

# WAY2GO



Way2go is published for high school learners by Marketing and Corporate Relations at Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University.

## NMMU students share their positive thoughts about varsity life

# Achievers for tomorrow

“Our university is large enough, but also small enough to ensure that you are never just a number at NMMU,” says NMMU Law student Tshepiso Bogatsu.

She’s one of the students pictured on this page – all young achievers who have nothing but praise for their time at NMMU.

South African swimmer Kevin Paul, for example, who will be competing in the pool at the Paralympics in London in August, has been able to successfully marry his Law studies with his rigorous training schedule.

“I train up to six hours a day and sometimes can’t get to class. The Law Faculty has given me



*GIFT OF THE GAB ... NMMU law student Tshepiso Bogatsu represented the country at a moot court competition in America this year.*

a lot of support,” says the former Grey schoolboy, who is hoping to add to the gold he earned at the 2008 Paralympics in Beijing. (He’s also a top achiever in the classroom).

Fellow LLB students Tshepiso Bogatsu and Lutho Jolobe are equally thankful for the opportunities they have enjoyed as students at NMMU.

For Lutho, a Graeme College matriculant, this is everything from captaining NMMU’s under 21A rugby team to winning the Vice-Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Leadership last year. In between, there’s been waterpolo, SIFE (Students In Free Enterprise) presidency and the role of creating excitement for Varsity Cup rugby as the Madibaz warrior.

Apart from the many opportunities NMMU has given him, Lutho has loved “working with people from different ethnic backgrounds”. About 8% of NMMU’s 27 000-plus students come from foreign countries.

NMMU also afforded final-year student Tshepiso and three of her colleagues the opportunity to represent

the university at the Philip C Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition in Washington.

The Hudson Park matriculant also had the honour of introducing public prosecutor Thuli Madonsela at a function at NMMU.

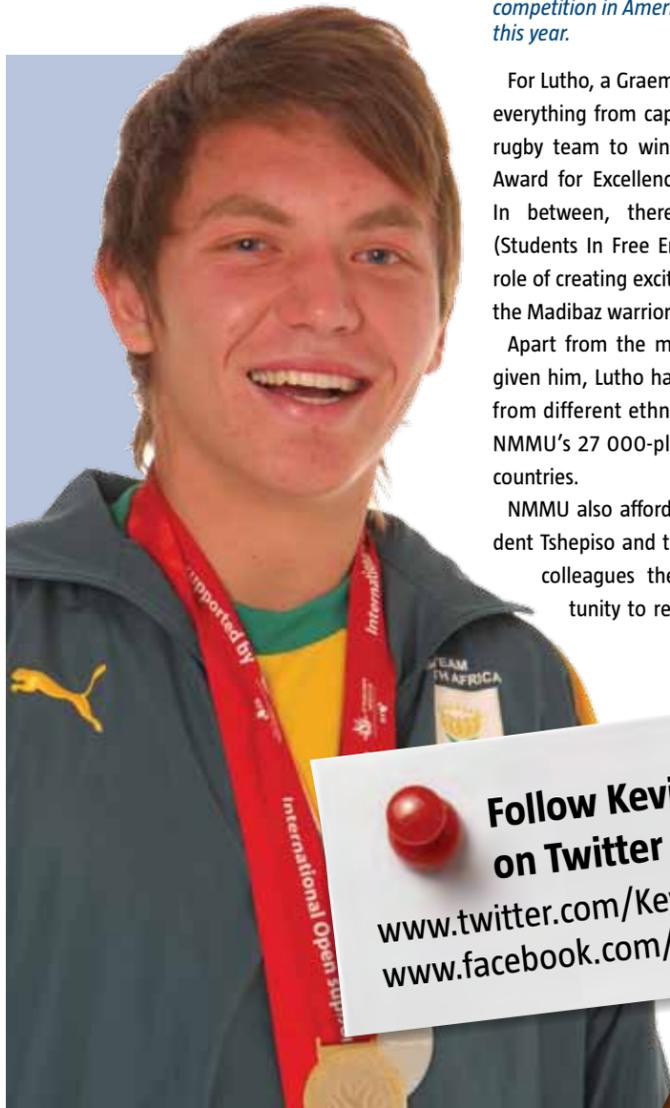
Then there’s Kelly Esterhuyse, who graduated with a fashion diploma in April. Kelly’s designs are about to hit Mr Price stores nationally after she won

