



UNIVERSITEIT VAN PRETORIA
UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA
YUNIBESITHI YA PRETORIA

RETHINK@NAS

BULLETIN: May 2024

TRANSFORMATION | PHETOGO | TRANSFORMASIE

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Make today matter

RETHINK@NAS – a holistic focus on transformation



RETHINK@NAS is an initiative in the Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences (NAS) and a holistic approach to transformation in NAS. It reminds all staff and students to stop and assess their actions and words, the potential effect on others, perceptions, and norms that impede change in NAS.

Why RETHINK?

R	Respect
E	Empowerment
T	Thought leadership
H	Humanity
I	Inclusivity
N	Next Generation
K	Knowledge

RETHINK@NAS Subcommittees

- Anti-discrimination and Gender-based Violence
- Culture
- Transformation and Employment Equity
- Teaching and Learning
- Research
- Outreach



We would like to hear your ideas and thoughts regarding a transformed NAS. Please get in touch with nokwazi.mtsweni@up.ac.za

Sign up for RETHINK@NAS

We want to invite all staff members of NAS to become involved in RETHINK@NAS.

Please sign up on the Google form: <https://bit.ly/4bGa0r2>

Disability awareness

During Disability Awareness Week, we honour the strength and resilience of individuals with disabilities. The week is dedicated to promoting inclusivity, understanding and accessibility in every aspect of the NAS community. It reminds all staff and students in the NAS Faculty to strive for and advocate for equal opportunities, eliminating barriers and fostering environments where everyone can thrive. By educating ourselves this week, we can combat stereotypes and encourage empathy. Together, we have the power to continuously build a more inclusive, supportive, and compassionate environment for all NAS staff and students.



Soup it Forward campaign

The University's Student Governance Unit has partnered with Pure Café on its Hatfield Campus to launch the Soup it Forward campaign, which will provide students in need with nourishing cups of soup during the cold winter months from May to August. The meals will be available to students on UP's Student Nutrition and Progress Programme (SNAPP). Students who wish to be considered for the SNAPP should contact snap-programme@up.ac.za.



How it works

- **Soup purchase:** Every time a customer purchases a bowl of soup at Pure Café UP, a portion of the proceeds will go directly towards sponsoring a free cup of soup for an underprivileged student. So, when you buy a cup of your favourite soup, you're also helping someone in need to stay warm and nourished.
- **Direct donations:** Pure Café has made it even easier for its customers to make a difference. Scan the QR code available at the café, and for every R10 donated, another cup of soup will be sponsored for students facing food insecurity.
- **Distribution:** Pure Café will then donate soup vouchers to the Department of Student Affairs, which will be distributed to students enrolled in SNAPP. Students can then redeem the vouchers at Pure Café for a cup or bowl of soup.

Spreading the word

The Student Governance Unit and Pure Café invite the entire University community – students, staff, and Faculty – to support the campaign. Here's how you can help:

- **Purchase soup at Pure Café:** Every bowl of soup you enjoy contributes to this heartwarming initiative.
- **Donate:** Scan the QR code available at the café to make a direct donation.
- **Spread the word:** Share the Soup it Forward campaign on your social media platforms to help create a buzz and raise awareness about the campaign.

Enquiries about this initiative must be sent to:

snap-programme@up.ac.za

Lifts give more access to everybody

One of the lifts in the Agricultural Sciences Building has recently been replaced to offer more accessible access to staff, students and visitors. The other lift will be replaced in the next few months. The new lift not only assists the visually and hearing impaired with braille signs on the buttons but also has a voice function indicating whether the lift is going up or down and on which floor it is. Art Hlatshwayo (right) and Shado Mahlangu from the Human Resources division checked out the lift's functionalities.



Help NAS support the Clothing Drive

Nokwazi Mtsweni encourages NAS staff to donate clothes for the FLY@UP Clothing Drive. The box is situated in the Foyer of the Agricultural Sciences Building. The Clothing Drive is an ongoing project – please donate your pre-loved clothes.



CONTACT PERSON: Ms Nokwazi Mtsweni is the coordinator of the Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences transformation initiative, RETHINK@NAS. Contact her at nokwazi.mtsweni@up.ac.za.

KONTAKPERSOON: Me Nokwazi Mtsweni is die koördineerder van die Fakulteit Natuur- en Landbouwetenskappe se transformasie-inisiatief, RETHINK@NAS. Kontak haar by nokwazi.mtsweni@up.ac.za.

MOTHO YO O KA IKGOKAGANYAGO LE YENA: Mmarena: Nokwazi Mtsweni ke mokgokaganyi wa lenaneo la phetogo la Lefapha la Disaense tša Tlhago le Temo, RETHINK@NAS. Ikgokganye le yena go nokwazi.mtsweni@up.ac.za.



LinkedIn for staff



To fully leverage the capabilities of the LinkedIn Learning platform and extract optimal benefits from online education in staff development, the University's Learning and Development team actively encouraged widespread participation to foster a vibrant learning culture in the different faculties. As such, faculties and departments nominated individuals to serve as LinkedIn Learning Sub-Administrators and/or Curators.

Curators possess the ability to develop, share, and recommend customised content and learning paths via and on the platform LinkedIn Learning. Additionally, they access insights regarding the performance of content. Going beyond the functions of curators, Sub-Administrators have the authority to invite users, create and oversee groups, manage learner activity, generate reports, and communicate directly with users.

You can use the LinkedIn Learning Login site or contact your departmental curator.

You may also contact michelle.bheemraj@up.ac.za.