





Make today matter

# Message from the Manager: Recruitment (JuniorTukkie)

Dear prospective students and parents,

In this issue, we acknowledge the remarkable work of two brothers who developed an online screening app to detect early stage depression and anxiety. We also tell the story of a biochemistry master's graduate who obtained a third cum laude degree in a row. This is just one of many student achievements we brag about.

Read the exciting news from the different faculties and of some outstanding sports achievements by Tuks students. Don't miss the story about UP residence students who took part in an exciting Survivor 2023 event presented by TuksRes.

Remember to register for the 10th Robot Car Race, to be hosted by the Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and IT on 3 June.

Hope you enjoy reading this edition of iT News!

### **Dr Petrus Lombard**

Manager: Recruitment (JuniorTukkie)



# **JUNIORTUKKIE**

# JuniorTukkie hosts Grade 11 Academic Achievers function at the University of Pretoria By Dr Petrus Lombard

Excited Grade 11 learners arrived at the University of Pretoria early on Thursday, 20 April and on Friday 21 April 2023 to attend the Grade 11 Academic Achievers function. This event was hosted by the JuniorTukkie team in the Department of Enrolment and Student Administration (DESA) over two days due to limited space. The same programme was presented on both days. This prestigious event was attended by approximately 724 guests that included Grade 11 academic achievers, Life Orientation teachers and JuniorTukkie members from schools all over the country. Click here to read more.



Learners ask questions at the faculty exhibitions

# **INSIDE** THIS ISSUE

### JuniorTukkie



Winter School Two brothers

developed an online

screening app
VCDMA recipient awarded VC's medal

### Study and Career Advice

- Meet Rirhandzu Golele Meet Yuvaan Singh

### **Economic and Management Sciences**

An exciting university journey awaits Make the Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences your new academic home

Study BEd (Foundation Phase Teaching) at the University of Pretoria

# Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology

- 10th Robot Car Race Day
- Open Day
  Determination and dedication
  bring results
  Apply to attend EBIT Week from
  9 to 12 July 2023

### **Health Sciences**

UP graduate keeps the UP flag flying high

- Five things to do on UP's Hatfield Campus
  World Social Work Day 2023
  Ruth Kasanga makes UP proud!

UP Law Moot Society Team claims victory at the National Rounds of the Philip Jessup Competition

# **Natural and Agricultural Sciences**

- UP biochemistry master's graduate scores academic hat-trick with third cum laude degree in a row Can tiny beetles kill big trees?

# Theology and Religion

Health and wellbeing a top priority for Theology and Religion

### **Veterinary Science**

World Stray Animals Day! South African Powerlifting Championships

Residence students' survival skills tested at TuksRes Survivor 2023

Tuks footballer Ncamisile Shongwe making a difference on and off the field

Tuks swimmer Erin Gallagher's passion for environmental preservation

Student Culture Committee (STUKU) hosted STEP IT UP event

# You're invited to attend the JuniorTukkie Grade 12 Winter School in Mathematics and Physical Sciences/Chemistry – 26-29 June 2023

As you draw closer to the end of your high school days, it is important to prepare to give yourself the best possible prospect of excelling in your final exams. The JuniorTukkie Grade 12 Winter School classes in Mathematics and Physical Sciences/Chemistry provide you the opportunity to do just that!

<u>Click here for the programme.</u> Click here to register.



# XXIV FIX A SCIENCE A SECURITARY OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERT

Winners of the international category in Spain

# Two brothers developed an online screening app to detect early stage depression and anxiety

By Gerthyo and Wilando Ferreira

Gerthyo and Wilando Ferreira recently won two awards at an international EXPO competition with a project titled "Code RED: Combating the invisible adolescent enemy". They started this journey with a school EXPO Science project, which focused on the development of an online screening instrument that can be completed by adolescents using their cell phones or other mobile devices. The aim was to detect childhood depression and anxiety at an early stage. At the time, the two brothers were in Grade 11 and Grade 9. They are both in Hoërskool Waterkloof, currently in Grades 12 and 10. Click here to read more.

