

NELSON MANDELA
UNIVERSITY

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Minds Leading Construction

Construction Management Student Society (CMSS) Newsletter No. 1, 2019

FIRST YEAR TEAM BUILDING
FOURTH YEAR TEAM BUILDING
PRESENTATION OF HARD HATS TO FIRST
YEARS
PRESENTATION OF GOLF-SHIRTS TO
FOURTH YEARS
FIRST ACADEMIA / INDUSTRY LIAISON
PRICE GIVING CEREMONY
GUEST LECTURE ON DRONES
COUNCIL AWARDS



EDITORS: KENECHUKWU ONYEKWULUJE AND
SIPHOKAZI MKONTWANA

First year team building



“Getting to know one another while having fun was the best part of the experience”

The 1st year team building was held on the 6 February 2019 at The Island. The purpose of the event was to enable the 1st years to get to know one another and work together as teams to perform various activities in order to ensure that they adapt to their new environment.

We spoke to one of the first-year students Sebatso Lepolesa about her experience and what she learnt during the team building event.

Please tell us about your experience in the team building event

My team building experience was fun and educational. The event helped me learn more about my classmates and work with them as a team. I really enjoyed myself with my colleagues and learnt some skills that I can acquire in my personal life and in the workplace.

What activities did you partake in?

We participated in various activities, which required team effort, which included the obstacle course, ladder activity and zip-lining.

What skills did you develop from the experience?

Planning: I learnt how to plan effectively as some activities needed us to plan thoroughly on how to execute them.

Teamwork: I learnt to work as a team, as some activities were impossible to do without full co-operation of all the team members.

Communication: I learnt how to communicate both verbally and non-verbally as the tasks needed all team mates to work through each obstacle together.

4th year team building



“Alone we can do so little: together we can do so much”- Helen Keller.

The 4th year team building was held on the 4 March 2019 at Bushpig Adventures. The purpose of the event was to enable the 4th years to work together as teams and perform various activities in order to enhance their skills as future construction managers. Mr Chris Allen the Head of Department (HOD) and Prof John Smallwood the Programme Director, Honours, accompanied the 4th years.

We spoke to Nwabisa Mphikwa, a 4th year student and she shared her experience with what she learned from it.

What was your experience at the team building event?

The team building was a wonderful and unforgettable experience. We got to spend time as a class and got to know one another on a personal level, while having fun throughout the course of the day. We were surrounded by beautiful nature and the staff at Bushpig Adventures were all great. The food was the best!

What kind of activities did you partake in?

The activities included, the amazing race, bridge building, cooking eggs, bivouac building, waterpipe challenge, and my personal favourite, the construction helmet relay.

What did you learn?

The key skills that I developed, include the following:

- Teamwork – a valuable skill that will assist me in the industry when working with different people from different backgrounds;
- Planning – this assisted us with completing challenges on time, effectively and efficiently with a minimum of mistakes, and
- Effective communication, communication, and more communication.

Presentation of hard hats to the 1st years



The CMSS committee met with the first years and presented hard hats to the students. The first years were excited about their journey towards becoming future construction managers and were looking forward to becoming members of the Construction Management Student Society.

Presentation of golf-shirts to the 4th years

James Beale, the Honours year class representative, thought it would be a good idea give his classmates a gift since it was their last year together. He approached PPS and they agreed to sponsor each student with a golf-shirt. A big thank you to PPS for giving the fourth years a gift to remember.



The first Academia / Industry liaison function



“Joining the CIOB will enable you to enhance your skills nationally and internationally as it creates a platform for networking and mentorship.”
Mrs. Petra Devereux

The function of the Construction Management Student Society (CMSS) is to create an environment where students have a unique opportunity to network with fellow students and key members of the construction industry through the liaisons and other activities that are organised throughout the year. The society's first academia / industry liaison was hosted on the 29 March 2019 at the New Engineering Building, North Campus, Nelson Mandela University. It commenced at 18:05 with the MC of the liaison, Rethabile Nkoe. The MC introduced the event and highlighted the

purpose of the event and further introduced the Head of Department of Construction Management, Mr. Chris Allen. He addressed the students and encouraged them to be active in the society and that they should be willing to take up leadership positions in order to develop their skills. Furthermore, he introduced the guest speaker Mrs. Petra Devereux, the Regional Manager of CIOB, Sub-Sahara Africa. Mrs. Devereux delivered a presentation on the importance of students joining the CIOB Novus and the benefits associated with becoming a member.

The second guest speaker introduced by the MC was Fikeveni Mthupha, CMSS 2016 Chairperson, CIOB Novus, Eastern Cape Representative. He addressed the skills he developed when he was involved in extracurricular activities and being a member of the CIOB. The event was closed with Prof John Smallwood, Professor Of Construction Management. He addressed the points raised by the students, summarised the overall event gave a vote of thanks to the guests for their presence, the committee for hosting the event, and the rest of the students present.

