



higher education
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REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



WATERBERG
TVET COLLEGE
Together ensuring success

THE JOURNAL



sumsung 5G khoza

Waterberg TVET College Hosts LO Educator Workshop to Promote Vocational Training

Waterberg TVET College proudly hosted a **Life Orientation (LO) Educator Workshop at its state-of-the-art Engineering and Skills Training Centre** to strengthen the promotion of vocational training and skills development.

Bringing together LO educators from local schools, the workshop highlighted the vital role of TVET colleges in preparing students for the changing job market. Facilitator **Mr. Bonginkosi Dladlama** (University of Limpopo) delivered a powerful message on making TVET colleges an **institution of first choice**, not just an alternative, to help tackle youth unemployment and drive economic growth.

A core aim of the workshop was to inspire LO educators to actively guide their learners toward skills-based career paths aligned with South Africa's priority growth sectors. By doing so, educators can help ensure that students are prepared for sustainable employment opportunities and equipped to thrive in the modern workforce.

The event concluded with an immersive tour of the Engineering and Skills Training Centre, giving educators a first-hand look at cutting-edge facilities and real-world training in action. This experience highlighted the need to embed vocational training information into LO curricula so learners can make informed career choices.

College representatives showcased exciting opportunities in Engineering, Robotics, Electrical Engineering, and artisanal trades. Educators saw first-hand how practical training and updated curricula meet industry needs and equip students with work-ready skills.

A tour of the Centre's modern facilities inspired educators to guide learners toward skills-based careers that support South Africa's economic growth. The session reinforced how LO teachers can shape well-informed career choices and shift mindsets about the value of vocational education.



Left Picture: Life Orientation Educators in the Lepelle-Nkumpi Municipality who attended the BankSETA workshop Middle picture” Right picture: Mr. B Dladlama facilitating the workshop Mr. Mashele with educators during the workshop tour.

LIMPOPO REGIONAL COUNCIL INDUCTION



Waterberg TVET College council members attended the Council Induction that took place at Vhembe TVET College on 18 & 19 June 2025. Limpopo Regional Council Induction, is a significant gathering that brings together representatives from all seven TVET colleges in the Limpopo Province. This annual induction plays a vital role in preparing council members to execute their governance and oversight responsibilities with confidence, integrity, and a shared sense of purpose.

Council members were taken through key topics that enhance strategic leadership, accountability, and effective governance within the TVET sector. As

representatives of their respective institutions, attendees were encouraged to actively

participate, exchange knowledge, and build collaborative relationships that will support

collective progress across the province.

Council members engaged in insightful discussions centered on improving institutional effectiveness. The conversations focused on innovation, leadership excellence, and strategies to elevate teaching, learning, and governance in all Limpopo TVET colleges.



Picture: Council Deputy Chairperson Mr. MD Masemene and Council Chairperson Ms. MA Serote during the Regional Council Induction.

Waterberg TVET College Welcomes Canadian Partners for 4th SASTEP Dis-

Waterberg TVET College is pleased to welcome representatives from the Canadian thematic partners on Effective Partnerships as they kick off the 4th South African Skills and Training Enhancement Program (SASTEP) discussions.

This collaborative initiative, led by a consortium of Canadian institutions—primarily Mohawk College and the College of the North Atlantic—aims to foster sustainable, mutually beneficial collaborations with organizations and educational institutions worldwide.

The partnership's goal is to equip students for the global workforce, promote cultural exchange, and develop joint programs that offer international learning opportunities. By working together, these institutions address global challenges and contribute to community development through shared expertise and resources.



College Management and representative from SASTEP

Waterberg TVET College Opens Doors for Skilled Workers Through Artisan Recognition of Prior Learning (ARPL)



In a progressive move to empower skilled individuals without formal qualifications, Waterberg TVET College has launched an exciting opportunity through the Artisan Recognition of Prior Learning (ARPL) programme. This initiative aims to transform lives by turning practical experience into formal recognition.

The ARPL process in South Africa is a national strategy to identify and certify the competencies of people who have gained their skills informally or through hands-on work, especially in the trades sector. Instead of starting from scratch in a traditional training programme, ARPL allows candidates to demonstrate their existing skills, fast-tracking their path to becoming qualified artisans.

Waterberg TVET College is proud to announce that it is offering ARPL opportunities to ten skilled individuals in the Diesel Mechanic Trade. Eligible candidates—whether employed or unemployed—must have at least three years of practical experience working on vehicles. This opportunity recognizes those who have gained valuable expertise in workshops, garages, or on the job without ever receiving a formal qualification.

“This initiative speaks directly to our mission to provide quality, market-responsive training and expand access to vocational education and technical skills,” the College stated. “We recognise that many South Africans are highly skilled but have not had the chance to formalise their training. ARPL offers them a second chance.”

Successful candidates will undergo a thorough process including skills assessment, targeted gap training if needed, and a final trade test. This leads to a nationally recognized artisan qualification—opening doors to better job prospects, higher earning potential, and the formal recognition that hard-working individuals deserve.



