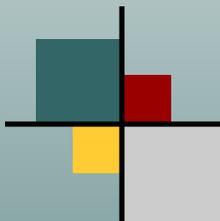


From the Chairperson's desk

It's a little bit surreal to find myself drafting this piece. It's easy to find yourself consumed with everything going on that it is a far away thought that the end is fast approaching. My mentor is 100% against me saying that anything is difficult. He always says "it's easy for your heart to give up when you've labeled something as difficult. But say it's 'character building' and almost instantly, everything comes undone". I suppose that's what being chairperson is, a character building experience. More especially if it caught you off guard. I've been rather candid about how being chairperson is something that was handed to me. I didn't ask for it. I didn't unnecessarily understand why me. I think above everything else, I've come to realize that it was something that I needed to experience. I realize this because there's so much wisdom to pick out from being within a structure, being a leader that you wouldn't necessarily know if you read a book or watched a movie. You simply have to live in the moment. The value of team work for example - I've done business studies before. I've done physical sciences as well. I know how

different parts of the machine, helps the machine operate optimally. However, I've never built anything. I've never owned a business. One thing that I've seen though, is how a well put together, imperfect group of individuals can lead to a perfect dream team. You are only as strong as your weakest team and I'm ever so grateful that my team was able to adapt that mindset fast because that only made my job as chairperson a whole lot more enjoyable. The people I've met in my term, the moments - good and bad - are golden, none of which, I would trade for a dime. To my incoming chairperson - I gracefully bow down knowing that my baby is safe in your hands. I bow down knowing you will see to it that the growth is monumental. Savour every moment and live life happily. Above everything else, I'll be eternally grateful for the opportunity to stand before you as a leader.

Thato Magano
Outgoing Chairperson 2019/20



A message from the rest of the Executive Committee

It has been my great pleasure and privilege to be a part of this society alongside my amazing team. What I thought would be yet another leadership role turned out to be an opportunity for growth, service to others and a game changer in terms of the vision I initially had for my varsity years.

Throughout my term, I have learnt the true meaning of teamwork. Teamwork is learning to depend on others and trusting that they will pull through for you at any given time. What no one will tell you, and few will ever admit, is that being in an executive committee is more than just reading meeting notes, emails and attending meetings or planning events. My term (and team) has awarded me some of the most rewarding months of my life.

The COVID-19 crisis has the world in a frenzy. As much as I look forward to re-emerging from lockdown, I've been fortunate to check-in with my team, regularly speaking about how I'm feeling. Although I can't help but think of all the plans that were interrupted and what could've been, I end my term knowing that the time I spent as part of Y.E.S@Tuks has been nothing short of an honour.

Ndivhuwo Bongwe

Vice chairperson and Secretary, 2019/20

Like most people, the lockdown honestly hit me by surprise. But I remember having a chat with my friend a day or two before about how this is our time to shine because it was just 21 days? We can obviously get through this, and we did just that. I decided to do a 21-day exercise challenge hoping that it could become a habit because: science!

Right, all was going well until the president announced an extension. I did not take this well, because all I wanted to see was my friends. On the bright side, along with the extension, came a school holiday extension. Which was great cause I planned to use the extension to catch-up with last semester's work and I did just that.

Fast forward to the 4th of May, I was never ready for the online classes. It all hit me like a ton of bricks because it was a whole new world. I think it took me about 2 weeks to gather the discipline and accept the reality of the situation. Honestly, some days were better than others. Those first 2 weeks were not great on my academics, the standard I had pre-lockdown had dropped and I was not taking it that well. Fortunately, something in me broke and I had to realise that I was the only one who could get myself out of this and I did just that.

All in all, I used most of the lockdown to relax and clear my mind, which I am grateful for but I think Auntie Rona has officially overstayed their lockdown.

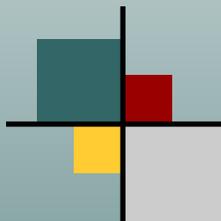
Ntemohi Tente

Sports and Outreach portfolios, 2019/20



NEWSLETTER

JULY 2020



The term was undoubtedly way too short. I've had an incredibly great time working with a team that became my family. Rushing for a seat in class and chasing deadlines. Attending meetings and agenda revising. Trying to pass accounting while preparing my own budgets. The anxiety of the upcoming semester tests, and the anxiety of having to call a supplier for the team. It has been an absolute honour being the treasurer for YES@Tuks.