Price giving ceremony

The award ceremony was to recognise students for their outstanding achievements.

The following students received awards for their outstanding academic performance;

JAMES BEALE

Received the Deans award 2019, as he obtained the BSc (CS) degree Cum Laude, student with the highest mark in 3 years, Merit award BSc in Construction Studies, highest mark in Production Analysis 3, Building Science (Structures) 3, Building Science (Environment and Service) 3, and Construction Management 3.



ESTINA CHIPATO

Student with the highest mark over 4 years of studies, student with highest mark in BSc Hons (CM), Merit Award BSc Honours in Construction Management, highest mark in Construction Management 4, highest mark in Construction Management Treatise and highest mark in Project Management 4.

ISVILE RESHA

Student with the highest mark in Basic Surveying, Production Analysis 1, and Building Science (Structures) 1.

RETHABILE NKOE

Received the award for the student that has shown determination in maintaining good standards in his studies through difficult circumstances.

HUBNER VAN NIEKERK

Student with the highest mark in Production Analysis 2.

JOY MAZIBUKO

Student with the highest mark in Building Science (Materials and Methods) 4.

JOSHUA GILMORE

Student with the highest mark in Building Science (Structures) 2.

MIKETA MAGAGULA

Student with the highest mark in Professional Practice for Construction Management 4.

MIKATEKO MAHUMAMI

Student with the highest mark in Project Management 4.

Guest lecture on drones



“A man on a mission is far different from a drone on a deadline.”

*Rheta
Grimsley
Johnson*

The construction industry is rapidly growing and for this reason it has started to adopt the use of modern technologies to enable the enhancement of productivity, decrease complexity, and provide a healthy and safe work environment.

The guest lecture was presented on 16 May 2019 at the New Engineering building, North Campus. It commenced at 13:11 and the HOD, Mr Chris Allen introduced the guest speaker Mr Paul Mooney, from the Nelson Mandela University Advanced Mechatronic Technology Centre (AMTC). He addressed the current research his team ‘The

Drone Guys’ is embarking on to develop different types of drones performing unique functions. He is currently working on ensuring that the Nelson Mandela University gets certified to fly drones for its researchers and to offer a programme that would enable for instance, Mechanical Engineering students to conduct research on Artificial Intelligence (AI) towards drones.

He stated that the licence would be available for all departments in the Nelson Mandela University that want to partake in research with regards to drone technology. The current challenge faced with regards to

flying drone in South Africa is that they must be registered using the same processes that applies to flying aeroplanes which makes it difficult to obtain a license easily. Another challenge with regards to flying drones is that when it becomes faulty, it flies into any obstruction along its way as it is programmed to return to its original position. The lecture concluded with a vote of thanks by the Chairperson, Mr Re-thabile Nkoe.

Council awards

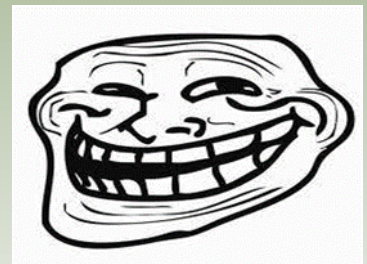


On Friday the 21 June, James received the council's award for the best degree in the Faculty of Engineering, the Built Environment and Information Technology (EBEIT) from the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Sibongile Muthwa. The award was for his BSc Construction Studies degree, which was awarded Cum Laude in 2018,

obtaining an average mark of 92.1% for his 3rd year major modules, Construction Management 3, Building Science (Structures; Environment & Services; Materials & Methods); Production Analysis, and Building Economics and an overall weighted average of 84.3% over 3 years of studies.



Just Jokes...



An Englishman, an Irishman and a Scotsman each placed a bid for a big government construction job.

"I'll do it for 30 million," said the Englishman. "How is that figure broken down?" asked the civil servant in charge of the scheme. "10 million for the labour, 10 million for the materials and 10 million for me," said the Englishman.

The Irishman was called in next and said, "I'll do the job for 60 million. That's 20 million for the labour, 20 million for the materials and 20 million for me."

"Right," said the Scotsman who found out the Englishman's bid. "My bid is for 90 million. That's 30 million for you, 30 million for me, and we'll give the other 30 million to the Englishman to do the job."

A man always works 3rd shift in construction

A man always works 3rd shift in construction. He comes home around 3am climbs 3 floors to his apartment and

gets in, tired from work. Due to habit he slams his left boot, then his right to get the mud and dust off. Then he carefully removes the boots, changes and falls asleep tired. Unfortunately, the neighbours all hear the boot noise, and one of them asked the man to no longer do it.

The next day he comes home around 3am, climbs 3 floors to his apartment and gets in, tired from work. Due to habit he slams his left boot, then remembered about the noise, and carefully removes the right one. He then changes and falls asleep tired.

In the afternoon he meets the neighbour again, and noticed he has puffy eyes. The neighbour, very frustrated said: "We were all waiting for you to slam the other boot so we can go back to sleep!"