# Vice-Chancellor's Distinguished Merit Award (VCDMA) recipient receives VC's medal for excellent undergraduate academic achievement

Gareth Griffiths, who received the VCDMA in 2020, has received yet another prestigious award, namely the *Vice-Chancellor and Principal's Medal for Excellent Undergraduate Academic Achievement* at the Faculty of Economic and Management Science's graduation ceremony on 2 May 2023, when Gareth graduated with a BCom (Accounting Sciences) degree. Click here to read more about Gareth and the University of Pretoria's excellence in accounting education.

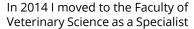


Gareth Griffiths



# Meet Rirhandzu Golele, a Specialist Senior Student Advisor at UP

I joined the University as a student advisor in September 2009. At the time I was doing recruitment for the entire University.



Senior Student Advisor responsible for recruiting students for the Faculty of Veterinary Science. My core focus has been to create awareness about the field of veterinary science and the para-veterinary profession among students in rural areas. The focus areas are Limpopo, North West, Free State, and Mpumalanga.' Click here to read more.



# Meet Yuvaan Singh, a Specialist Senior Student Advisor at UP

'I was employed by the University of Pretoria in October of 2022 as a Specialist Senior Student Advisor, and having been in the field of Higher Education for 6 years, working at this University has by far been the greatest honour!



We as Specialist Senior Student Advisors are responsible for the recruitment of the highest achieving students around the country and abroad, and some of the provinces that I visit to recruit these students are Gauteng, the Northern Cape, and the Eastern Cape, where I meet with students at both public and private schools studying either the IEB, NSC, Cambridge or various other curriculums, answering any questions they may have, and guiding them to the qualification that is most suited to them.' Click here to read more.

# **FACULTY OF ECONOMIC AND MANAGEMENT SCIENCES**

# An exciting university journey awaits

By Nonkululeko Kubeka Moyo

Making a choice about what to study at university can be quite challenging. At the Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences (EMS) at UP, we offer a selection of programmes that can be the first step to an exciting career in various fields.

Whether you are an aspiring auditor, a marketing manager in the making, an economist to be or a diplomat, we have a programme suited to your professional aspirations. We also offer degrees in the fields of law, informatics as well as statistics and data science and much more.

Still confused about what to choose? Our programme infographics will guide you based on your interests and academic performance. Click here to access the infographics.



Areas of specialisation

The Faculty of EMS building

# Make the Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences your new academic home

Between studies, extramural activities and your social life, it might be a challenge to keep up to speed with what is happening at your future academic home, the Faculty of EMS.

Our prospective students' page is where you can find all the latest information that can help you in your journey to becoming a Tukkie. This is a one-stop page with resources that a future EMS student could need. Click here for more information.

Keep an eye on this page and our social media pages:





Once the undergraduate applications for 2024 close at the end of June, we'll be running an exciting competition for all our conditionally admitted students. You stand a chance to win great prizes.

# Study BEd (Foundation Phase Teaching) at the University of Pretoria

By Sharon Mashau

The BEd (Foundation Phase Teaching) programme trains students to teach young children between the ages of three and nine years. Students completing this programme can choose to specialise in either Early Childhood Development (three to six years) or Foundation Phase (Grades 1 to 3). Students gain admission to the programme with appropriate combinations of recognised NSC subjects and certain levels of achievement in those subjects. Click here to read more.



# FACULTY OF ENGINEERING, BUILT ENVIRONMENT AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY



# **Robot Car Race Day**

All High School learners are welcome

Date: 3 June 2023 @ 13:30

**Venue:** Amfi Theatre, Hatfield Campus, University of Pretoria

Registration link: https://forms.gle/7bjTbMj4qyggdBL78

# Attend the 10th Robot Car Race Day on 3 June 2023 By Estie Powell

This annual race is hosted by the University of Pretoria's Department of Electrical, Electronic and Computer Engineering under the auspices of the Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology.

