

jT News

JuniorTukkie

MARCH 2024 EDITION



UNIVERSITEIT VAN PRETORIA
UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA
YUNIBESITHI YA PRETORIA



Make today matter

JuniorTukkie turns 20 years!

#jT20thAnniversary #DiscoverLearnGrow #ChooseUP

I am excited for JuniorTukkie's 20th year anniversary as this is a significant milestone for the University of Pretoria. In the past 20 years JuniorTukkie has been committed to equipping students and learners with skills that will enhance both their career and personal development journeys, and I am proud to be part of this family. Stay tuned for the Grade 11 Empowerment Week in the next two months, and a 20th celebration campus activation!



Tebatso Masukume
*BSc Human Physiology
2024 JTSAS projects and
Socials Secretary*



Welcome aboard!

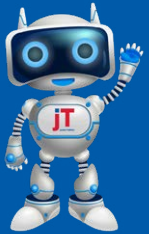
We are delighted to present Ms Sandisiwe Williams, our recently appointed Senior Assistant Director for Institutional Recruitment. Sandisiwe was born in the Eastern Cape, in a town called eQonce. She holds an undergraduate degree in Media, Communications, and Culture, as well as a BCom Honours in Marketing Management. Currently pursuing a Master's, she is a media professional who transitioned into television broadcasting, as a news journalist and news editor for Urban Brew studios and later found her true calling in higher education and training.



Ms Sandisiwe Williams

She proceeded to work at Stenden South Africa, a private institution in Port Alfred, whose main campus is based in Leeuwarden in the Netherlands, as a marketing coordinator for student recruitment. She then moved to Monash South Africa as a student advisor-supervisor leading a team of advisors. Later she worked for the University of the Witwatersrand as Schools Liaison Officer, mandated to collaborate with schools across South Africa to impart knowledge of university entrance requirements and career choice consultations as well as managing institutional recruitment projects. After almost 9 years in the higher education industry, her passion lies in assisting prospects in making sound and informative decisions regarding their career paths. Her experience lies in local and international recruitment for both undergraduate and postgraduate qualifications in public and private institutions.

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JuniorTukkie exclusively welcomes its JuniorTukkie first-year students

By Ath'enkosi Mtshali and Mpiloenhle Radebe

The day witnessed JuniorTukkie members, who had been part of the programme since their high school years, finally grace the corridors to success.

The event saw about two hundred people, including special guest speakers from different departments to welcome the JuniorTukkie first-years. Dr Hanlé Kirkcaldy, Head of Student Counselling Unit from the Department of Student Affairs passionately spoke on student life and success by detailing the key structures available to all new and old students within the University for a well-rounded and successful academic career. From the Department of Enrolment and Student Administration, Mr Wallace Isaacs, Deputy Director: Enrolment and Student Administration and Ms Sandisiwe Williams, Senior Assistant Director: Institutional Recruitment both welcomed and gave the new first years a glimpse of this great institution they have become a part of.

“As you navigate your way through the halls of academia, I encourage you to embrace curiosity, cultivate resilience, and dare to dream big. Take advantage of the vast resources at your disposal, which are all at your disposal—from our world-class faculty to our state-of-the-art facilities—and never hesitate to seek guidance or support when needed. Remember, you are not alone on this journey; you are part of a supportive community that is here to help you succeed,” Ms Williams said.



JuniorTukkie first-year welcoming



New members registering



JuniorTukkie assists first-year students with navigating the Hatfield Campus, Orientation Week 2024

