

STUDENT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES

“Promoting a Holistic Approach to Student Success”

From the Director's Office: Centre for Excellence in Learning and Teaching (CELT)



Thengamehlo (Thengani) Harold Ngwenya

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Working with academics and other professional support departments, the Centre for Excellence in Learning and Teaching (CELT) provides academic support and development programmes to students. CELT has a proven track record of successfully enhancing the academic success of the first-year students through, amongst others, its First-Year Student Experience (FYSE) programme. We would like to invite you to make optimal use of all facilities and services provided by the university to ensure that you not only succeed but excel in your studies at DUT. Taking its cue from the strategic directions of the university, CELT has chosen to adopt a collaborative and integrated approach to student development by creating sustainable and policy-driven partnerships with the academic, administrative and professional support departments of the university. The university as a whole has as its main goal the nurturing and development of students who will be successful graduates personally, professionally and socially. I am therefore honoured to introduce you to the various student development initiatives outlined in this brochure.

CELT Student Development Programmes Leader – Prof Livingstone Makondo Research and experience has shown us that students in tertiary institutions encounter diverse challenges that could impact on their quest to complete their studies on record time. Student development programmes offered by the Centre for Excellence in Learning and Teaching (CELT) are designed to unleash the academic potential of DUT students across faculties and campuses.



Prof Livingstone Makondo LivingstoneM@dut.ac.za

Prof Livingstone Makondo is an Associate Professor in the Centre for Excellence in Learning and Teaching. He is also the Head of Student Development in the Centre for Excellence in Learning and Teaching (CELT) and is based at the Indumiso campus in the Midlands centre. He graduated from UNISA (DLitt et Phil), North West University (MBA), Rhodes University (PGDIP HE), University of Zimbabwe (MALSP, GRAD. CE, BA HONS, BA). His research interests and publications are in student development and support, teacher development, onomatopoeia and anthropomastics. He is a married man with three children.

Student Development Programmes offered by CELT

- Tutors/Mentors/Advisors **(TMAs)** Training and Development Programme
- First-Year Student Experience **(FYSE)**
- Extended Curriculum Programmes **(ECP)**
- Residence Educational Programme **(REP)**

Tutors/ Mentors/ Advisors (TMAs) Training and Development Programme



**Mr Siphon Zulu: Staff Development & RPL Coordinator:
Leader of Student Success Team zulusgr@dut.ac.za**

Tutor training and development has a vital role in the teaching of undergraduate students at DUT. Our overarching approach to our model is peer tutoring, advising and support. The responsibility of TUTORs/ MENTORs/ADVISORs (TMAs) is as a result of being in charge of small groups, facilitating discussions in small sections connected to large lecture subject and including mentoring role modelling and advising on academic and psychosocial personal development of students. Because of the teaching responsibilities that are given to undergraduate students, TMAs are in a position to:

- Provide subject-specific guidance, feedback and academic advising to encourage their need to succeed.
- Help students develop higher level thinking skills, active learning involvement, student engagement and exposure ethos and requisite attributes necessary for their respective disciplines and careers.
- Provide communication channel in a large lecture subject between lecturer and the students, in order to integrate the course.
- Try to get students actively involved by creating the climate needed for students to feel safe enough to ask questions and participate in discussions.

This programme targets senior students preferably those enrolled for postgraduate studies at DUT and where they may be away in industry or WIL, competent senior students are recruited who must be trained before tackling tutoring. The tutors trained in this programme are mainly utilised in selected modules in the Mainstream curriculum, Residence Educational Programme (REP), First-Year Student Experience (FYSE) and GE Cornerstone module.

First-Year Student Experience Programme (FYSE)



**Mrs Doreen Mheta: FYSE Programme Coordinator:
doreenm@dut.ac.za**

It is well known that the first year in tertiary education can be the 'make or break' phase of a student's academic career. There are many things that could go wrong – poor decision-making; incorrect choice of friends; low self-esteem/confidence levels; uncertainty as to career choice; difficulty with aspects of the academic programme; homesickness; lack of pre-tertiary preparedness; and many other problems that face first-year students. The central aim of FYSE is to assist students to get a clearer and deeper grasp of the challenge of self-redefinition that the students have to grapple with as they engage on the journey of transition from high school to university. This assistance is offered mainly through seminars that are structured thematically and may be modified in various ways to take into account particular disciplinary contexts and student needs.