**OUR university is large enough, but also small enough to ensure that you are never just a number at NMMU**

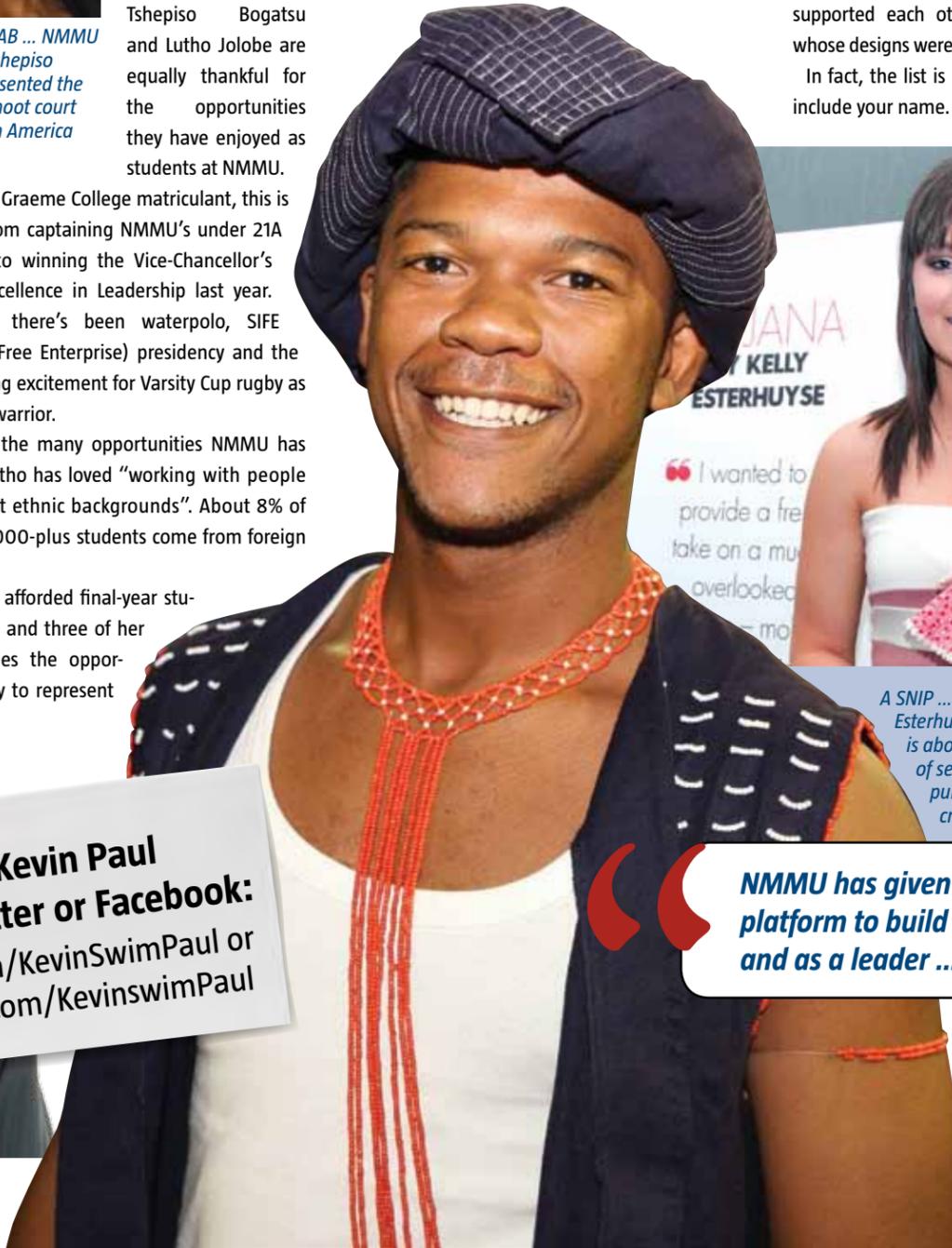
the Elle Young Designer Award.