Waterberg TVET College continues to champion education, empowerment, and equity—ensuring that no skill goes unrecognized.

WATERBERG ALUMNI CONNECTIONS “Rooted Here, Connected Everywhere”

From Shy Student to WorldSkills Champion: A Journey of Growth and Opportunity

Graduation Year: 2022 (Class of 2021)

Programme: Hospitality

Campus: Waterberg TVET College – IT& Computer Science Centre (Hotel School)

Current Position: Apprenticeship at Peermont Khoroni Hotel



For Chef Daivy Ramphele, college was the start of an unexpected journey. When she applied in 2019, her first choice was Primary Agriculture and her second was Hospitality – a decision that opened doors she never imagined.

“Starting college felt like stepping into a whole new world,” she says. Initially shy and reserved, she was introduced to the WorldSkills competition by Mr. Maluleke and Pam Chuene – a turning point that changed her life.

Her dedication and talent earned her impressive titles:

WorldSkills Africa 2022 Silver Medalist (2nd place) – Namibia

WorldSkills South Africa Champion – Gold Medal (1st place) – Durban

WorldSkills International – Position 19 – Switzerland

Best of Nation, representing South Africa at the WorldSkills International Special Edition 2022

After an internship at Waterberg TVET College in 2023, she is now gaining real-world experience through an apprenticeship at Peermont Khoroni Hotel.

Reflecting on her time at college, Daivy says: “Food Preparation taught me creativity and understanding food, while Hospitality Services helped me network and grow.”



Chef Daivy's advice for current and future students is simple yet powerful:

“Keep learning new things. Don't limit yourself – grow your knowledge to understand yourself and others better. If

Chef Daivy Competing during the International WorldSkills Competition in Switzerland

LIMPOPO TVET COLLEGES AND CET MANDELA DAY CELEBRATION

Capricorn TVET College in partnership with the Department of Social Development, Limpopo

TVET Colleges and CET is hosted the 2025 Regional Mandela Day in Ramokgopa where various

activities took place throughout the day to give back to the Ramokgopa community.

In the spirit of Nelson Mandela's legacy, activities such as renovating the Disability Protective Workshop, cleaning, painting and handing over gifts to Botlokwa Special School learners. Staff members from Limpopo TVET Colleges were at the Disability Protective Workshop actively embodying Nelson Mandela's 67 minutes utilizing their various expertise in the refurbishment of the Disability Protective Workshop. Each college made meaningful contributions in line with their area of expertise, truly living the spirit of Mandela Day.

"This initiative is an investment of dignity and inclusivity as the College intends to strengthen the relationship between the Limpopo TVET Colleges and the beneficiaries of the Botlokwa Special School and the Disability Protective Workshop so we can uplift our communities further", explains Capricorn TVET College Principal, Mr. Lekau Mamabolo in explaining the purpose of the day.



Waterberg TVET College contributed the following items: Chickens, seedlings, stoves, scones, kitchen cutlery and utensils.

Waterberg TVET College Recognizes Outstanding Lecturers and Campuses



Mrs. KR Dipela awarding Mr. J Rataba his award for the best lecture in

Waterberg TVET College recently held a prestigious award ceremony to celebrate the dedication and excellence of its lecturers. The event honored educators who achieved outstanding subject averages between 70% and 100% in 2024. These lecturers demonstrated exceptional commitment to academic excellence, contributing to the overall success of the institution and its students.

In addition to recognizing academic achievements, the college also awarded lecturers who actively participated in Work-Based Exposure programs. These initiatives play a crucial role in equipping students with practical industry experience, bridging the gap between theoretical knowledge and real-world application. By engaging in such programs, lecturers have significantly enhanced students' employability and preparedness for the workforce.



Mr. Baloyi P and lecturers receiving the best campus award on behalf of Thabazimbi Campus

A major highlight of the ceremony was the recognition of Thabazimbi Campus as the best-performing campus for the second consecutive year. This achievement reflects the campus's dedication to academic excellence, innovative teaching strategies, and student success. The continued success of Thabazimbi Campus serves as an inspiration to other campuses within the institution.

The award ceremony underscored Waterberg TVET College's commitment to fostering a culture of excellence and continuous improvement. By acknowledging the hard work of lecturers and campuses, the college aims to motivate lecturers to strive for even greater success, ultimately benefiting students and the broader community.

As Waterberg TVET College continues to prioritize quality education and practical training, such initiatives reinforce its position as a leading institution in technical and vocational education. The college remains dedicated to empowering students through skilled and committed lecturers, ensuring a bright future for all involved.



Mrs. KR Dipela awarding Ms. NG Sibisi the award for the best lecture in



Waterberg TVET College Celebrates Academic Excellence

Waterberg TVET College recently held its 2024 Graduation Ceremony, celebrating the outstanding achievements of students who have successfully completed various programs offered at Waterberg TVET College. The event, filled with pride and inspiration, showcased the College's ongoing commitment to equipping young individuals with practical skills and academic excellence.

