

JuniorTukkies vang graad



'On 6 January 2013, I set foot on South African soil for the first time. I registered at Tuks to study BSc (Actuarial and Financial Mathematics). I was scared. This was the first time I lived amongst people who speak a range of different languages – all very different from my own. I wondered how I was going to cope in this new environment? Am I clever enough? Will I be able to balance academics and social activities? Will I make friends? When I walked into the JuniorTukkie Office on campus, everything changed! It became my home away from home. I made wonderful friends, who helped me. Through the JT Student Society, I was involved with various projects. I also tutored Statistics to first-year students. It was like iron sharpening iron. I learnt a lot from it. I have just graduated with distinction and I am so grateful for the support I received from my lecturers and from the staff and students at the JuniorTukkie Office.'

– Kudzai Calvin Muzerengwa



'I have been a JuniorTukkie for the past six years. I served as Secretary of the Executive Committee. JuniorTukkie has given me the opportunity to meet many people from different industries and taught me many skills that will be invaluable as my career develops. I look forward to being a member of the JT Alumni so that I can give back as much as I have received. On 12 April 2016 I graduated with a BAdmin (Public Management) degree. Not only did I graduate with my friends, I also graduated with my mother, Juanita! What a proud moment it was for us both to graduate on the same day. Currently I am job hunting. In the meantime I plan to enrol for a Postgraduate Diploma in Communication Management at UP. My motto in life comes from Marco Pierre White, who says, 'Perfection is a lot of little things done right.' Remember, work hard and you will reach your dreams – nothing is impossible!'

– Ricky Haug



'My name is Phangisile Sibeko, and I'm a former Chairperson of the JuniorTukkie Student Society. The journey towards attaining my degree was not an easy one. The fact that I was a day student and thus didn't live within the University's vicinity made things a little more challenging. I had to manage my time effectively in order to assure that I stayed up-to-date with all my school work. During my undergraduate studies at the University, I went through a lot of things personally and emotionally. I actually felt like giving up. The support that I received from my family, friends and the JuniorTukkie team helped a lot. I realised that I am not alone, and that there were so many people who believed in me. I couldn't let them down. I spent a lot of hours in the library studying and even more at home learning for tests and exams. It wasn't easy, but it was definitely worth it! Today I am proud to say that I am a law graduate. The feeling of being called onto that stage to have the degree conferred was absolutely amazing! I am currently completing my LLM in Socio-Economic Rights and I can't wait to get back onto that stage next year.'

– Phangisile Sibeko



'I obtained my BSc (Hons) in Medicinal Plant Science on 18 April 2016. I have registered for a master's in Plant Science. Looking back, I have come so far and I am so grateful for the wonderful journey! My primary school teacher told us that, one day people will look at us with envy because we have made it to the top and we would tell them that to do so we had suffered a thousand troubles. Yes, not everything was easy. At the JuniorTukkie Office I found a mother, father, brothers, sisters, uncles, aunts, and counsellors. I found a place of comfort! I flourished and my smile grew even bigger. The time spent with JT taught me longsuffering, selflessness, teamwork, leadership, time and project management skills and I have become stronger. Now the world is my platter and I believe that as the journey continues, every mountain before me shall indeed become a plain.'

– Sylvia MT Moshabesha