

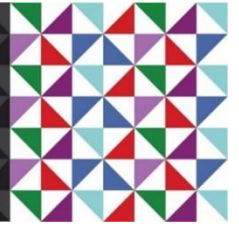


DURBAN UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY
INYUVESI YASETHEKWINI YEZOBUCHWEPHESHE

ENVISION 2030

transparency • honesty • integrity • respect • accountability
fairness • professionalism • commitment • compassion • excellence

THE WORLD
UNIVERSITY
RANKINGS
2021 TOP 500

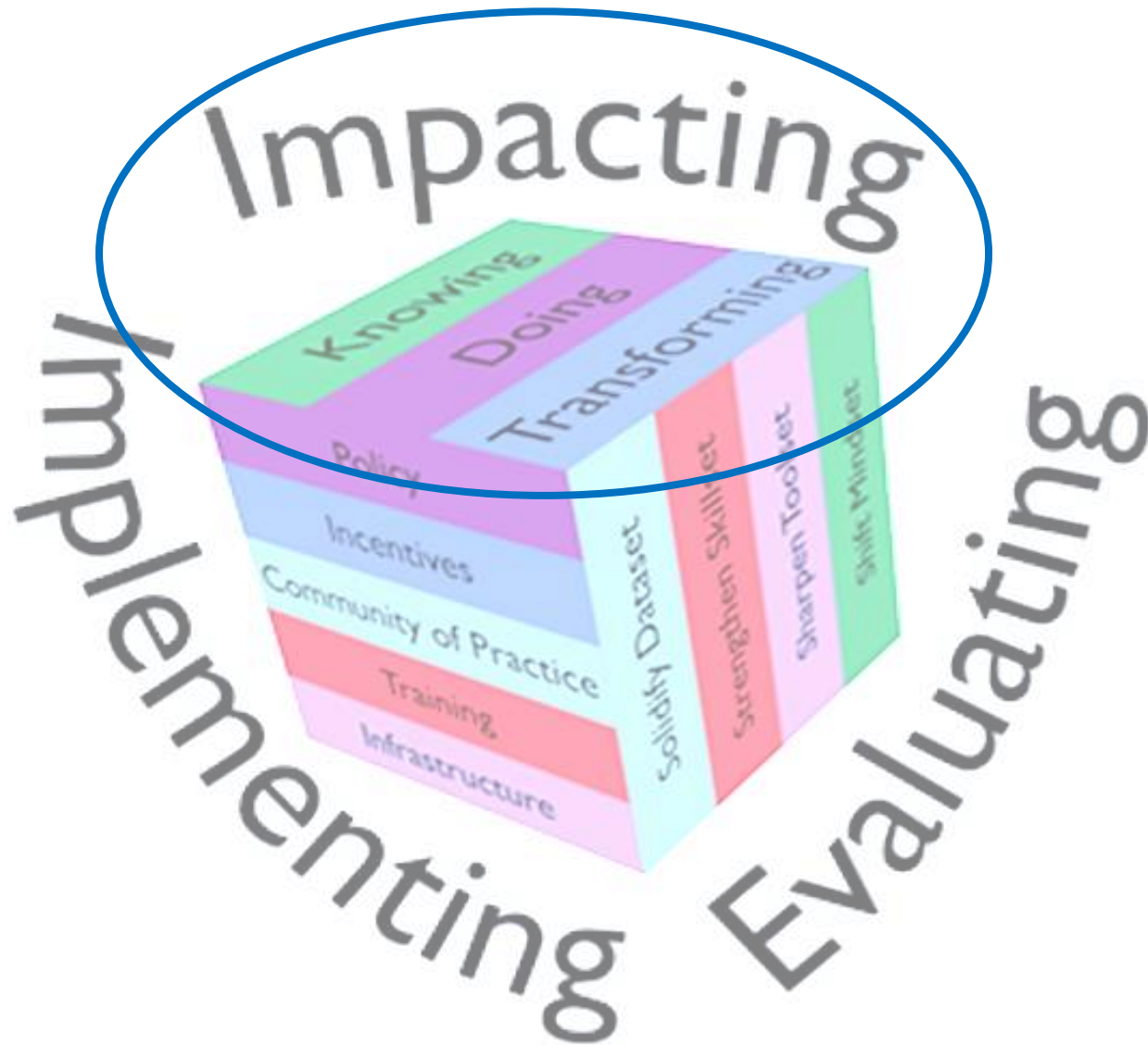


Knowing, Doing and Transforming

Supporting Student Success at DUT

Siyaphumelela Network 2.0 Conference

28 June 2023

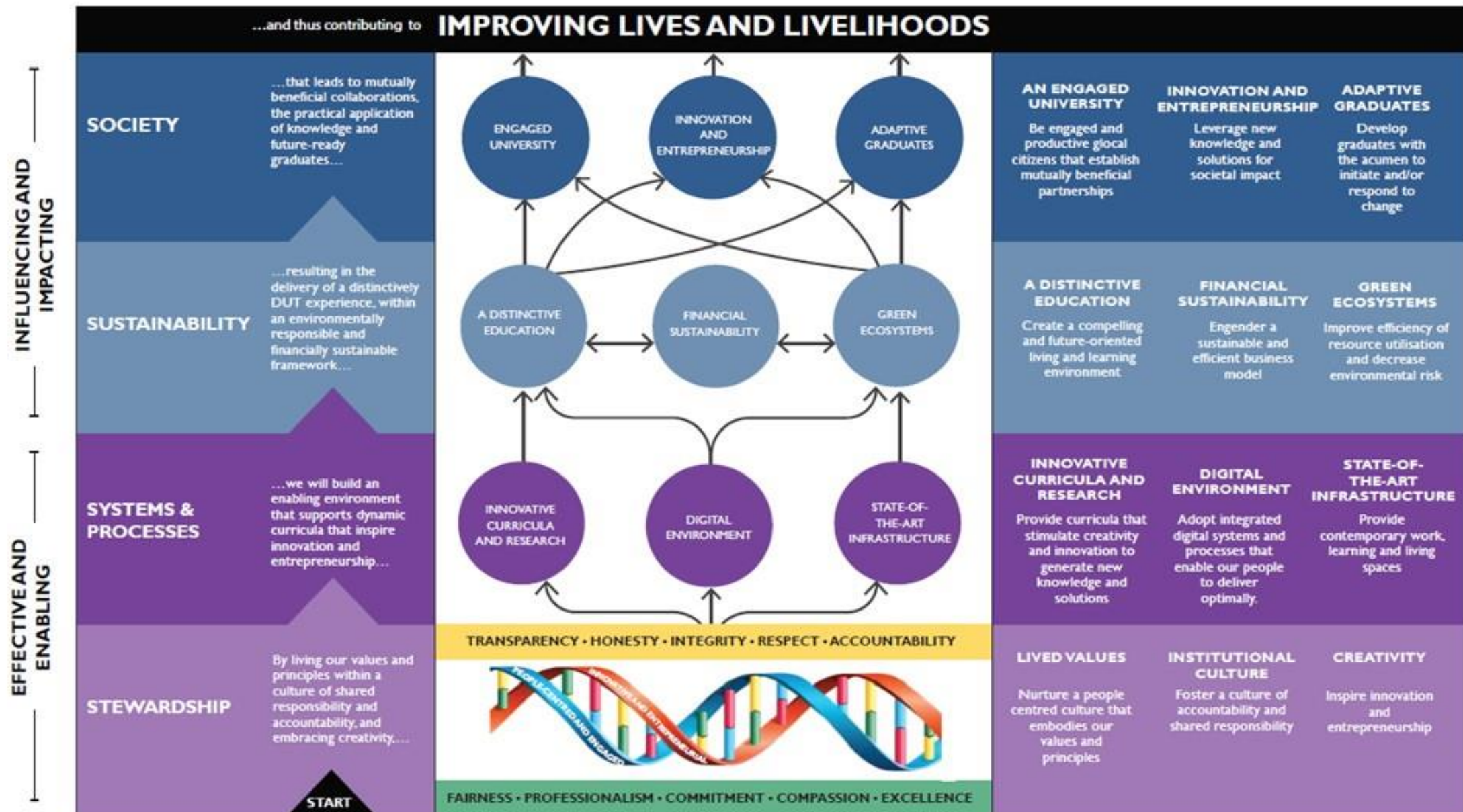


Siyaphumelela 1.0

Kresge Bonus Grant

- **Access** to data
- **Ability** to use data
- **Action:** Data-informed
- Making a **difference**

ENVISION 2030



Siyaphumelela 2.0