By Ath'enkosi Mtshali and Mpiloenhle Radebe

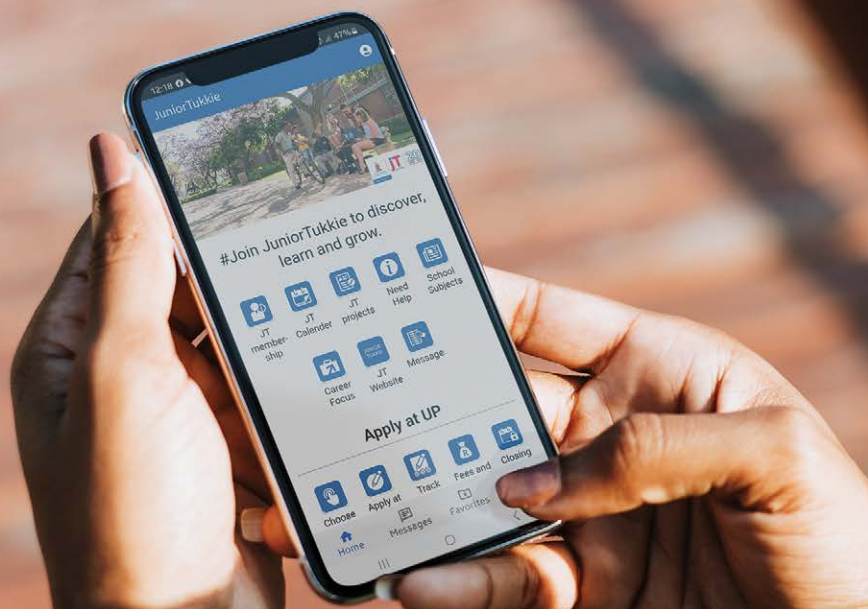


UP Welcome day



Orientation week 2024

“Hi, guys, do you know where I can find the ClickUp building?” We’ve all been there, right? Maybe you weren’t looking for the ClickUp building; instead, you were looking for the AIM Labs, Centenary, Thuto or the Student Services Centre. Navigating one of the biggest campuses in South Africa can be a bit of a challenge, which is why JuniorTukkie Student Ambassadors set aside some of their time to assist first-year students with campus navigation. The principles we share as a Society are uplifting others, harnessing academic potential, and inspiring future leaders through giving back, while keeping our inner child smiling from ear to ear through fun, games, and selfies! Because that’s what young leaders do!



The JuniorTukkie App has a new location!

JuniorTukkie supports learners from Grade 9 to 12 in making informed study and career decisions. To receive timely notifications containing crucial information to prepare you for tertiary studies at university, download the JuniorTukkie App. [CLICK HERE](#) and follow the steps to download the JuniorTukkie App.

Sign up for the JuniorTukkie Grade 12 Winter School and Grade 11 Summer School

JuniorTukkie offers targeted educational resources to enhance learners' understanding of their school subjects, ensuring better preparation for examinations. Click on the relevant link below.

[Grade 12 Winter School \(Mathematics and Physical Sciences\)](#)
18 June 2024 to 21 June 2024)

[Grade 11 Summer School \(Mathematics and Physical Sciences\)](#)
23 September 2024 to 27 September 2024



FACULTY OF ECONOMIC AND MANAGEMENT SCIENCES

First-year Bachelor of Commerce in Accounting Sciences students' treasure hunt

By Department of Accounting

First-year Bachelor of Commerce in Accounting Sciences students kicked off the 2024 academic year with an exciting treasure hunt at the University of Pretoria's Hatfield Campus. The primary objective of this adventure was to acquaint the students with various campus venues, making it easier for them to locate their lecture halls. [Click here for more.](#)



First-year Accounting Sciences students during the treasure hunt

UP students redefine the future with AI and cutting-edge technology in Dubai

By Department of Marketing

The top honours students in Tourism Management in the Department of Marketing Management recently participated in the second edition of the Middle East and Africa (MEA) Future Leaders Challenge (FLC) in Dubai.

The MEA FLC is an initiative launched in 2023 with a vision to empower, elevate, and educate future leaders within the tourism and hospitality industry.

The topic of the 2024 challenge was to consider how the integration of artificial intelligence (AI) and cutting-edge technologies within the hospitality and tourism sectors may transform the perception of career opportunities within the industry making it more appealing and aspiring to management graduates. [Click here for more.](#)

Photo from left:
Dr Bianca Frost (Lecturer),
Justin Wright, Katleho
Tsoetsi, Alyssa Janse van
Rensburg and Nina Gilau



Join us for the 11th Annual Robot Race Day on 1 June 2024!

By Department of Electrical, Electronic and Computer Engineering

The annual EBIT Robot Race was initiated in 2013 as an attempt to create an engaging, enjoyable practical project for the third-year microcontrollers module. The intent was to excite students about the learning material by creating a formal opportunity to play and explore.

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 IT. 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. This unique, annual engineering-education-in-action event is not to be missed by anyone with a keen interest in the future of our South African engineering industry and the bright young talent that is graduating from our engineering programmes at Tuks. [Click here for more.](#)



Robot Race Day

EBIT Open Day 2024

Prospective students are invited to visit the Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment, and Information Technology on Saturday, 20 April 2024. The programme and the registration form are available on the UP website at this link: [Click here for more.](#)



UP medical student wins the South African Health Excellence Award

By Sindisiwe Kubeka

Nobuhle Vanessa Gxekwa, a fifth-year medical student at the University of Pretoria (UP), has been honoured with the Rising Star Award at the South African Health Excellence Awards. This prestigious accolade celebrates individuals who have demonstrated excellence in healthcare, particularly those who have made significant contributions to research, teaching, and the advancement of medicine in South Africa.

The Rising Star Award is reserved for medical students who have distinguished themselves academically and have made impactful contributions to society. Gxekwa stood out for her exceptional efforts in research capacity building initiatives for undergraduate students with UP's Faculty of Health Sciences and her noteworthy contributions to clinical science in South Africa. [Click here for more.](#)



Nobuhle Vanessa Gxekwa proudly holds her South African Health Excellence Award



The Village: Learning in a Secondary School in Mamelodi with Occupational Therapy Intervention

By Tàrelle Willis & Helga Lister

The old African proverb "it takes a village to raise a child" conveys the message that it takes many people ("the village") to provide a safe, healthy environment for children, where they can develop, flourish and realise their hopes and dreams. The village includes not only family and neighbours but also community members, professionals, and policymakers who provide care for children. At one of the secondary schools in Mamelodi—a peri-urban

community in the City of Tshwane, this concept is being built upon with the help of professionals in the community who provide an array of services to learners in difficult circumstances. One such service is Occupational Therapy (OT) intervention, which is being provided to learners in new and exciting ways, contributing to their growth and development. [Click here for more.](#)

FACULTY OF LAW

UP Bachelor of Laws student goes to Leiden University International Exchange

By Lebohang Mokhomatha



Natalia Letsoalo

The faculty of Law works tirelessly to ensure that it prepares students who will graduate to be global litigation specialists in the many areas of specialty that they offer. Our students not only gain their knowledge and insights from the lecture halls, but they also learn from engagements and activities such as joining student society, mock trial experiences in local and at times international competitions.

