



# THENSA

Technological Higher Education Network South Africa

## MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

### MAY: THE MONTH OF THE STUDENT

As we've reached the first half of the year, THENSA reflects on May as the month of the student. Throughout our member institutions, we have witnessed young people accomplishing impressive feats across a number of fields, reaffirming the excellence of technology focussed institutions. From the release of a debut novel to international sporting success, as well as local and regional accolades in the sciences, THENSA could not be more proud of the outstanding achievements of these students. Their success is not only a testament to their individual brilliance and dedication, but also a reminder of the pivotal role the youth have played in shaping the future of our country. In addition, we acknowledge the hard work of our member institutions breaking ground in terms of extending their campuses and contributing towards the vaccine rollout. Their impact on the next generation of changemakers cannot be overstated. With Youth Day approaching us soon, THENSA and its strategic partners are reminded of their commitment to nurturing the talents and ambitions of young South Africans. Our programme with the Unemployment Insurance Fund (UIF), in partnership with skills development provider Milzet Holdings, for example, is currently answering the call to curb youth unemployment and stimulate social development by upskilling and reskilling young people within the UIF database. In honour of the students of 1976 who were bold enough to fight for a better future, we want to thank all students at our member institutions for their fortitude and resilience during this period and we wish them nothing but the best for the rest of the year.



## UPDATES FROM OUR MEMBER INSTITUTIONS

- Second-year Durban University of Technology (DUT) student, Nomali Zondi, [released](#) her debut novel *The Rusty Tin Hotel* this May. Zondi, who is studying a BA in Applied Arts in Screen Arts and Technology, also won first prize at the DUT Writing Centre for her short story, *Rebellion*. You can find a copy of the novel on [Amazon](#).
- Mukhodesi Mudau, an Environmental Science honours graduate from the University of Venda (UNIVEN), [won](#) first place in the 11th annual Esri Young Scholars Awards programme. Mudau is the first student from UNIVEN to win the prize for her project titled 'Assessment of the Geomorphological Diversity of Komati Gorge, Mpumalanga Province, South Africa'.
- Mildo Hlatshwayo, a second-year Engineering student from Mangosuthu University of Technology (MUT), [placed](#) fifth as part of South Africa's 4 x 400m relay team for the 2021 World Athletics Relay games in Silesia, Poland. This was Hlatshwayo's first stint at representing his country after obtaining provincial colours a few years ago.
- Central University of Technology's Sizolwakhe Innocent Mtetwa [has won](#) £10 000 at the 2021 Global Young Innovators Programme along with his partner, Sherina Begum from the United Kingdom (UK). The Global Young Innovators Programme provides a platform for 60 entrepreneurially driven people from South Africa and the UK to come up with solutions for some of the world's most challenging issues.
- Tshwane University of Technology (TUT) [has vaccinated](#) 137 staff members as part of their contribution to the vaccine rollout. Members received their first dose of the Pfizer vaccine for staff members of 60 years and older, with the second dose slated to be given in July. The vaccine drive has been organised by the Adelaide Tambo School of Nursing Science in partnership with Tshwane District Health Services.
- In more TUT news, the institution [has signed](#) a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Kingdom of Bapedi in Sekhukhune, Limpopo to launch a campus in the Sekhukhune District, subject to approval from the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET).

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