Biggest Student Success Challenges at DUT		Siyaphumelela 2.0 Focus Areas	
	Financial and Food Insecurity of our students	1	Sikusekele (Holistic Student Supports): integrating student support systems
	Disjointed University support systems and processes		
	Different levels of preparedness of students to become adaptive graduates and staff to engage with pedagogies that develop graduates with the acumen to initiate and/or respond to change	2	Hambisa (Moving the Middle): An integrated pedagogical approach to supporting Staff and Students
	Institutional Culture Change – Creating a data and evidence-led decision-making culture	3	Data Culture

KNOWING

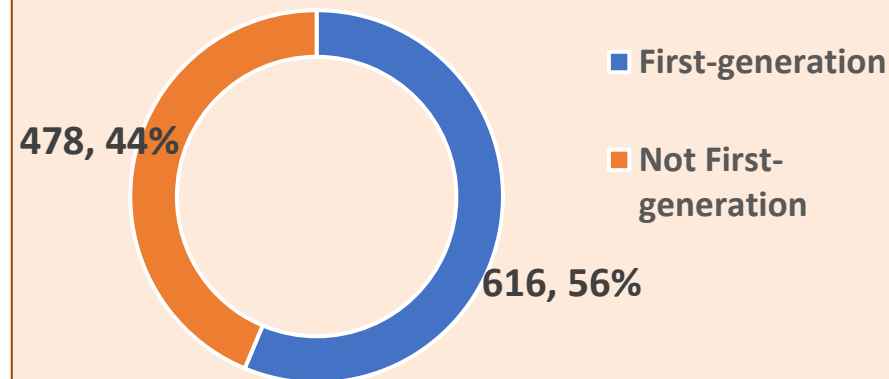
3% disclosed a disability
(but **4%** preferred not to respond)



