea, typhoid, polio etc, which can often lead to health challenges and death. Therefore, having constant access to clean water is one of the key objectives of humanitarianism. There are several methods that have been used to solve water contamination issues but most of the techniques are unable to remove the majority of the contaminants due to certain limitations of some adsorbents. In this study, Moringa Oleifera seed pods (drumstics) which is very cheap and used as an antioxidant in biological processes to help in protecting the cells from damage and which is also used to reduce pain from a wound was utilized as an adsorbent to remove heavy metals from waste water. Copper and zinc chalcogenides (i.e chalcogenides = sulfur and oxygen) which were prepared from thiourea and urea metal-based complexes were added into the Moringa Oleifera seed pods to boost its effectiveness since nanomaterials have done wonders in the science domain, especially the copper and the zinc based nanoparticles. Moringa Oleifera based nanocomposite were used to remove Fe(III) and Cr(VI) ions from wastewater. The batch experiment was conducted to achieve the optimum conditions. The effect of adsorbent dosages, contact time, pH and metal ion concentrations for chromium and iron ions solutions were investigated. The data for Moringa Oleifera fitted well with both Freundlich and Langmuir isotherms for chromium and iron ions. However, Moringa Oleifera based nanocomposites were found to be more suitable adsorbents for the removal of chromium and iron ions from aqueous solutions. The nanocomposites also exhibited better performance on chromium and iron ions removal when compared to other composites that were previously reported. The highest percentage removals of the heavy metals were ranging from 88-96 %. The prepared copper and zinc-based metal complexes were also used to fabricate thin films for solar cells applications via the thermal decomposition method at various temperatures on the glass substrate to ensure that cheapest solar panels are produced at lower rates for electricity consumption.

VAAL UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY
ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY

FACULTY OF ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY

17H00 - 24 APRIL 2026

DIPLOMA IN **CHEMICAL ENGINEERING** — M+3

KALEKALE Bruce Xolani

DIPLOMA IN **ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING** — M+3

NGOMANE Xolani Prince

ADVANCED DIPLOMA IN **CHEMICAL ENGINEERING** — M+4

MAKANA Vhahangwele

ADVANCED DIPLOMA IN **CIVIL ENGINEERING** — M+4

NTSALA Mojalefa Ernest

ADVANCED DIPLOMA IN **ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING** — M+4

DUBAZANA Thabang Nkazimulo
DUBE Msizi
KULUTA Lonwabo
NTSOANE Koketso Tlokwe

ADVANCED DIPLOMA IN **INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERING** — M+4

KABEYA Shadrack

VAAL UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY
ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY

ADVANCED DIPLOMA IN **MECHANICAL ENGINEERING** M+4

BUNDA Mwelwa Kevine

ADVANCED DIPLOMA IN **METALLURGICAL ENGINEERING** M+4

MATSOALELA Dineo Jasmine

ADVANCED DIPLOMA IN **OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT** M+4

KHOZA Mashilo Mosa Bradley
MALOMA Prinsloo
MANUEL Gabriel Buiti
SIGOBA Tshianeo

POST GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN **ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING** M+5

MTHOMBENI Makhosazane Precious

POST GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN **INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERING** M+5

LEKITLANE Karabo
MAKWARELA Vhutshilo Goodwill

POST GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN **OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT** M+5

TSHABALALA Lungane

VAAL UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY
HUMAN SCIENCES

FACULTY OF HUMAN SCIENCES

17H00 - 24 APRIL 2026

POST GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN **GRAPHIC DESIGN** M+5

THOMAS Leigh Jeanne

POST GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN **HIGHER EDUCATION** M+5

DYULETE Migcobo
MAIWASHE Humbulani Robert
MOKORI Mofenyi Gabriel
MOSIMANEKGOSI Jan Thebeetsile