The race involves Microcontroller-based Autonomous Robotic Vehicles (MARVs) built by teams of third-year students who compete against one another to complete our track in the shortest possible time.

All high school learners are welcome.

# Register here:

Robot Car Race Day - 3 June 2023

**Watch videos of previous Robot Car Races:** 

<u>Videos</u>

# High School learners met their future here at the University of Pretoria during the Open Day of the Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and IT (EBIT) By Estie Powell

There is a place for you at the Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and IT (EBIT). If your dream is to be the change you want to see in the future, then EBIT is where you belong. High School learners from Grades 8 to 12 took the opportunity on Saturday, 13 May to visit the campus of the University of Pretoria to do their own research concerning their future choices. The Baja—our off-road vehicle used in the Department of Mechanical and Aeronautical Engineering for education purposes, was a big attraction as well as the Virtual Reality Centre in our Department of Mining Engineering.

It is not too late for you to become a part of the EBIT generation, a generation that innovates, inspires, and never rests until the best solution is found to improve the lives of all our fellow human beings—be it in the field of Engineering, the Built Environment or the field of Information Technology. We prepare you for an unimaginable future. Artificial intelligence, machine learning, robotics, smart cities, and big data are dictating the future of work, future of education, and—ultimately—our survival.

Innovation is our business. Not only innovation that leads to real-world change on the outside, for the good of humanity and the planet, but also innovation on the inside. The EBIT generation is a generation that leads change with an awakened mind and a generation that cares for their fellow human beings. Amidst all the changes, we are still a human-centered faculty. If this sounds like you, then don't hesitate, visit <a href="https://www.up.ac.za/ebit">www.up.ac.za/ebit</a> and become a part of the EBIT generation.



University of Pretoria (UP) engineering graduate Chase Onorati describes his family as being loving yet disciplined, 'with a contagious sense of dedication and determination'. These are qualities that have spurred him on to succeed not only in academia, but in the swimming pool too. Onorati, who recently graduated with a BEng degree in Mechanical and Aeronautical Engineering, attributes his achievements to the devotion, sacrifices, and emotional and financial support provided by his parents.

He also credits his father, who is a vehicle technician and panel beater, for encouraging his interest in engineering. If am extremely capable with any form of artisan work. I got my passion for mechanical systems from him,' says the Harare-born graduate who was head boy in his final year at St John's College in Borrowdale, Zimbabwe.

<u>Click here to read more</u> about Chase Onorati's academic and swimming achievements.



Chase Onorati



# Apply to attend EBIT Week from 9 to 12 July 2023 and visit the Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and IT on Campus By Estie Powell

The EBIT Week is a four-day holiday programme presented by the Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology (EBIT) biannually for learners in Grades 10, 11 and 12. Prospective students are offered this hands-on opportunity to obtain information regarding all the disciplines offered in the School of Engineering, Built Environment and the School of Information Technology.

During this event, learners are introduced to the practical as well as the theoretical aspects in order to help them make sound career choices. As part of the programme, learners also obtain industry exposure on-site or off-campus.

Click here to watch past EBIT Week videos.

Apply here > EBIT WEEK 2023: Application Form

# **FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES**

# UP graduate keeps the UP flag flying high

By Prof Annie Joubert

Michael Stark began his research journey in the Department of Physiology in 2019 under the supervision of Dr Michelle Visagie and Professor Annie Joubert when he was only 19 years old. He is the first undergraduate student in the Department of Physiology to initiate his cell biology research project through assistance from the Tuks Undergraduate Research Forum (TURF), an initiative focused on empowering undergraduate researchers. His research focused on the influence of nutrient deprivation on chemotherapeutic effects in breast cancer cell lines.