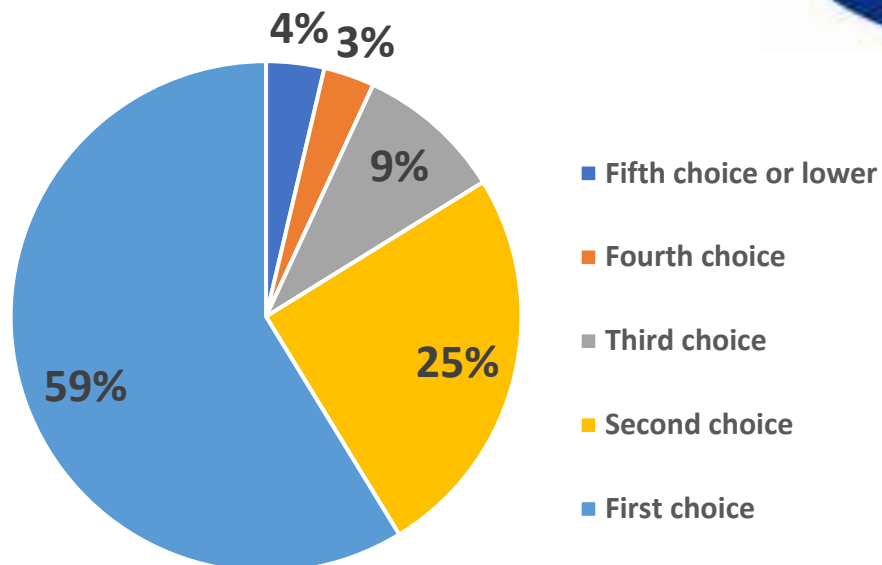
54%

Seldom engaged in numerical work during their last year at high school.

First-generation status



Institution of choice



TOP FIVE SOURCES OF HELP

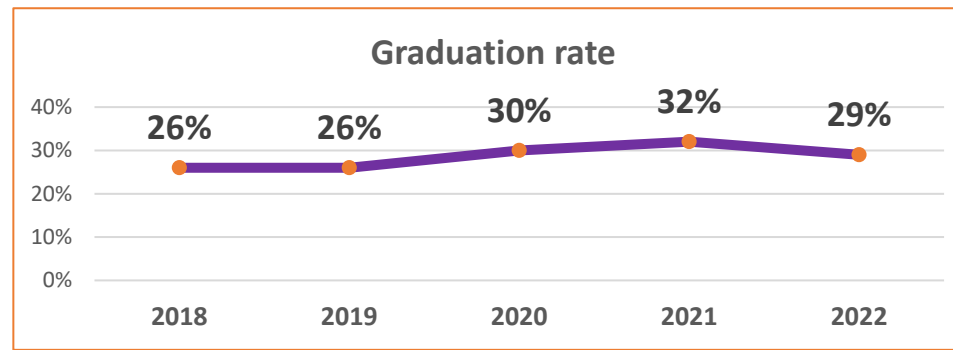
- ✓ Academic advisors
- ✓ Tutorials
- ✓ Counselling
- ✓ Health
- ✓ Financial aid office