VAAL UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY
HUMAN SCIENCES

MASTER OF EDUCATION IN **HIGHER EDUCATION** M+6

BOAKYE Nokuthula

DISSERTATION: STUDENT PERCEPTION OF THE COURSE RELEVANCE TO CAREER PATHWAYS IN TVET COLLEGE

SUPERVISOR: Dr ME Mazibuko
CO-SUPERVISOR: Dr T Soni

VAAL UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY
MANAGEMENT SCIENCES

FACULTY OF MANAGEMENT SCIENCES

17H00 - 24 APRIL 2026

DIPLOMA IN **LOGISTICS** M+3

SIMPAKO Tanaka

ADVANCED DIPLOMA IN **HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGEMENT** M+4

CUM LAUDE*
KUBHEKA Jabulile Julia *

GANGATHELE Asenathi
MASEKO Motlanalo Hendrietta
MOLOPI Kholofelo Mark
NKOANA Kholofelo Judith
TSOTETSI Nandi Innocentia

ADVANCED DIPLOMA IN **LOGISTICS** M+4

RAMAKGOLO Junior

ADVANCED DIPLOMA IN **MANAGEMENT** M+4

MAHLATSI Kelebogile Tshenolo

POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN **COST AND MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTING** M+5

CEBEKHULU Sanele Luthando
MAKOFANE Dimpho Sophy
NGWENYA Gift

POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN **HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGEMENT** M+5

MMUTLE Katleho Innocent
MANYEKA Palesa

VAAL UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY
MANAGEMENT SCIENCES

POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN **INTERNAL AUDITING** M+5

RADEBE Teboho Lesly

SMOUSE Thabang

POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN **MARKETING MANAGEMENT** M+5

MORAKE Lesiba Steve

MASTER OF MANAGEMENT IN **BUSINESS MANAGEMENT** M+6

NAARE Mpheng Dikeledi Lydia

DISSERTATION: DISTRIBUTED LEADERSHIP, EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT AND JOB ATTITUDES AMONG OWNERS AND MANAGERS IN SMALL TO MEDIUM ENTERPRISES IN GAUTENG PROVINCE

SUPERVISOR: Prof C Mafini
CO-SUPERVISOR: Dr AK Isabirye

SHABANGU Angel Khululiwe

DISSERTATION: THE CONTRIBUTION OF ENTREPRENEURIAL ORIENTATION AND COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE TO INFORMAL RETAIL BUSINESS PERFORMANCE IN A SELECTED MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

SUPERVISOR: Dr MJ Matsheke
CO-SUPERVISOR: Prof C Mafini

VAAL UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY
MANAGEMENT SCIENCES

MASTER OF MANAGEMENT IN **SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT** M+6

CUM LAUDE*

MKHWANE Jason Daniel*

DISSERTATION: SUPPLY CHAIN EFFICIENCY IN A SELECTED DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY IN SOUTHERN GAUTENG

SUPERVISOR: Prof C Mafini
CO-SUPERVISOR: Dr WV Loury Okoumba

DLAMINI Fikile Eunice

DISSERTATION: THE RELATIONSHIP OF SUPPLY CHAIN FLEXIBILITY, SUPPLY CHAIN AGILITY AND FIRM PERFORMANCE IN THE FMCG INDUSTRY IN THE KWAZULU NATAL PROVINCE

SUPERVISOR: Prof JP Van Der Westhuizen
CO-SUPERVISOR

MAFFA Mmalemang Andronicca

DISSERTATION: ANTECEDENTS OF OPERATIONAL PERFORMANCE: THE CASE OF THE FOOD AND BEVERAGE MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY IN GAUTENG PROVINCE

SUPERVISOR: Dr L Ntshingila
CO-SUPERVISOR:Dr WV Loury Okoumba

MAKHADO Hangwani

DISSERTATION: SUPPLIER RELATIONSHIP MANAGEMENT IN A SELECTED STATE-OWNED ENTERPRISE

SUPERVISOR: Prof E Chinomona
CO-SUPERVISOR: Dr G Mothibi
CO-SUPERVISOR: Dr S Govuzela