Extended Curriculum Programmes (ECP)



Mrs Shubnam Rambharos: ECP Programme Coordinator:

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DUT has embraced the use of Foundational Provision since 2005 to ensure the success of its students who require foundational grounding in the basics of their chosen qualification. At DUT Foundational Provision is offered as Extended Curriculum Programmes (ECPs) and we currently have thirty six approved ECPs across five Faculties. The duration of the extended programme is four years rather than the usual three years. The first year is extended over two years and substantial support is provided for the regular

modules. Foundational support is also provided through additional modules that focus on core disciplinary knowledge and practices. These modules help students develop the independent learning practices necessary for academic success. Further but less intensive support is provided in the third year. ECP students register for the same qualification as mainstream students, not for a separate foundation course and they attend some of the same classes as the mainstream students. ECP students attend lectures for the additional foundational support modules in small groups of approximately 30 students. These lectures are timetabled and a variety of teaching strategies and assessments is used to ensure that ECP students get optimal support and grounding for each module. This support will prepare students for success and the demands of the regular programme when fully integrated with the mainstream students in their third and fourth years of study.

Residence Educational Programme (REP)



Mr Ntokozo Zulu: REP Programme Coordinator:

ntokozoz@dut.ac.za

The Residence Educational Programme (REP) is a tutorial programme run in residences by CELT in collaboration with the Department of Student Housing and Residence Life. The REP tutorials complement other activities in the residences that contribute to making the residences places of living and learning. These tutorial sessions are not only confined to subject-specific content but also cover what could be regarded as essential academic skills that students require to succeed at university and after graduation. The duration of tutorial sessions is two (2) hours (18:00 - 20:00). Tutors are senior students whose academic performance is above average. These tutorials take place in both Durban and Midlands residences. Lastly, besides tutorials REP comprises of the following activities:

- **Mind Opener Series (MOS)**

These are industry tours for first-year students that assist in stimulating students' critical, analytical and intellectual abilities to deal with complex problems in their fields of study, offer first-time exposure to real-world applications of their disciplines in order to enhance students' learning experience.

- **Seminar Series on Academic Success**

Their main aim is to equip students with relevant knowledge relating to higher education, life skills, personal development attributes needed to be successful at university level. These are facilitated by guest experts from relevant fields and they are attended by both students and tutors. The seminar series atmosphere offers the opportunity to interact and ask questions related to their individual concerns.

Student Development Support Staff

REP Officer – Durban Campus

Mrs Cebokazi Luthuli

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031 373 2091



REP Officer – Midlands Campus

Ms Mbali'nhle Promise Mohlakoana

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033 845 09060



ECP Administrator

Ms Sibongile Ansie Madi

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031 3736810



PHYSICAL ADDRESSES TO FIND US; CENTRE FOR EXCELLENCE IN LEARNING AND TEACHING (CELT)

Gate I, Steve Biko Road,

Berwyn Court, Ground Floor,

Steve Biko Campus,

Durban,

4000

41/43 ML Sultan Road,

Mariam Bee Building, 1st Floor,

ML Sultan Campus,

Durban

4000

13 FJ Sithole Road

Block 7, Ground Floor

Indumiso Campus

Imbali,

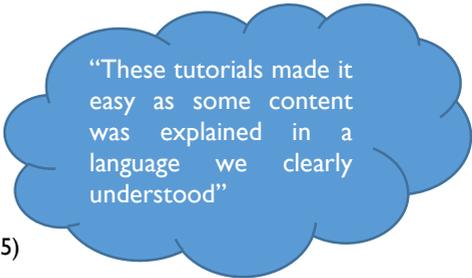
Pietermaritzburg

3200

Student Development Programme – Gallery

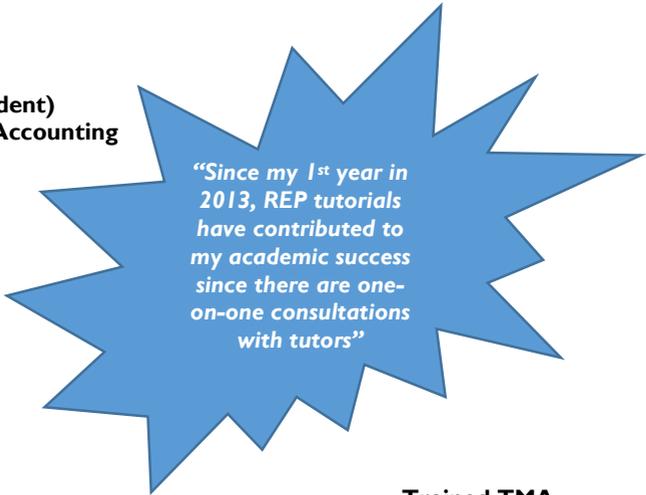


“This is what they say!” – Testimonies



Samkele Cebisa (Student)
Cost and Management Accounting 2 student (2015)
Sterling House Residence

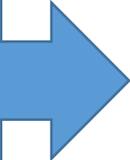
Busisiwe Chemane (Student)
Cost and Management Accounting
3rd year student (2015)



Trained TMA

Trained TMA

Suggestions if this session is run again
Allow senior tutors to share their experience as the tutors who have faced challenges



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