42%

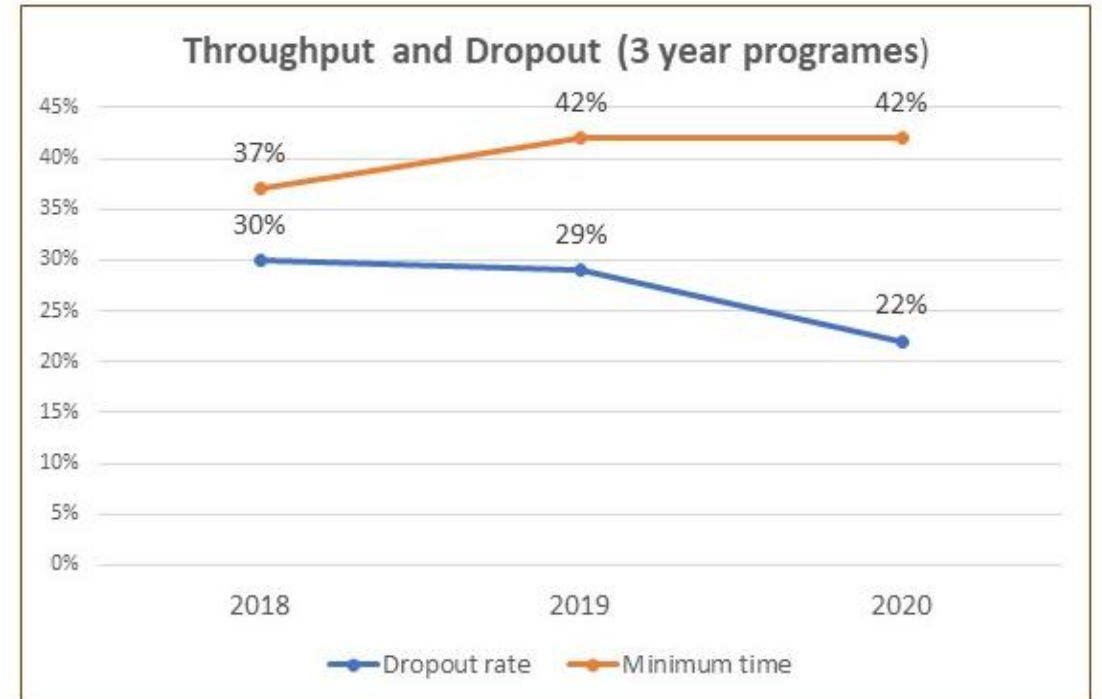
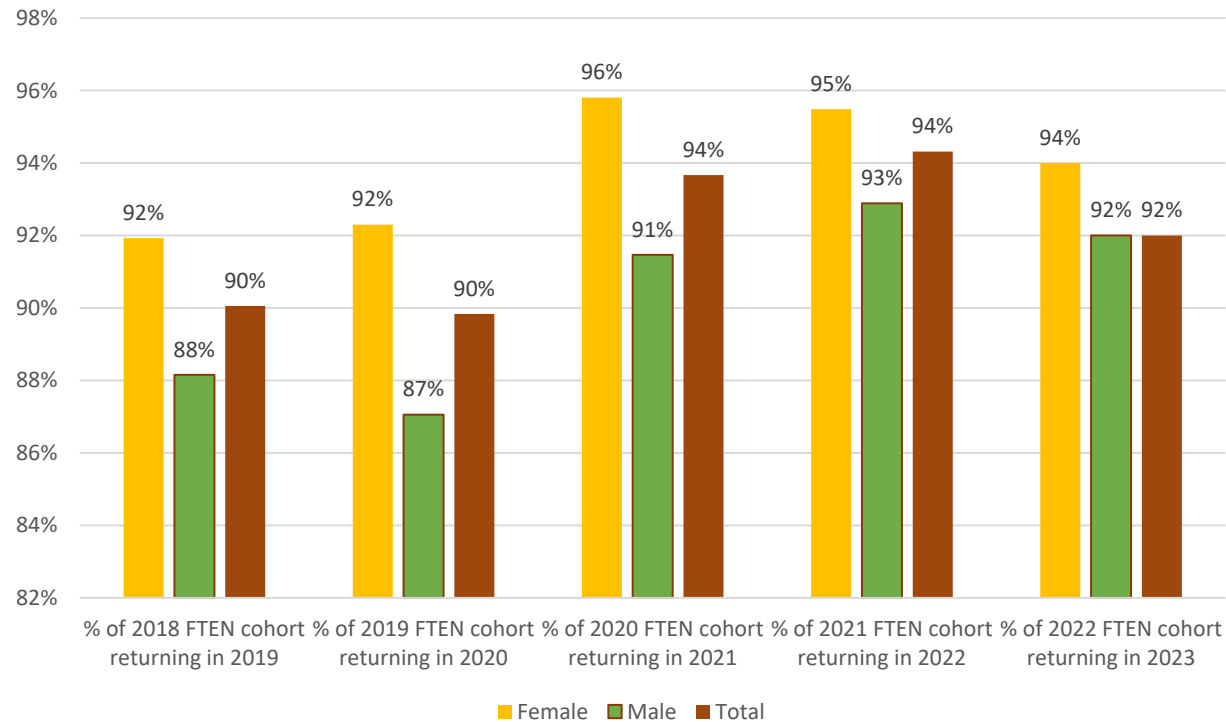
Programme of choice



KNOWING



Retention (3 & 4 year programmes)



Listening to our Student Voice



- ✓ Work-life balance is challenging
- ✓ Safety & security concerns
- ✓ Friendships & peer relationships matter
- ✓ Juggling finances
- ✓ Transport to/from campus is challenging
- ✓ Very happy with libraries (Indumiso)

KNOWING

Listening to our Student Voice



My Journey To University

• At the beginning of the year 2022 I was very happy because I had passed my matric, and made my parents proud. All was in order because my application to uni was a success and AIsas had already approved

• Maintaining money is also a big problem, because food is expensive and we also need new clothes so it can be kind of hard, but I can say that NSFuss needs to increase

• But I got an offer and I accepted it really quickly and it all fell into its rightful place because for me all the registrations were easier because I had gotten help from brother

• I started getting depressed but I wasn't going to get a uni.
• I relaxed my stress by tutoring grade 12 for economics, math 11 and 8-5

• Days passed, I started getting worried whether I will get into a university or not. My friends were also getting accepted to many and different universities, This made me feel pressured

• Now I can say that I have mixed emotions because of my academics and my relationships with my peers. I can say that I am currently juggling those two aspects in order to stay afloat