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (PHD) **BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION** M+7

KHUMALO Thothobela Rachel

THESIS: CRYPTO ASSETS AND TAX COMPLIANCE: AN INTERPRETIVE STUDY OF USER PERCEPTIONS IN SOUTH AFRICA

PROMOTER: Prof C Mafini
CO- PROMOTERS: Prof GJ Maseko

ABSTRACT:
Tax compliance in South Africa heavily relies, among other things, on centralised information provided by third parties, such as financial institutions, employers and brokers. New technologies such as crypto assets are traded in a decentralised economy, whereby no organisation or government can easily monitor transactions. Without a well-established specific legislative reporting system, crypto assets critically threaten tax compliance and affect revenue collection. The study aimed to explore the perceptions of crypto asset users on tax compliance in South Africa. The interpretivism paradigm and qualitative approach guided the study's data collection, presentation, analysis and interpretation. Semi-structured interviews were conducted with crypto asset users and tax practitioners to understand their perceptions on issues relating to tax compliance in South Africa. The ATLAS.ti24TM software was utilised to analyse the collected data through thematic analysis.

An analysis of the interview transcripts yielded the following themes: understanding tax compliance, tax compliance mechanisms applied in South Africa, behavioural attributes to tax compliance, tax rules governing crypto assets and challenges applying new tax rules. The results indicate that adequate tax education is essential to encourage tax compliance. Furthermore, crypto asset users perceive the government as corrupt, discouraging tax compliance. Overall, crypto asset users have a negative perception of tax compliance.

The results indicate similarities and differences between tax practitioners' and crypto asset users' compliance behaviour in South Africa. Consistent with findings from prior studies, the results suggest that social psychological factors are the most influential factors in explaining tax compliance behaviour in South Africa. For tax practitioners, fear of being detected and punished by the tax authority, ethical sensitivity and benevolence were the influential factors in compliance with tax law. Meanwhile, crypto asset users were discouraged from complying with tax laws due to perceived wasteful government spending and corruption. A similarity shared by the two groups was that the lack of tax knowledge negatively affected their willingness to comply with the new crypto asset tax rules. These results indicate that tax knowledge impacts the attitude toward complying with tax law. Overall, the findings suggest that attitude and subjective norms can explain tax compliance. Some key factors, such as fear of being detected and penalised also influence tax compliance.

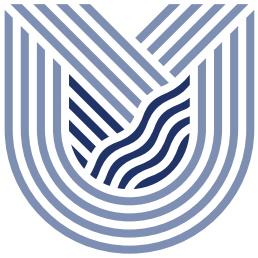
The findings contribute to the theoretical and practical aspect of understanding the tax compliance behaviour of crypto asset users (potential taxpayers) and tax practitioners (already registered taxpayers). The study reveals that factors impacting tax compliance behaviour in a self-assessment system (e-filing) are mostly tax knowledge, attitudes and subjective norms.
Based on the results, the study recommends, among other things, that for every new tax legislation enacted, SARS should provide training and guidance to all stakeholders, such as SARS's staff, tax practitioners and potential taxpayers. The training

should be available on all social media platforms, such as YouTube, Facebook and the Internet and must be easy to understand and apply. Furthermore, the South African government must account for their spending and deal with corruption decisively, as this affects tax compliance.

VUT Shield Icon Breakdown: Images and Descriptions.

The icon breakdown is unique as the V represents the word Vaal, and indicates the graduation hood as a symbol of achievement.

The U represents the word University



and the Centre is filled with water waves that signify a source of life and our location.

VUT BRAND MARKS/LOGOS

Faculty Brand Marks are differentiated by the colors of the V that symbolizes the faculty colour hood during graduations.

The **Academic Mark** is the purest form of the VUT brand.

The blue waves in the center represent the Vaal River and the university's location.

The gold represents academic excellence, achievement, success, and wealth.

The academic brand is only used in academic ceremonies and by the office of the Vice-Chancellor and VUT Council.

