

ALUMNI connect

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Cape
Peninsula
University
of Technology



Warmest greetings to all alumni of CPUT!

In this newsletter, we report on our year-end celebration and profile another outstanding crop of CPUT graduates. December saw alumni, staff, friends and supporters of the university join forces in a festive get-together at a city hotel, raising thousands for the university's Bursary Fund.

Cape Argus editor and alumnus Jermaine Craig was the Master of Ceremonies for the evening, while Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Academic, Prof Anthony Staak, gave a punchy presentation on CPUT's recent achievements.

These include launching **the first cube-satellite in Africa**, (and managing to keep it whizzing around Planet Earth for a year!) hosting **the only South African Renewable Energy Training Centre** and the only **Product Lifecycle Management**

Competency Centre in Africa, amongst other firsts.

Amidst the wining, dining and reconnecting with old friends, a series of raffles were held with all proceeds going to the Bursary Fund. Prizes included stunning jewellery worth thousands donated by alumni Jeanine Benjamin of **Jinn** and Marizanne Kellerman of **Zanry Jewellery Design and Manufacturing**.

Other prizes included a Cadac Safari Chef Gas Cooker, donated by Alumni Association chairperson, Jeff Daniels, while both the **Best Western Cape Suites Hotel** and the **DoubleTree** by Hilton Upper Eastside Hotel donated a complimentary stay for two for two nights.

A special raffle for regular supporters of the Bursary Fund was also held, with Nomhle Klaas from Bloemfontein winning a superfast Proline Tablet worth R3 000.

A delighted Nomhle says, "I decided to be a regular donor as I myself was the recipient of a bursary. Had it not been for this, I would not be where I am today. Having never won anything in my life, I'm overwhelmed – thank you very much!"

A full list of our kind sponsors and photos of prize-winners can be **found here**, with many more pics on our **Alumni Facebook page**. We hope 2015 sees more alumni join us in our quest to take CPUT from good to great! If you'd like to do so, don't hesitate to get in touch with the **Alumni Office** on 021 460 3389.

Valerie and Francois



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ALUMNI Profiles



Nomhle at her 2014 graduation with a degree in Business Administration from the Southern Business School.

NOMHLE KLAAS

A regular supporter of our Bursary Fund, Nomhle Klaas, is a Community Investment Specialist for the ABSA central region, which encompasses the Free State, Northern Cape and North West Provinces.

She tells us about her successful career and why she'll always prioritise giving back to future generations...

I came to CPUT in 1990 to study a National Diploma in Public Administration. After graduation, I registered for a Higher National Diploma in Public Admin and Management which was a two year programme.

From 1993, I was also employed by Peninsula Technikon as an administrator of the Access Programme for returnees from exile at the Centre for Continuous Education. I was also a tutor in Cognitive Skills for students who enrolled in the Access Programme. The Access programme served as a bridging course, after which the former exiles would be enrolled in the main stream programme. I was also a House Lady at SOMAFO, which was the residence under the Peninsula Technikon in Gugulethu, which hosted most of the returnees from exile.

In 1995, the Technikon gave me an opportunity to visit Canada as part of an exchange programme. It's an experience I will never forget and will be forever grateful for.

I was an active student activist,

a member of SANSOCO and also served in the interim SRC after the death of three executive SRC members, Gugu, Thembi and Boycee. They died tragically in a car crash near Prince Albert on their way to Johannesburg. This is one of the days I will never forget, the announcement of their death in the early hours of the morning. Students and staff members were united by the pain and the loss in a very special way. The support from the Technikon management was overwhelming and together we mourned and helped each other through the grieving process. It was a turning point for me, as I realised life is too short to live insignificantly.

As a member of Creative Arts, we sang each year at the graduation ceremony of the Technikon and when it was my turn to walk up the stage to receive my certificate, and the choir sang for me and others, I was very emotional. It dawned on me then and there that all my hard work over the years had finally paid off.

I'm a grateful recipient of bursary funding, and I believe that if many more of us contribute towards the Bursary Fund, we can change the face of South Africa. If we don't help our young people make it, they have no choice but to resort to crime or become a burden to society. Education does not only give you a chance to have a better life, but it moulds you into a better person. I urge all my fellow alumni to take a stand today. Let's work towards creating bright futures for the children of our land. I did, will you?



JEFF DANIELS

Special mention must be made of our very own Jeff Daniels, chairperson of the Alumni Association and managing director and co-founder of Daveng Consulting Engineers.



Jeff and Ronald van Dijk

A Civil Engineering Consulting company based in the Western Cape, **Daveng Consulting Engineers** was founded by Jeff and Ronald van Dijk, both CPUT alumni, in 2004. They have just celebrated the company's 10th Anniversary with a prestigious event at the Devonvale Golf & Wine Estate.

have twice received an excellence award from CPUT.

Over the past 10 years, Daveng have hosted 20 experiential training students and given full bursaries to 10 students. Currently Daveng have 18 technical staff members - of which 17 have graduated from CPUT.