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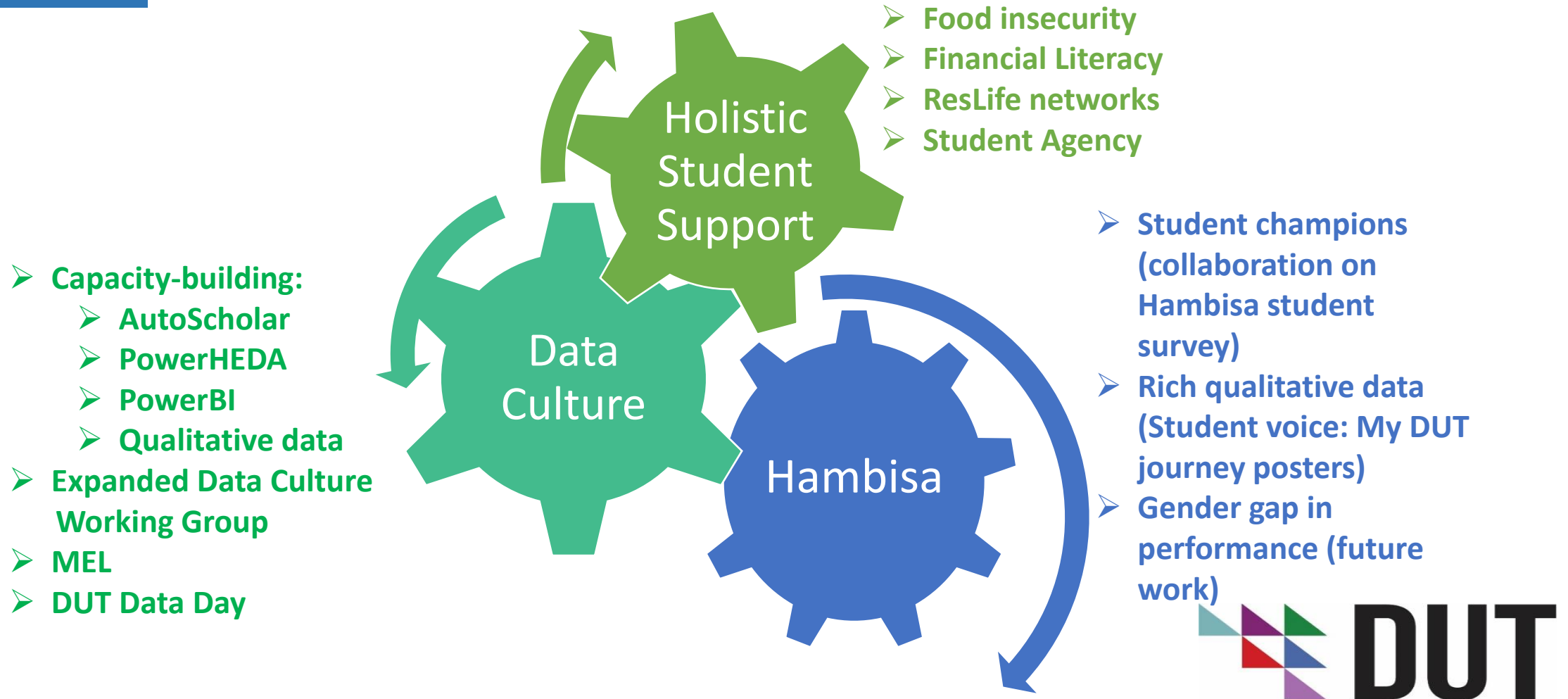
KNOWING

Listening to our Student Voice



DOING

Breaking silos & Building bridges



DOING

Holistic Support for student success



STUDENT COUNSELLING AND HEALTH

PROTOCOL FOR STUDENTS APPLYING FOR THE PHAKIMPILO PROGRAM

1. What is the Phakimpilo program?

Phakimpilo program strives to address student's uncertain or inadequate access to food due to financial constraints. Food security is phenomenon affecting a large number of South African households. DUT, as a microcosm of our larger society, is also impacted by this problem. Research has found that food insecurity is a growing concern within Higher Education institutions.

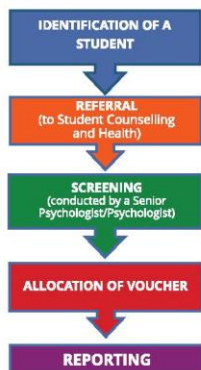
2. The Phakimpilo Program

This programme is housed at Student Counselling Centre. The program is a two-month interim program for students who have challenges accessing food.

3. What is the impact of Phakimpilo on DUT's students?



THE REFERRAL PROCESS



All students referred will be requested by Admin to submit the following documents for screening purposes. The documents will include:

- A motivation as to why you qualify for the program.
- Copy of ID.
- Copy of Student card.
- Proof of current registration.
- Documentation that proves you have no financial support, example: death certificate, grant, pension document or affidavit, no bursary etc.
- These documents will be accompanied by a client/information document form.