The **Marketing Brand Mark** communicates the brand voice as a person, which is Curious. Ambitious and Flexible.

Dandelion represents warmth and optimism.

Sapphire represents integrity, knowledge, power, and seriousness.

Applied & Computer Sciences
Buttercup Yellow represents Happiness & Joy.

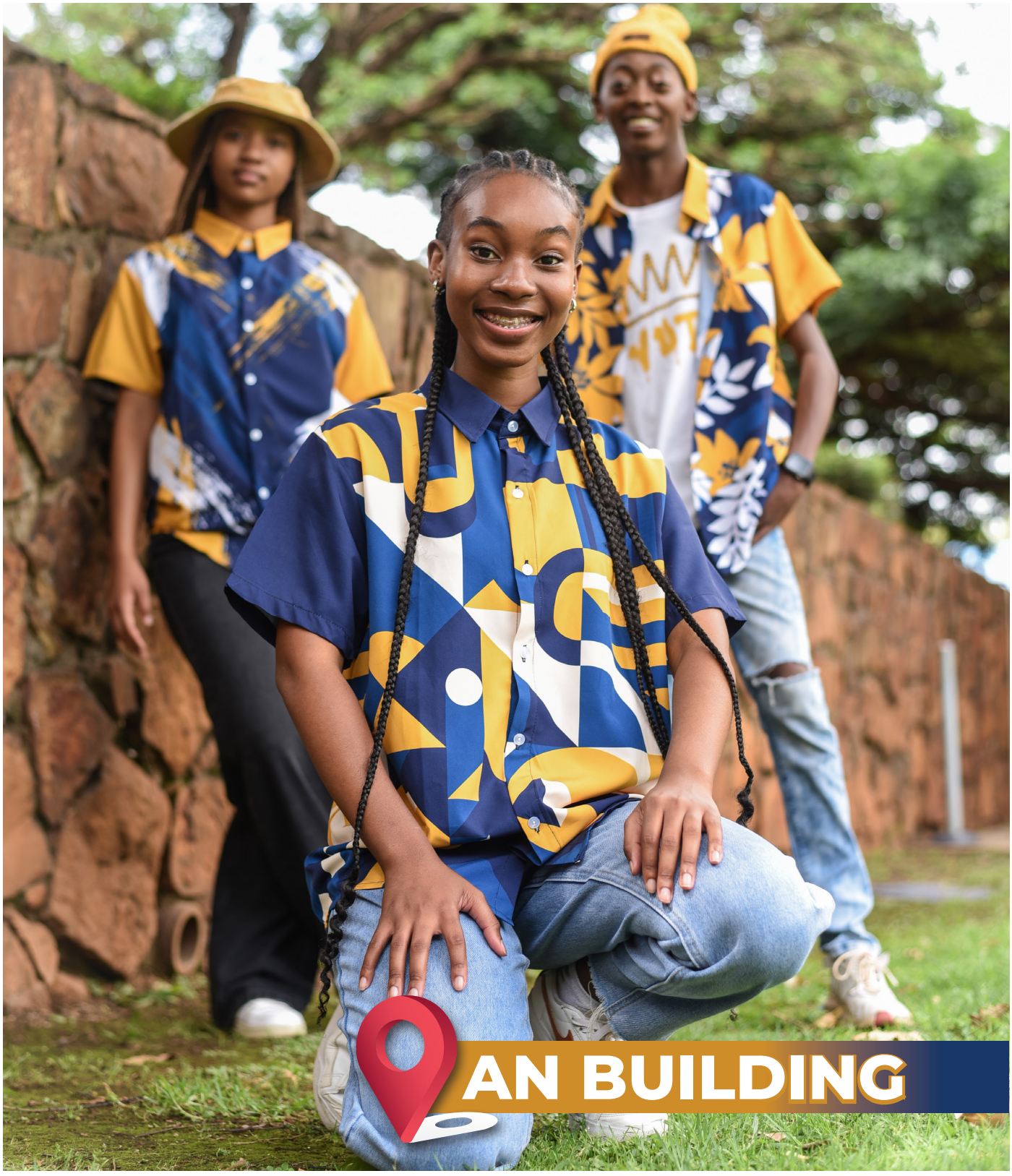
Engineering & Technology
Beatle Green represents Nature, Environment, Health & Renewal

Human Sciences
Union Jack Red represents Energy, Passion, and Heat.