“I loved the fashion design department at NMMU. We were like a family, including the lecturers. We supported each other in everything,” said Kelly, whose designs were also shared at SA Fashion Week.

In fact, the list is unending ... and could one day include your name.



**Follow Kevin Paul on Twitter or Facebook:**  
[www.twitter.com/KevinSwimPaul](http://www.twitter.com/KevinSwimPaul) or  
[www.facebook.com/KevinSwimPaul](http://www.facebook.com/KevinSwimPaul)



*A SNIP ... Fashion graduate Kelly Esterhuyse, whose Mr Price range is about to hit the shops, is one of several top achievers to have pursued studies in the field of creative arts.*

**NMMU has given me the perfect platform to build myself as a person and as a leader ...**

*ALL-ROUNDER ... SIFE (Students in Free Enterprise) President Lutho Jolobe is involved in all aspects of student life including that of “warrior” for spectators supporting the Madibaz rugby team during the Varsity Cup competition.*

*IN THE SWIM ... Paralympic gold medalist Kevin Paul manages to balance a rigorous training schedule with law study commitments.*

### 3 AGAINST THE ODDS:

A student’s fight for success

### CHOOSE THE RIGHT QUALIFICATION:

A step-by-step guide

### STAND-OUT FEATURES:

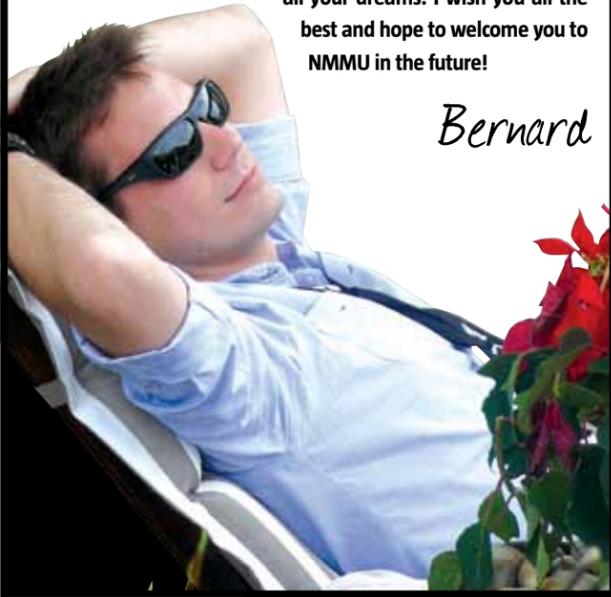
Why NMMU is special

## Ed's note

Your days of high school are drawing to an end and what is waiting on the other side may seem uncertain. Deciding what you want to become is not a decision to take lightly. Your career can come to define you, so you will really need to think carefully about what to study after school.

In this edition we have provided you with resources to help you plan for your future. If you implement our plans and use them to make your decision there is no reason why you cannot realise all your dreams. I wish you all the best and hope to welcome you to NMMU in the future!

*Bernard*



## Career Planning

Is it possible to quickly choose a career that you will be doing for the rest of your life? What factors do you need to take into consideration when making this decision? How do you find a career that is right for you?

NMMU's Student Counselling, Career & Development Centre (SCCDS) can help you make a decision that is right for you. The centre offers professional career assessment and counselling sessions to prospective students who are still unsure about what they would like to do after high school.

**The programme consists of:**

- ▶ A career assessment session (personality, values, interest)
- ▶ An individual career counselling session
- ▶ Career information as well as qualifications linked to that specific career field.