A referral can be defined as a process in which an individual (Employee at DUT or friend) at a one level of the system, having insufficient resources (food) to assist another individual (Student), seeks the assistance of a

Phakimpilo Food Security programme



- ✓ First-generation student;
- ✓ Cum laud graduate
- ✓ Advanced Diploma (Auditing)

- ✓ 237 students assisted (2020-2022)
- ✓ 59% female

Source: <https://www.dut.ac.za/being-part-of-the-dut-phakimpilo-programme-helped-fundama-achieve-his-cum-laude/>

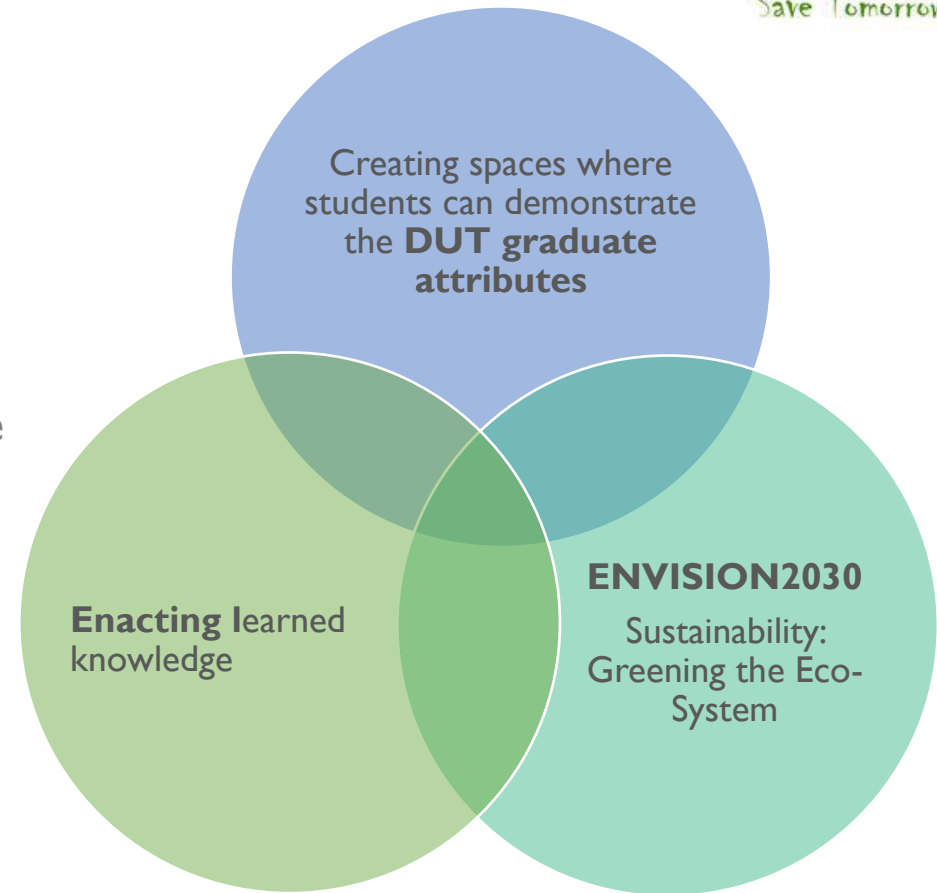
DOING

Student success beyond the classroom: Building Student Agency



One Residence One Garden (OROG)

- ✓ Student-led initiative, coordinated by the Green Campus Initiative (GCI).
- ✓ Students conceptualize innovative ideas on how to establish food gardens not bound by space, in both DUT owned and out-sourced residences.
- ✓ Gardens are established and managed by students in the respective residences with input from DUT staff (collaborative student-staff project)
- ✓ Key objective: to address food-insecurity experienced by students
- ✓ OROG was established and piloted in residences in July 2021 and has a presence on both the Durban and Midlands campuses.
- ✓ Currently: 105 OROG members; 58% female; 40% first-year students.