Daveng has a very close relationship with CPUT's civil engineering experiential programme and for this they

We salute Jeff, Ronald and all at this extraordinary company who are so committed to ploughing back into the community!

Jeff with CPUT students



XOLELWA OLAYI

Keeping it in the family, Nomhle's daughter, Xolelwa Olayi is a Business Faculty Assistant and Coordinator of Public Management and Marketing at CPUT.

As a student, she was the recipient of a full bursary from Agri-Kaap. Xolelwa is currently studying MTech: Business Administration.

Nomhle's daughter, Xolelwa Olayi – a chip off the old block!



GUINIVERE LOURENS

Here's another outstanding alumnus, this time from the Faculty of Health and Wellness Sciences.

Guinivere Lourens' official title is Manager: Clinical Training Platform, Community Service and Interaction at Stellenbosch University.

She has over 10 years of experience in Project and Quality Management in the Health Sector. She holds a Master's degree in Nursing from CPUT and post graduate diplomas in Health Services Management, and Health Science Education with qualifications in Primary and Occupational Health.

This busy dynamo also has a doctoral study in Public Management currently underway at CPUT. Read more about Guin here...



SCHALK-WILLEM VAN DER MERWE

Yet another trailblazer from the Health and Wellness Sciences field is CPUT's very own Schalk-Willem Van der Merwe.

Schalk-Willem is an Advanced Life Support paramedic, a lieutenant in the SA Military Health Service, a

mountain search and rescue guru, lecturer in Emergency Medical Sciences, husband and dad. Meeting this committed, highly-trained and dedicated young professional is very reassuring – should one ever need emergency care, you can rest easy – these guys and girls are up for the task

in every respect.

Schalk-Willem's **top tips** for staying safe are mostly the one's we hear all the time.

But he says, by following these golden rules, there's very little harm than can ever occur...



LUVUYO RANI

Huge congratulations to Luvuyo Rani who has been voted one of ten Outstanding Young Persons of the World by the Junior Chamber International in 2014.

Each year, JCI honours ten people under the age of 40 who provide exemplary service to and sustainable impact in their local communities and across the globe.

"The award is a huge honour and is probably the biggest accolade

of my career to date. At the awards ceremony in Germany, I met amazing people from different countries and was extremely proud to be flying the South African flag high. In fact, I stood up for the whole continent! I am thankful to everyone that voted for

me and allowed me to represent Africa, South Africa and indeed Khayelitsha amongst nations", says Luvuyo.

Find out more about Luvuyo's amazing journey by watching this YouTube video.



ERNST OHLHOFF

Ernst also happens to be the brother of Snyman Ohlhoff, the Acting HoD at CPUT's Department of Tourism and Events Management. Ernst explains how he snapped the winning pic and gives us his top tips for the best phone pictures...

My wife is a professional musician and earlier in 2014, she had a series of shows in quick succession in one week. Our youngest son, who is 2 years old, was tired of having to stay at home with me, so he devised a plan to go with Mommy. He hid in her guitar case, so Mommy would take him with.

I saw him getting into the case, grabbed my iPhone and jumped on a chair to get a view from above. I waited until he opened the case and then took the photo at that

very moment. He had to assume a foetal position to fit inside, and the guitar case reminded me of a womb, so I gave the photo the title "A Star is Born." I think I won

the contest as this shot embodies the essence of what mobile photography has made possible: capturing the moment (since the phone is always with you).



And finally, some hints and tips from a true professional on how to take perfect snaps.

Ernst Ohlhoff, who completed a ND: Electronic Engineering at the old Cape Technikon in 1996, has been named the overall winner in the iStore Cape Town iPhoneography contest.




exclusive deal

FACILITIES HIRE AT CPUT

Alumni can now hire great venues at a great price across CPUT's 5 campuses.

This exclusive deal for our alumni offers a secure environment to host all kinds of functions and events, all year-round - not just during university holidays.

A full list of venues with photos will be posted on our website at the beginning of 2015.

Watch this space!

20% DISCOUNT

for Alumni



AS A VALUED GRADUATE OF CPUT, WE INVITE YOU TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF AN EXCLUSIVE OFFER - A 20% DISCOUNT ON ACCOMMODATION, MEALS AND CONFERENCING AT BEST WESTERN CAPE SUITES HOTEL.

Nestled beneath Table Mountain, just opposite our Cape Town campus and with easy access to the city center, V&A Waterfront and major attractions in and around the city, Best Western Cape Suites Hotel offers a restaurant, swimming pools, a bar/lounge, free Wi-Fi, a conference center with audiovisual equipment, airport shuttle, free parking and dry-cleaning and laundry facilities.

The CPUT Alumni office wishes you and your family a great stay in the Mother City with your exclusive discount at Best Western Cape Suites Hotel.

For more information visit www.capesuites.co.za or call hotel reservations at 021 461 0727.

Simply quote the code CPUT 8830 when making a booking to qualify for the 20% discount.