**Bookings:** 041 504 2511/3222/3845

**Sessions:** Fridays from 8am to 1pm

**Cost:** R700



# APPLYING TO NMMU

apply online



**Don't delay. Submit your application form today!**

**Applications are now open for prospective students to join our new generation university. Space is limited so make sure your application reaches us before the deadline.**

## Tips for applying to NMMU

**Remember the following when submitting your application form:**

- ▶ Apply early. Space is limited.
- ▶ Write neatly and clearly.
- ▶ Make sure you complete all the sections required – if you don't, your application form cannot be processed and your application will be placed on hold.
- ▶ Make sure you include copies of your school reports.
- ▶ Do not send cash in the post. See the application form for NMMU's preferred payment options. Keep a copy of the proof of payment.
- ▶ Make sure you have signed the "declaration by applicant" section and that your parents have signed the other section as your application form will not be processed if it is not signed.
- ▶ Indicate at least a second qualification choice – should you not be selected for your first choice, your second choice will then be considered.

**How do I get an application form?**

- ▶ Collect one from the admissions office; or
- ▶ Download one from [www.nmmu.ac.za/application](http://www.nmmu.ac.za/application); or
- ▶ E-mail: [admissions@nmmu.ac.za](mailto:admissions@nmmu.ac.za) or [info@nmmu.ac.za](mailto:info@nmmu.ac.za); or
- ▶ Apply online: [www.nmmu.ac.za/applyonline](http://www.nmmu.ac.za/applyonline); or
- ▶ Phone: 041 504 1111/2593/2945

# Beating the odds to graduate

*"I literally died four times on the way to the hospital"*

On 25 October 1991, Kirsten Deans' sixth birthday was tainted by a horror no child should ever experience. She was shot in the head, when four men ambushed the smallholding, where she lived with her grandparents in St Albans.

"I literally died four times on the way to the hospital and had to be resuscitated in the ambulance," she said.

After removing the 9mm Parabellum bullet which shattered in her skull, doctors were convinced that Kirsten would be left in a vegetative state.

However, after four weeks Kirsten proved them wrong and was able to leave the hospital. She was paralyzed for two years and started Grade 1 in a wheelchair but after intense physiotherapy Kirsten beat the odds once again and started walking.

She attended Cape Recife High School, where she was very active in sport. In 1998 she was chosen to represent Eastern Province (EP) in athletics and from 1999 to 2003 she represented EP in swimming, winning numerous gold medals.

In 2004 Kirsten received a bursary and started studying Sports Management at NMMU, but the sponsor didn't honour the bursary so she left, returning to NMMU in 2006 after her uncle paid for her

first year. She also received funding from Epilepsy South Africa and the Department of Labour.

"I've always loved sport, it's in my blood and my dream is to have my own academy for physically disabled, underprivileged children. God has given us all a purpose, I want to help others," she said.

Although she has hemiplegia, a paralysis on her right side which causes her to limp and her right leg to swing out and suffers from epilepsy and *petit mal* seizures, she has not allowed life to pass her by.

"Twenty years ago, doctors said I wouldn't be able to walk and talk, but brain injuries didn't affect my learning abilities and now I will be receiving my first qualification – my National Diploma in Sports Management," said Kirsten.

*ROLE MODEL ... Kirsten Deans recently graduated with a Diploma in Sports Management overcoming incredible odds to achieve her dream.*



**It's rugby that rocks!**



The NMMU Madibaz rugby team did us proud this past season finishing in 5<sup>th</sup> position on the log. After a gruelling season, the NMMU team showed why we are a force to be reckoned with. Our captain Jaco Swanepoel was also named the "forward that rocks".



# How do I choose a

There are a number of important choices in life. The first of these will be to choose a career path after you finish high school. We have put together the following steps to help you make the right decision.

## STEP

# 1

## DETERMINE YOUR INTEREST

The more you know about yourself and your interest the better you will be able to narrow down the list.

- ▶ What do you like – numbers, science, nature, travel, words, music ...?
- ▶ Do you have a natural talent or ability?
- ▶ What subject do you excel at and enjoy the most?
- ▶ What career fields interest you the most?
- ▶ Do you have a hobby that can lead to a specific career field?



## DO THE RESEARCH

The more knowledge you have at your disposal the more informed you will be about your future career choice.

- ▶ All qualifications have specific subject requirements – determine what they are and if your school subjects match the ones required for that particular qualification.
- ▶ Look at your school subjects/ interests and see what type of career opportunities exist.
- ▶ Work backwards – start with a career and then see what type of qualification(s) is required.
- ▶ Obtain information about that qualification or course and see if it is something which you can see yourself studying?