Michael, a biomedical science student at UP, will complete a six-month bioengineering internship at Harvard Medical School in the Innovative Biomaterials Laboratory and Karp Laboratory later this year.





Michael Stark

# Five things to do on UP's Hatfield Campus

By Robyn Schnell

Have some time to spare in between lectures on main campus? Here are five things to do on the University of Pretoria's Hatfield Campus. <u>Click here to read more.</u>



# **UP celebrates World Social Work Day 2023**

By Robyn Schnell

This year, World Social Work Day fell on 21 March 2023 but because this was also Human Rights Day, UP's Social Work and Criminology Department celebrated it on 22 March 2023.

The event was organised around the theme of respecting diversity through joint social action as well as themes of sustainability and social action. Activities took place in the Sanlam Auditorium and included an address by the event's keynote speaker and Head of the Department of Social Work, Prof Antoinette Lombard. The event also featured a presentation by former UP Alumnus, Ms Melody Mudukuti,

who spoke about Project Water Wize and the third year Social Work students who performed a short dramatic skit before the session concluded with a panel discussion.

The celebrations ended with students and members of the University of Pretoria Student Social Work Association (UPSSWA) painting the wall next to Merensky Library in honour of World Social Work Day. These celebrations were a reminder of the importance of social workers and joint social action. Thank you to all those involved in the celebrations and activities! #WSWD2023. Click here to read more about social work and criminology.



UPSSWA Members painting the wall next to Merensky Library in honour of World Social Work Day

Ruth at the ICC in The Hague

# Student Ruth Kasanga makes UP Proud!

By Robyn Schnell

Ruth Kasanga, a third year BPolSci (International Studies) student at UP, has had some outstanding achievements recently. Ruth was selected to co-chair the UNICEF committee at IE University Model United Nations which will take place this November in Madrid, Spain. She was also selected to be part of the first cohort of the SAIIA Youth Implementers for Change which is a partnership between SAIIA, the Kingdom of the Netherlands, UNICEF, Global Change Institute and Youth@SAIIA. Under this initiative, Ruth will learn to develop a project to better implement the National School Nutrition Programme. Ruth, who was a former recipient of the SNAPP Programme at UP, outlines the importance of this saying that, 'to focus and receive an education, school children need to be properly fed and given nutrients. These children are the future of our country, and it is imperative that we implement policies that will allow them to realise their potential to make a difference.'

At the end of the programme, the top projects will be selected to receive funding and see their projects implemented. Congratulations and we wish Ruth the best of luck!



# **FACULTY OF LAW**



**UP Law Moot team** 

# UP Law Moot Society Team claims victory at the National Rounds of the Philip Jessup Competition By Tshilidzi Mahumela

The Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition is the world's biggest and most prestigious Moot Competition. Through this competition, students from different law faculties worldwide can compete against one another. The UP Law Moot team won the national rounds of the Jessup competition and represented the University of Pretoria and South Africa during the Jessup International Law Moot competition that took place in April in Washington D.C, United States of America. Click here to read more.

# **FACULTY OF NATURAL AND AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES**



Vusi Chiloane

# UP biochemistry master's graduate scores academic hat-trick with third cum laude degree in a row

By Martie Meyer

Vusi Chiloane pulled off a rare academic hat-trick when he obtained his third cum laude degree in a row. What makes his feat even more impressive is that while studying he was also managing a hereditary condition which was causing his eyesight to deteriorate.

Chiloane, an organic chemistry scientist at

the National Metrology Institute of South Africa (NMISA), received his cum laude master's degree in biochemistry during the recent UP autumn graduation season. He had previously received his BSc and honours degree in the same discipline from UP. Click here to read more.