DOING

Student success beyond the classroom: OROG benefiting students

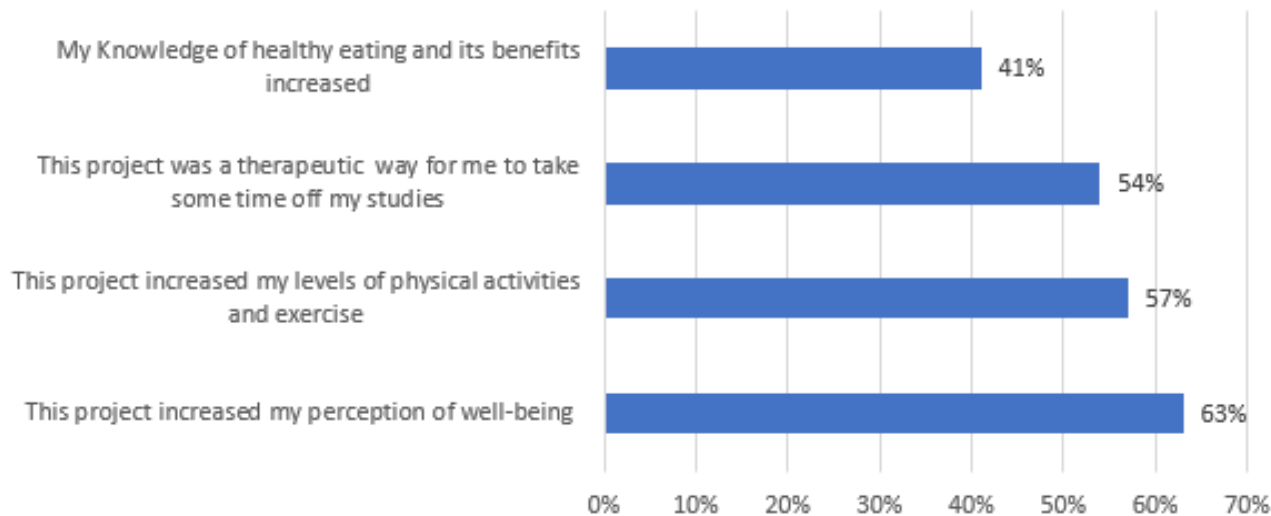


"I discovered how the world needs more people who are willing to volunteer and sustain the environment not only for us but for future use"

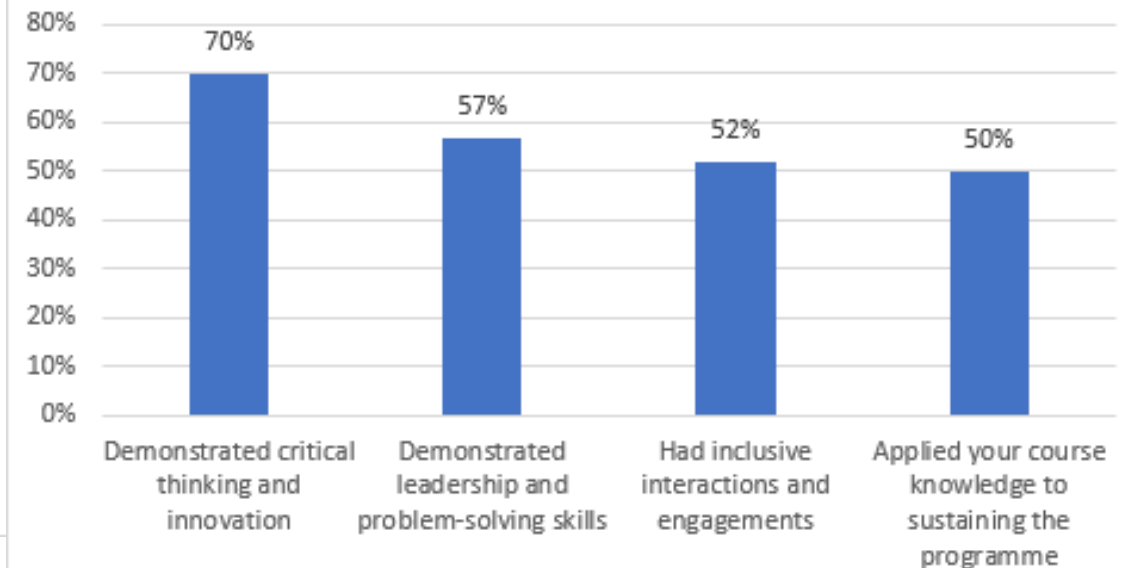
"I didn't know that there should be a sequence when planting, that you don't mix onions and cabbages in the same row and the spacing should be enough for them to grow without crowding each other"

"These gardens are a blessing to me, when I'm stressed, I will just take a watering can and just water the garden"

Impact on Mental and Physical wellbeing (% Strongly agree)



Developing DUT Graduate Attributes (% Always)