## STEP

# 2

- ▶ Look at which universities offer that type of qualification and determine the admission requirements.
- ▶ Do you meet the requirements?
- ▶ What can you do to improve your chances of being admitted to that qualification?
- ▶ Ask questions.



# qualification?

STEP

3

## FORMULATE A PLAN

Now that you know what you like and don't like, have an idea of what you want to study and where, the next step will be to plan for your future.

- ▶ Speak to your parents about your plans and find out their thoughts on your choices.
- ▶ Remember to be prepared when speaking to them with a list of pros and cons of each choice.
- ▶ Arrange to meet or shadow someone in your chosen field to get a feel of what this specific career will entail.
- ▶ Always have a back-up plan – your first choice might not always be the one that works for you.

## TIME TO TAKE ACTION

Now put your plans in motion.

- ▶ Apply early as you may need to attend interviews or present a portfolio as part of the application process.
- ▶ Always list a second choice (in the same field) should your first choice not be successful.
- ▶ Apply to more than one university.
- ▶ Apply for bursaries/scholarships at the same time as you complete your application forms.
- ▶ Keep your parents in the picture (they are paying for your studies after all).
- ▶ Keep copies of your application forms/proof of payments as well as school records.

STEP

4



# Financing your studies

The cost of going to university may mean that you will have to obtain additional funding. There are a number of loans/scholarships and bursaries available to help you.

#### Costs to consider:

- ▶ Application fee
- ▶ Enrollment & registration fee
- ▶ Class fees
- ▶ Textbooks
- ▶ Residence fees
- ▶ Living expenses (rent, transport, food etc)

NMMU offers a number of financial aid options to help you finance your dreams of obtaining a university diploma or degree.

#### NMMU Scholar Merit Awards

- ▶ Automatically awarded to all first-year students who meet the criteria.
- ▶ Based on academic performance in your final grade 12 exams.
- ▶ The award is for one year only.
- ▶ No application is necessary.

The cost of studies has gradually increased so knowing what financial aid options are available is a must.

#### National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS)

- ▶ NSFAS is a government loan scheme.
- ▶ The loan amount is determined based on a means test.
- ▶ A portion of the loan may be converted into a bursary (maximum of 40%) depending on academic performance.
- ▶ A student's family is expected to make a contribution towards his/her studies.
- ▶ Early applications close on 30 October.

#### NMMU Leadership Awards

- ▶ Available to head prefects of schools or Learner Representative Council (LRC) presidents who meet the criteria for the scholar merit award.
- ▶ Proof of such positions held must be handed in to the Financial Aid Office.

#### NMMU Sport Bursaries

- ▶ NMMU's Sport Bureau offers sport bursaries of varying amounts to top sport performers.
- ▶ A limited number of sport bursaries are available.
- ▶ Bursary application forms can be obtained from NMMU's Sport Bureau.
- ▶ Applications close at the end of October.
- ▶ For more information e-mail: charmaine.button@nmmu.ac.za or call 041 504 2165.

#### Funza Lushaka Bursary

- ▶ Teaching bursaries for students entering the teaching profession.
- ▶ R56 000 per annum – renewable based on academic progress.
- ▶ Students taking up this bursary are required to teach for every year of the bursary and the Department of Basic Education reserves the right to place student teachers where there is a need.
- ▶ Closing date is the end of each academic year.
- ▶ Application forms can be obtained from NMMU's Education Faculty. For more information contact, Muriel Geswindt on 041 504 2387.



For any additional information on these bursaries or others offered at NMMU please contact our Financial Aid Office to obtain a copy of the bursary booklet, phone 041 504 2550 or e-mail: [financialaid@nmmu.ac.za](mailto:financialaid@nmmu.ac.za)

Premier R60 000 award is looking for SA's brightest young minds

## Vice-Chancellor Scholarship

In 2010, NMMU's Vice-Chancellor Prof Derrick Swartz introduced a R60 000 a year scholarship and has benefitted the lives of 80 deserving recipients so far.