# Can tiny beetles kill big trees? An emerging problem in South Africa

By Wilma Nel and Almuth Hammerbacher

To mitigate the potential effects of the polyphagous shot hole borer in South Africa, forest pathologists and entomologists at the University of Pretoria are doing research to determine the beetle's movement into native forest ecosystems. They are also working on various potentially affected tree crops, such as avocado and macadamia, to determine the extent of the damage that the beetle will have on these commercially important trees. Since there are no established control measures, young researchers from the University of Pretoria have also come up with creative projects where they are developing unconventional control measures to stop the beetle's current rate of spread. Click here to read more.



Fungal partner of the polyphagous shot hole borer clogging watertransporting vessels in the wood castor oil



# FACULTY OF THEOLOGY AND RELIGION



Free fruit provided by Faculty of Theology and Religion

# Health and wellbeing a top priority for Theology and Religion

By Dana Mahan

Under the leadership of Prof Jaco Beyers, Deputy Dean of Teaching and Learning, the Faculty of Theology and Religion has begun providing its students with free fruit once a week, on the front steps of its building. The aim of the initiative is both to offer a light snack to hungry people, and to encourage better nutrition in general. Click here to read more.

# **FACULTY OF VETERINARY SCIENCE**

# UP's veterinary staff care about animals on World Stray Animals Day!

By Onderstepoort Veterinary Academic Hospital (OVAH)

Every year on 4 April, World Stray Animals Day is recognised. It is an emotional day for many dedicated towards animals and a time to show love and attention especially to less fortunate animals. On this day in 2023, staff of the Onderstepoort Veterinary Academic Hospital (OVAH), the teaching hospital of the University of Pretoria's Faculty of Veterinary Science, participated in bringing compassion, education and much needed healthcare for less privileged animals to Wolmer in the Pretoria area. A station was set up in a park and the needy paws and their owners started rolling in (some waiting in anticipation since early in the morning). Click here to read more.



The team



Nicole competing at the IPF Junior World Championships in Silivri, Turkey in September 2022.

# Faculty student excels at South African Powerlifting Championships

By Chris van Blerk

Nicole Androulla Hasell, a BVSc student in her fourth year at the Faculty recently distinguished herself at the South African Powerlifting Championships that took place on 30 March 2023. Not only was she the top overall (across all weight classes and age groups) female student lifter for the weekend, she also won the junior category (18–23 years) in the 57kg weight class and came 4th in the open category (24–35 years). In the process she qualified for the Junior World Championships in Romania in August later this year. Click here to read more.

# Residence students' survival skills tested at TuksRes Survivor 2023

By Wehan Viljoen

The University of Pretoria's recent TuksRes Survivor competition was a thrilling test of survival skills and endurance. 24 residence students took on mental and physical challenges, living in the bush and fending for themselves while competing for food and immunity. The competition, which was live-streamed for all students and spectators to enjoy, took place from 26 April to 1 May at Intundla Game Lodge in the Boekenhoutskloof area. Apart from the 24 castaways, a total of 22 crew members worked endlessly behind the cameras and in the production rooms. Reneev emerged as the ultimate TuksRes Sole Survivor and expressed his gratitude for the experience.

Click here to read more.



The cast of TuksRes Survivor 2023

# **TUKSSPORT**



Ncamisile Shongwe in action

# Tuks footballer intent on making a difference on and off the field

By Wilhelm de Swardt

Plants and football are the two things Ncamisile Shongwe is genuinely passionate about.

Whether the Tuks PhD horticulture student is dirtying her hands in the soil or artfully dribbling the ball past football opponents does not matter. Her goal remains the same. She wants to make a difference, and she is succeeding.

Click here to read more.

# Erin Gallagher's passion is environmental preservation and winning medals

By Wilhelm de Swardt | Photo by Reg Caldecott

Being fast is essential to Erin Gallagher; it is what motivates her to swim for hours most days, but there is more to the Tuks student than trying to become a champion. The 24-year-old is studying BSc (Geography and Environmental Science) student at Tuks.

The world's population is expected to increase by nearly two billion persons in the next 30 years. A direct consequence is an ecological degradation and a higher risk of natural disasters,' explains the Commonwealth Games medallist.