The lockdown really posed a challenge to the team. In a time of uncertainty, anxiety, and detachment – our resolve was put to the test. We too had undergone the data struggle, the new online-class struggle, the load-shedding struggle. It was when we were apart did we realize how close we had become. It was this newly discovered unity that led us to continue to communicate regularly, plan efficiently, and diligently too! Online lessons, online meetings, and even online events. We embraced our online habitat – and we perpetuated the strength of the team.

Never ever have I been part of a team that gets so much work done, while having so many laughs. The YES team became one full of wide cheeks and teeth. And exceptional results followed. I am a proud Minister of Finance (sha sha) and I would do it all over again.

Thuma mina, Mr. President

Katlego Tjeane

Treasurer, 2019/20

Journeying through the second half of the first semester definitely came with its challenges, especially on the side of academics. I got to understand just how important one's emotional well-being, physical and mental wellness are to personal growth. Several factors influenced how I applied myself academically but one thing that was most prevalent of these was ATTITUDE. Many have come across the saying

“A man is but the product of his thoughts. What he thinks he becomes.” -Mahatma Gandhi
I can assure you that this semester prompted me to apply this notion. I dared myself to as they “be happy on purpose”, to speak the change I'd like to become and do what is necessary to get me there. One thing I'd like you to consider is to be gracious to yourself and commit to yourself and to your transformation. The only person you should compare yourself to is not your “ideal self” but rather who you were yesterday. Finally, I am filled with excitement when it comes to what the team has put together for this month. I look forward to your engagements with us regarding our nutrition month. Most importantly, I hope you reap its benefits and have a good time with it.

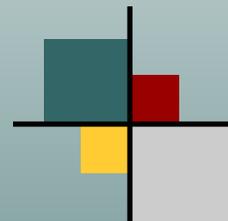
Silindile Sithole

Academics & Mentorship and Wellness portfolios, 2019/20



NEWSLETTER

JULY 2020



I like to think that tough times can bring the best out of people. During the past few months we have all been challenged like never before. Only seven months have passed, but 2020 will forever remain a year that many would like to forget—but also one that has changed some people’s lives, maybe even for the good. It has taught us to be self-sufficient, and no, I am not simply referring to that homemade banana bread or home brewed vodka. We have learned to keep fit without a gym, learn online without a lecturer in the room and one of the toughest parts of lockdown—learning to keep in contact with our friends and loved ones without literal ‘contact’.

The YES@Tuks team is one of the most amazing groups of people I’ve ever worked with. We all work so well together and that has made everyone in the team’s jobs much easier. Running the Socials and Marketing portfolios did not come without its challenges. As a self-proclaimed introvert, I was always worried that I would not cope with a portfolio that requires public confidence. However, I thoroughly enjoyed every moment and feel that the experience has helped grow me as a person.

Stay safe, everyone!

Ferdi van den Heever

Socials and Marketing portfolios, 2019/20

YES@Tuks wishes you all the best for Semester 2!



**PREPARING FOR
ONLINE LEARNING
IN SEMESTER 2**



Ensure that you have all prescribed material, whether it be in the form of physical textbooks or e-books.



Have your dedicated work and study space set up and ready, paired with a personal schedule (including enough breaks!)



A stable internet connection is vital during these times. With load shedding also a constant threat, check that you have some form of backup just in case.



Never be afraid to ask for help. Contact your lecturers, your FSA or the SSC if you are unsure about anything.

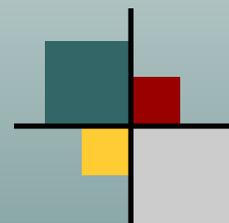


YES@Tuks Commercial



NEWSLETTER

JULY 2020



CORONAVIRUS WORD SEARCH 2.0

ALCOHOL
COVID
LAPTOP
LOCKDOWN
MASK
MUTED
ONLINE
SANITIZE
SCAN
TESTING
UIF
VIRTUAL
WIFI

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**“MANY OF LIFE’S
FAILURES ARE PEOPLE
WHO DID NOT REALISE
HOW CLOSE THEY WERE
TO SUCCESS WHEN
THEY GAVE UP.”**

-THOMAS EDISON -



NEWSLETTER

JULY 2020