The scholarship programme, which targets top achievers, is once again looking for the best of the best. In order to be considered for this scholarship you will need to:

- ▶ be nominated by your school principal;
- ▶ complete and return your scholarship application before the closing date;

- ▶ obtain an Admission Point Score (APS) of 49 or higher;
- ▶ have applied to NMMU for either a diploma or degree qualification.

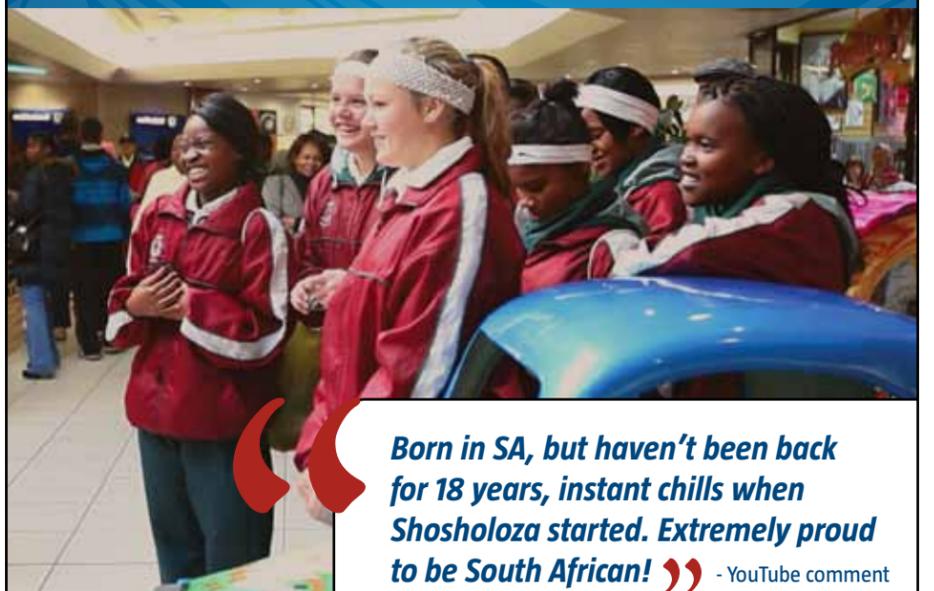
So seize the moment. Inform your teachers and principal and get the process going.

All applicants will be notified in writing of the outcome of their application. For more information contact Ms Christelle Feyt on 041 504 3084 or e-mail: [christelle.feyt@nmmu.ac.za](mailto:christelle.feyt@nmmu.ac.za)



CREAM OF THE CROP ... NMMU Vice-Chancellor Professor Derrick Swartz and Chancellor Santie Botha congratulate Vice-Chancellor's Scholarship recipients (from left) Marthinus Griessel (BEng Mechatronics), from Despatch High School, Andrea Christoffels (BCom CA) from Riebeeck College and Daniël Strydom (BCom CA) who attended Brandwag High School.

## NMMU's flash mob best in SA!



*Born in SA, but haven't been back for 18 years, instant chills when Shosholozza started. Extremely proud to be South African!* - YouTube comment

A first by a South African university and the first flash mob held in Port Elizabeth, the YouTube video starring our university choir singing for unsuspecting shoppers has made NMMU a global hit. The five-minute performance has already generated over a 130 000 views on YouTube. If you haven't seen it yet (or even if you already have) watch it on [www.youtube.com/NMMUonTube](http://www.youtube.com/NMMUonTube).

# WHY NMMU IS SPECIAL!

## Reasons why you should consider NMMU:

- ▶ a student body reflecting diversity in culture and language;
- ▶ a comprehensive university offering qualifications from higher certificates to doctoral degrees;
- ▶ a wide geographic reach/footprint and community involvement;
- ▶ all six campuses are located close to some of the best beaches in the country;
- ▶ the George Campus is a "natural laboratory" – close to nature with relatively small classes allowing for individual attention;
- ▶ a proud association with a leader (namesake) "Nelson Mandela" widely acknowledged and respected for his aspirational values which staff and students try to emulate;
- ▶ affordable student fees;
- ▶ NMMU's School of Accounting and Pharmacy Department consistently produce some of the top accounting and pharmacy graduates in the country;
- ▶ the NMMU Racing team is the first of its kind in Africa and recognised internationally.