Management Sciences
Adonis Blue represents Harmony, Unity & Truth

The **Culture mark is the MaVUTi Mark**, a fingerprint modified in the shape of a U, symbolizing the uniqueness of VUT staff and students.

mavuti SHOP



WELCOME TO CONVOCATION / ALUMNI NETWORK

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The Convocation of Vaal University of Technology (VUT) is a statutory body that serves as the university's largest constituency, comprising its alumni and key academic stakeholders. This body plays a pivotal role in the governance and strategic direction of the institution by facilitating alumni engagement and contributing to the preservation and enhancement of the university's academic reputation.

Membership to Convocation is automatic upon the conferral of a diploma, or credit-bearing certificate. Additionally, academic staff and selected emeritus professors are included, ensuring a broad and representative body that upholds the interests of both past and present members of the university.

Roles and Responsibilities

Convocation is entrusted with the responsibility of deliberating on and providing input into matters concerning the university's development as stated in Chapter 10 (5.3) of the VUT Government framework. Its key functions include

- Electing the President of Convocation.
- Electing three Executive Committee of Convocation (Exco).
- Discussing and expressing opinions on issues affecting the university, including matters which may be referred to it by the council.
- Convocation ensures that alumni have a voice in shaping institutional policies, thereby safeguarding the credibility and value of a VUT qualification.
- Through its structured engagement, Convocation strengthens networks with donors and stakeholders to secure funding opportunities for alumni and convocants in need of financial support to fostering a collaborative and progressive academic environment.

Eligibility for Membership in VUT Convocation

The Convocation of VUT comprises the following members:

- All graduates and holders of diplomas or credit-bearing certificates from the university.
- The Vice-Chancellor, Deputy Vice-Chancellors, and all academic staff.
- Former professors and associate professors who have been granted emeritus status by the Senate.

VAAL UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

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The role of alumni relations in any institution is to manage the relationship between an institution and all its former students and graduates. VUT, like other institutions, is committed to enhance its relationship with its former students and graduates through formal and informal programs that are mutually beneficial in nature.

Each year we strive to reconnect more former students and graduates with the current students in their respective groups of interests and academic fields that helped them most in their careers / extramural activities. We affirm all segmented Networks; be it the Vaal College for Technical Advancement, Vaal Triangle Technikon or Vaal University of Technology indiscriminately.

We would like to invite all former students and graduates to share their success stories, job opportunities, career milestones, internships, bursaries, challenges faced and mostly inputs on the current development(s) of the university. With your participation, we support VUT in its endeavors to make sustainable impact in the immediate community and the broader society. On a collaborative effort with diverse stakeholders, Convocation & Alumni Association, students and friends of VUT, we continue to promote the VUT brand through improved marketing and communications, meaningful alumni engagements guided by the Vaal University of Technology's 2033+ Strategy.

Like a unique puzzle piece, you are an ambassador of VUT, your participation to attract and hold interests of Alumni is valued.

Welcome..., you are a now part of VUT Alumni Network; more than 100k VUT graduates since its inception in 1966.

Welcome to a variety of interest groups and networking chapters; regionally, provincially, nationally and internationally. Check us on social media and meet your peers, former Ma-Vallies / MaVuti (classmates, Res mates, Sports mates, mentors, Lecturers, etc.)

Your meaningful participation or engagement is appreciated. Thank you for choosing VUT.

OUR FACULTIES:

APPLIED AND COMPUTER SCIENCES
ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY
HUMAN SCIENCES
MANAGEMENT SCIENCES

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