'I hope through my studies to make a difference. Currently, I plan to work as an urban planner. My role would be to ensure there are no dire consequences to the environment during an urban development project. But I tend to change my mind quickly. I might even go into disaster management when I finish studying.'



Erin Gallagher

Click here to read more.

# Are you ready to Step Up or Step Out?

By Lindokuhle Magudulela and Jay Grobler

We always ask students: 'Do you think you have what it takes to sing your lungs out on stage or the dancing chops of a winner?' STEP IT UP is the perfect opportunity for students to show that off!

This is an annual singing and dancing competition held at the University of Pretoria that is open to all students. Performances consist of skits, creative choreography and singing and each year students compete within different categories to win that trophy as well as its bragging rights!

'We have worked hard to put together a show and we are looking forward with much ENTHUSIASM to seeing the performances' explained Lindokuhle.



The STEP IT UP final event was held on Saturday, 13 May 2023 on the Hatfield Campus of the University of Pretoria.

Student Culture Committee (Left to right): Nicolene Pretorius (Secretariat), Lindokuhle Magudulela (External Culture), Nicole van der Walt (Chairperson) and Jay Grobler (Ex-Officio)

# STEP IT UP 2023 results are as follows:

Overall Winners
5th Mopane
4th Madelief
3rd Curelitzia

2nd Erica

1st House Ukuthula

**Multicultural awards** 

3rd House Mags 2nd House Ukuthula

1st Erica

**Best theme** 

3rd Vividus 2nd Madelief 1st Curelitzia

**Best band** 

3rd House Ukuthula 2nd Mopane 1st House TAU **Best Choreography** 

3rd Mopane 2nd House Ukuthula

1st Erica

**Stage Presence** 

Madelief

**Best Music Catalogue** 

Mopane

Most Creative Costume Use Curelitzia

People's Choice

House TAU

**Prescribed Dance** 

Execution

Erica

# Join the JuniorTukkie initiatives

Become a JuniorTukkie member: Complete the membership form at <a href="https://www.up.ac.za/juniortukkie">www.up.ac.za/juniortukkie</a> > Become a JuniorTukkie. Utilise the JuniorTukkie Online e-learning platform: Register on the JuniorTukkie Online platform at <a href="mailto:juniortukkie.online">juniortukkie.online</a>. Receive important notifications via the JuniorTukkie App: Register on the JuniorTukkie App at <a href="mailto:juniortukkie.online">juniortukkie.online</a>.

# Contact us

JuniorTukkie Office:

junior.tukkie@up.ac.za

JuniorTukkie Online:

studentsupport@juniortukkie.online

**Student Advisors:** 

carol.bosch@up.ac.za

JuniorTukkie App:

martie.kilian@up.ac.za

JuniorTukkie membership (Grade 9 to 12):

themba.maluleka@up.ac.za

JuniorTukkie Student Ambassador's Society (JTSAS):

selena.davids@up.ac.za

# Social media



JuniorTukkie website: www.up.ac.za/juniortukkie



JuniorTukkie Facebook: www.facebook.com/ JuniorTukkieUP



JuniorTukkie Instagram: www.instagram.com/ juniortukkie



JuniorTukkie App: juniortukkieapp.co.za

Produced by the Department of Enrolment and Student Administration in May 2023. Comments and queries can be directed to ssc@up.ac.za or Tel: +27 (0)12 420 3111.

Disclaimer: This publication contains information about regulations, policies, tuition fees, curricula and programmes of the University of Pretoria applicable at the time of printing. Amendments to or updating of the information in this publication may be affected from time to time without prior notification. The accuracy, correctness or validity of the information contained in this publication is therefore not guaranteed by the University at any given time and is always subject to verification. The user is kindly requested to verify the correctness of the published information with the University at all times. Failure to do so will not give rise to any claim or action of any nature against the University by any party whatsoever.