*ASSET ... Situated in a nature reserve adjacent to Algoa Bay with its wealth of ocean life, including pods of bottlenose dolphins, is one of the stand-out reasons for studying at Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University.*

A campus by the sea or a classroom at the foot of the majestic Outeniqua Mountains are just two of the reasons why NMMU is special. Your living and learning takes place in a wonderful environment.

But there's so much more ...



*LIFE CHAMPIONS... Giving the new day-long Champion Within initiative the thumbs up are (from left) Stephen Sass, of Queenstown, Genisha Sadanand of East London, Rynhardt Gerber of PE, Stefan van Staden of East London and John Gitau of PE.*

## It's Madiba magic for all first-year students

**THOUSANDS** of first-year students at Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University (NMMU) were the first to embrace an initiative aimed at transforming them into "life champions" – using former (State) President Nelson Mandela as a role model.

The day-long dialogue workshop called Nelson Mandela: The Champion Within is a bold national project aimed at enabling students to think and act like the university's namesake.

"Our belief is that we will only succeed in making our country and world a better place if each one of us lives the changes we want to see in the world," says Vice-Chancellor Professor Derrick Swartz, who initiated the programme as part of first-year Orientation Week.

The NMMU programme forms part of a wider national effort by Life College Group to reach a million young people across South Africa by 2020 and train them in ground-breaking critical thinking

skills, principle-centred consciousness and self-mastery skills for a better South Africa. Life College has exclusive, global rights partnership with the Nelson Mandela Foundation Centre of Memory and the Mandela Rhodes Foundation to develop and distribute the programme.

The initiative is in sync with NMMU's vision to be a dynamic African university recognised for generating "cutting-edge knowledge for a sustainable future".

Apart from Madiba, the lives and achievements of "life champions" like former Constitutional Court Justice Albie Sachs, Pick 'n Pay founder Raymond Ackerman and NMMU's own Chancellor Santie Botha, a former Businesswoman of the Year, also served as inspiration to participants.

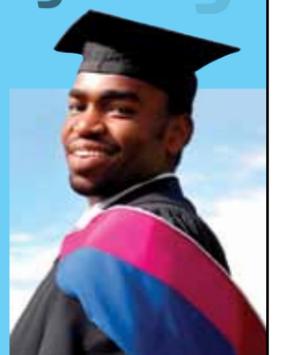
Students used events and values from the life of Nelson Mandela as a springboard to their round-table discussions, and sought in some small way to make "Every Day a Mandela Day".



Nelson Mandela  
Metropolitan  
University  
for tomorrow

## Industrial Engineering

Faculty of Engineering, the Built Environment and Information Technology



If you have a flair for problem solving and doing a job in the most efficient way possible, then **Industrial Engineering is a profession you should consider. Industrial engineers learn how to harness the use of a diverse range of resources such as people, technology and mechanics in a configuration that will achieve the optimum results.**

At NMMU the diploma in industrial engineering is a popular three year course that will equip you with the necessary skills and experience to assist any organisation to perform its operations in the safest, fastest and most cost effective manner.

### Careers

- ▶ Project planning ▶ Production /Operations ▶ Manufacturing
- ▶ Services ▶ Quality management ▶ Logistics ▶ Lean Specialist
- ▶ Warehousing ▶ Supply Chain management

Contact Industrial Engineering on tel: 041 504 3446 / 3447  
or email: [chantel.koekemoer@nmmu.ac.za](mailto:chantel.koekemoer@nmmu.ac.za)

# The journey of getting into varsity

from a mother's perspective by Beverley Erickson

**Sending your child off to varsity is rather a daunting task, so here's some advice and encouragement for parents from a parent who has a child at university.**

Choosing the right course is a mine field! There are so many options, how do you settle for just one or two? As a parent, you want the best for your child so you do your best in guiding him or her but ultimately, it's what they want to do that's the most important.