Ms Letsoalo first heard about the exchange opportunity from her lecturers Prof Anton van der Linde and Dr Clireesh Joshua, both from the Department of Private Law. These academics serve on the committee tasked

with enlightening Faculty of Law students and staff about exchange opportunities from international universities that the University of Pretoria or the Faculty has active exchange agreements with.

Exchange programmes are intended to enrich students' study experience, and provide international experience. They are a life-changing opportunity valuable for propelling a graduate to greater career prospects in the future and offer exceptional academic and personal growth opportunities.

NAS inaugural Open Day shows learners how scientists can change the world

By Martie Meyer

"The impact of science extends far beyond the confines of our classrooms and textbooks. It has the power to transform lives, uplift communities, and shape nations' destiny." These wise words were shared by Prof Barend Erasmus, Dean of the Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences (NAS) at the University of Pretoria (UP), on 16 March at the Faculty's first Open Day with the theme, "Become a Scientist – Change the World."

More than 600 Grade 11 and 12 learners from as far as the Free State and Limpopo Province, accompanied by their parents, rocked up for the event to learn more about science and how the University make STEM (acronym for science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) education more accessible for learners. [Click here for more.](#)



FACULTY OF THEOLOGY AND RELIGION

Books for little big minds: enhancing education through reading

By Grace Mlangeni

On 31 January 2024, Dana Mahan, the faculty advisor of Theology and Religion, embarked on a mission to donate books at a local preschool in Mamelodi with a few postgraduate students: Gerald, Xongi, and Grace. Mamelodi is a township in the city of Tshwane located northeast of Pretoria. Unfortunately, the township has sections that are infested with poverty, making living conditions quite arduous for its citizens. Consequently, this largely affects the township's citizens as they struggle to find employment. As a result, providing adequate resources for their children to

attain proper education is unfortunately a battle they wrestle with. As part of the faculty's community engagement, taking note of this need to encourage reading and learning in informal settlements such as Mamelodi was a driving factor in donating books to the preschool.

The students spent time with the learners reading and playing with them. Reading aloud to children has a huge impact on how they receive and engage with books. It enables them to develop literacy skills as well as spark a love for reading.



Mamelodi read aloud day with UP postgraduates and pre-schoolers.



FACULTY OF VETERINARY SCIENCE



The winners

Faculty students secure first place in UP's 1nSync competition

By Karabo Makgashula and Chris van Blerk

Despite an absence of about 10 years from UP's annual 1nSync competition, our Faculty of Veterinary Science students, together with Health House (Faculty of Health Sciences) achieved the monumental feat of securing first place in this year's competition, the biggest event of the University of Pretoria (UP) for first year students.

The 1nSync competition takes place on the Hatfield Campus. Different faculties, residences, day houses and other structures participate in this event. It is a singing and dancing competition where each group chooses a theme which their performance will address. [Click here for more.](#)

#TuksVolleyball: Danilo von Ludwiger hopes to “spike” his way to the Paris 2024 Olympics in France

By Wilhelm De Swardt

The word “spike” will undoubtedly impact Danilo von Ludwiger’s life in 2024 when he is in the hospital or playing beach volleyball. He is a sixth-year Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery student at Tuks. It means he spends a lot of his time in a hospital where a patient’s temperature can spike at any moment. When it happens, he must come up with the correct diagnosis.

Looking at the bigger picture in his sports career, the Tuks student-athlete is hopeful that one day he will be an Olympian. One thing is certain: Von Ludwiger and his teammate Leo Williams will have to spike a lot to get to Paris, France. A spike is when a player forcefully hits the ball downward with the palm of his hand. If perfectly executed, it usually points on the board. [Click here for more.](#)



Danilo von Ludwiger



Join the JuniorTukkie initiatives

- Become a JuniorTukkie member: Complete the membership form at www.up.ac.za/juniortukkie > Become a JuniorTukkie.
- Utilise the JuniorTukkie Online e-learning platform: Register on the JuniorTukkie Online platform at juniortukkie.online.
- Receive important notifications via the JuniorTukkie App: [Click here for download instructions.](#)



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Social media



JuniorTukkie website:

www.up.ac.za/juniortukkie



JuniorTukkie Facebook:

www.facebook.com/JuniorTukkieUP



JuniorTukkie Instagram:

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JuniorTukkie App:

[Click here for download instructions](#)