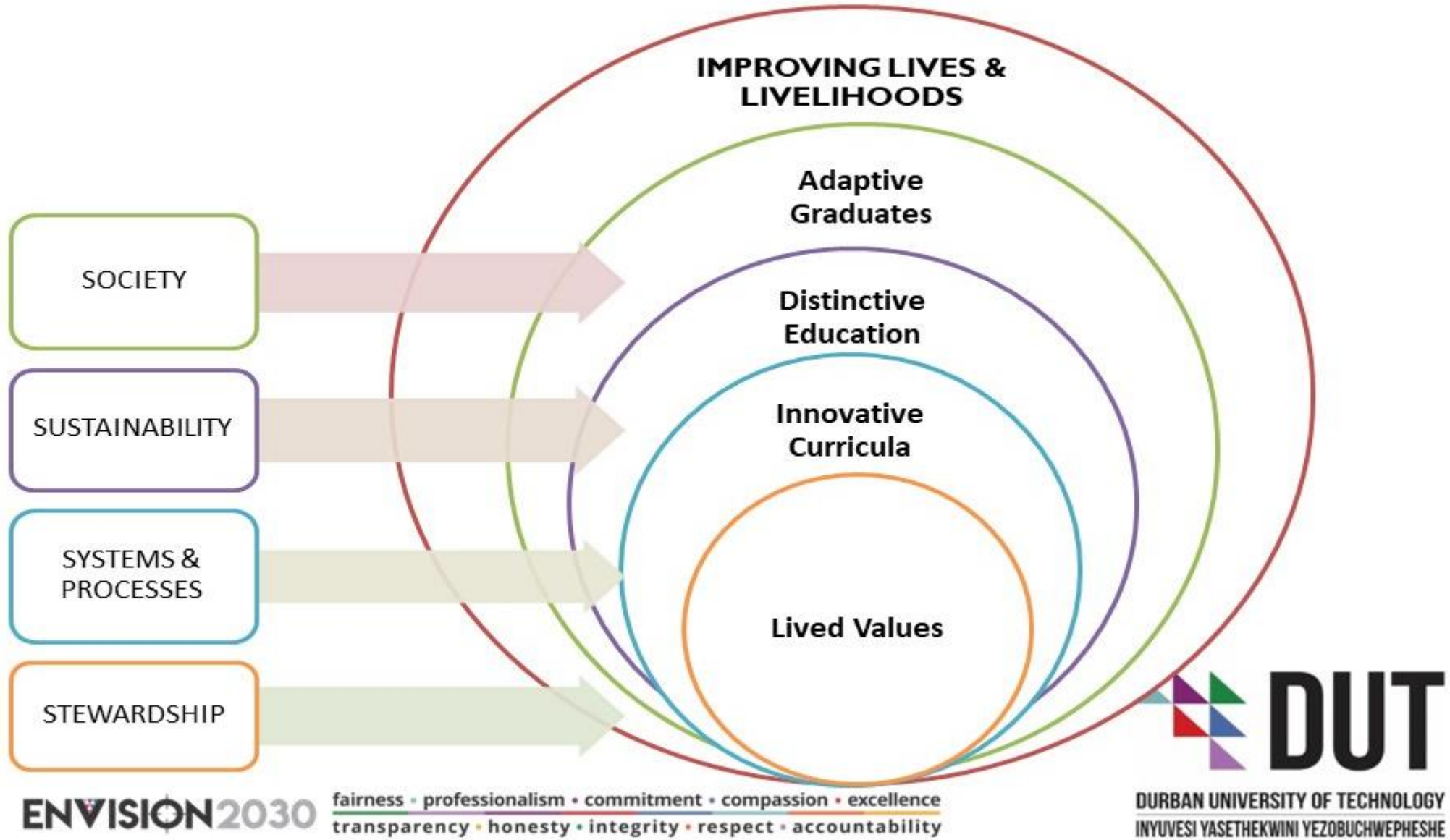


DOING

Student success beyond the classroom: Our next Big Project – DUT Recycling



DUT Philosophy of Education



Institutionalising Student Success

Our Policies

Greater M&E of T&L
support and other
Student support

E-Learning Policy under revision

Language Policy
being developed

Data Privacy Policy

Senate approval of
significant
curriculum revision
of Hambisa pilot
programme in FAD
(2022)

Disability Unit re-housed within
Student Counselling & Health

Collecting first-generation data at registration

Institutionalising Student Success

Our Structures

Student Success Task Team (SSTT)

- ✓ offers **strategic direction** on student success initiatives;
- ✓ creates and nurtures **working partnerships** between the project, constituent divisions, staff and students;
- ✓ creates a **facilitative environment** for the development and implementation of an impactful, coherent, transformative and sustainable **student success programme at DUT that aligns to the University strategy, ENVISION2030.**
- ✓ SSTT members are transformation agents in this process.

Institutionalising Student Success

Our Practices



TRANSFORMING

Institutionalising Student Success

Our Staff



TRANSFORMING

Institutionalising Student Success

Our Students



Faculty Student Reps at our June SSTT workshop

Students developing our HSS framework



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Institutionalising Student Success

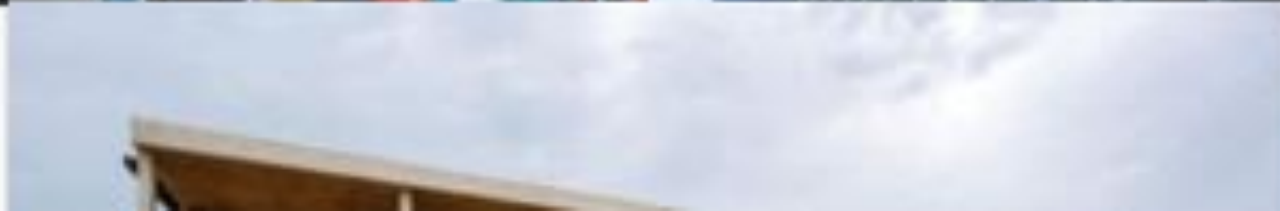
Our People (Staff AND Students)



“We do not just count the programmes we offer and the number of graduates we produce, but, amongst others, ‘the extent to which they participate productively in the economy’, as our statement of intent demands of us.”

Prof. TZ Mthembu, Vice-Chancellor DUT

THANK
YOU



NGIYABONGA