The subjects that they chose in Grade 9 will play a huge role in what they can study at university, so assisting them early is very important. Consult a study options guide or prospectus. This information is available via the internet (university website) contact centre or by paying a personal visit and collecting hard-copy material from any university.

If the university has an open day or career day go along with your son/daughter to see what's available. When your prospective student has a couple of study ideas to work on, look at the requirements of each course. Most higher education institutions use the APS (Admission Point Score) system to determine if the student can gain access to the course.

If he/she does not have the points for direct admission to a course, all is not lost as there is a "testing band" – usually within about six points below the direct admission score. Falling within the testing band means the student will gain access to a write an access assessment test (numerical and comprehension) to see if he/she has the potential to complete the course.

As you will most likely be the one paying for the course, financial considerations are high on your agenda. Look at the fee structure for the course and make sure that you are aware of other costs such



*MOM AND SON... Beverly and Dean, first-year BA(Psych) student at NMMU enjoying the nature reserve on South Campus.*

as the application fee, registration fee, enrolment fee, books and any other extras that the course may require such as materials for art courses, architecture etc. If you live far from the institution, residence/accommodation fees need to be taken into account as well as transport and other living expenses.

Financial aid is available to needy and deserving

students and there are bursaries and scholarships for those who meet the criteria. If you are an old student (alumnus) of the university, you may qualify for a full discount on the initial application fee as is the case at NMMU.

With a tick next to "choose course", you can move on to the next step on your list – applying. There are many ways to apply, just remember to have all

the supporting documentation available when you start the application process. Whether it be online, faxing, postal or personal delivery – all your supporting documents will need to be attached. When your child has been accepted into varsity and their classes start – than another whole ball game begin! Watch this space for "Being a varsity parent 101".

## Addressing maths, science

**NELSON Mandela Metropolitan University is walking the talk and offering various initiatives to change the province's shocking maths and science marks.**

Only 33% of the province's maths learners passed in 2011, with science learners only slightly better at 48%. And almost half of the latter obtained less than 40%.

In Nelson Mandela Bay, 250 grade 11 and 12 pupils from 35 different schools in the area give up their Saturday mornings to attend classes at Missionvale Campus to improve their maths and science symbols.

Past pupils of the incubator school programme,

first launched six years ago by the Govan Mbeki Mathematics Development Unit, improved their maths and science marks by an average of 10 to 20%.

A new addition to the programme this year is a Casio calculator workshop to ensure the effective use of scientific calculators, a pre-requisite for maths and science. It is also the first year the South African National Road Agency Limited (Sanral) has come on board to sponsor lab-based science experiments.

All the pupils (top performers in maths and science in their respective schools) are handpicked by the unit. The grade 11 and 12 National Curriculum Statement maths and science syllabi are covered in a DVD series, given to each pupil, for them to use as a "personal tutor".

Unit head Prof Werner Olivier, who also holds the First Rand Foundation chair in Maths Education, said exam preparation in August was another component of the programme, and teachers are encouraged to attend.

Three intensive Saturday schools also kicked off in Somerset East, Graaff-Reinet and Cradock.

Altogether 300 grade 11 and 12 pupils, handpicked from more than 30 schools, attended the launch and first session of the 14-week incubator school which is also running for the first time in Graaff-Reinet and Cradock and for the second year in Somerset East, where a pilot



**Given the province's results for maths and science, expansion of the programme is critical**

*IT ALL ADDS UP... Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University has introduced various initiatives to improve the standard of maths of science among school learners in the Eastern Cape.*

programme targeting grade 10 pupils has also been added.

Somerset East's Johnson Nqonqoza High, one of the participating schools last year, achieved a notable 22% increase in the number of pupils who passed science last year, and a seven per cent increase in the number of pupils who passed maths. And the school's goal this year is an over 80% pass rate.

"Given the province's latest results for maths and science, expansion of the programme is critical," said Prof Olivier.

Sponsors of three Karoo incubator schools include the Manufacturing, Engineering and Related Services Sector Education and Training Authority (MerSETA), Chevron and the Social and Economic Development (SED) Alliance.

### Get Connected

For all the latest news, events and happenings at NMMU

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