This year, a total of 247 graduates proudly took to the stage, marking a significant milestone in their educational journeys. The graduates hailed from diverse fields of study, including:

Graduate: Moloto Chabedi

- 46 recipients of the National Certificate in Wholesale & Retail Operations
- 67 recipients of the Further Education and Training Certificate in Early Childhood Development RPL (Recognition of Prior Learning)
- 134 recipients of National Diplomas

Each qualification symbolizes not only years of hard work and dedication but also the College's mission to produce skilled, employable, and innovative graduates who will make meaningful contributions to their communities and the national economy. In

addition to diploma and certificate graduates, the College recognized its 419 NCV graduates, who collectively achieved an impressive 163 distinctions. These exceptional results reflect Waterberg TVET College's culture of excellence and commitment to high-quality teaching and learning.

Waterberg TVET College continues to excel on both provincial and national stages, ranking #1 in Limpopo Province and 4th nationally among TVET colleges. This remarkable performance is a testament to the dedication of its leadership, the unwavering efforts of its staff, and the determination of its students to thrive despite challenges.

During the ceremonies, College Principal Mrs. KR Dipela praised the graduates for their perseverance and encouraged them to seize opportunities beyond the classroom. "Your qualifications are not just certificates – they are stepping stones toward your future careers and your role in shaping a better South Africa," she remarked.

As the graduates embark on their next adventures – whether entering the workforce, pursuing entrepreneurship, or continuing their education – they carry forward the proud legacy of Waterberg TVET College:

Excellence, Empowerment, and Growth.



Celebrating Open Day Success at Waterberg TVET



Grade 9 learners from the Capricorn South District

Waterberg TVET College proudly hosted a vibrant and inspiring Open Day at its Engineering and Skills Training Centre in Lebowakgomo, warmly welcoming eager Grade 9 learners from various high schools in the Capricorn South District. This event provided a fantastic opportunity for young minds to discover the wide range of study options, practical training facilities, and career paths available at the College.

The day was crafted to introduce learners to the realm of technical and vocational education, aiding them in making informed choices about their future studies. Attendees toured the College's state-of-the-art workshops and modern computer labs, experiencing first-hand the hands-on, industry-relevant training that Waterberg TVET College is celebrated for.

Dedicated staff members and lecturers were present to guide learners through the different campuses and program offerings, which included Engineering, Business Studies, Robotics, Primary Agriculture, Hospitality, Information Technology, and much more. The event also showcased how TVET education paves genuine pathways to employment, entrepreneurship, and further education.



Grade 9 learners and their educators, who visited the Automotive workshop.

During the event, representatives from the College emphasized the significance of equipping young individuals with essential skills for the economy of the future. _ "Our aim is to inspire learners to recognize the value of technical and vocational careers. At Waterberg TVET College, we are dedicated to cultivating a skilled, confident, and employable youth," _ Centre Manager Mr. Malatjie LG said.



The College extends heartfelt gratitude to all the learners, teachers, and staff members who played a role in making this day a tremendous success. Their involvement and enthusiasm transformed the event into not only an educational experience but also a truly memorable one.



Waterberg TVET College Congratulates Students

Waterberg TVET College management extends its heartfelt congratulations to the twelve (12) talented students who represented the College with pride and excellence at the WorldSkills South Africa Provincial Competition, held recently in Phalaborwa.

The competition brought together the best young talents from TVET Colleges across the province, showcasing their technical skills, creativity, and problem-solving abilities in various occupational fields. Waterberg TVET College was proudly represented in Mobile Robotics, IT Network Systems Administration, IT Business Solutions, Cooking, and Bakery.

The College commends all participating students for their dedication, hard work, and commitment to excellence. Their participation not only highlights their individual skills and determination but also reflects the College's ongoing efforts to provide quality education and hands on training aligned with industry standards.

Management further applauds the lecturers and mentors who supported and guided the students throughout their preparation and competition journey. Their continuous dedication plays a vital role in nurturing skilled professionals who can contribute meaningfully to South Africa's economy.

Congratulations to our champions—you have made the Waterberg TVET College community proud!



Picture: WorldSkills participants and college management, Participants showing their skills during the WorldSkills competition in baking and Mobile Robotics.

Empowering Lecturers Through Occupational 'Train the Trainer'

In a significant step towards strengthening the quality of vocational education, Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) lecturers participated in an intensive five-day occupational training programme at Waterberg TVET College's Hotel School in Mokopane. The training focuses on the Chef occupational qualification, equipping lecturers with up-to-date industry-relevant skills and teaching methodologies.



For TVET colleges to deliver on their mandate of producing work-ready graduates, it is vital that lecturers are well-prepared in both theoretical frameworks and practical applications.

This is especially important as the education sector transitions towards occupational qualifications that demand a greater alignment between classroom learning and workplace demands.



The initiative underscores the crucial collaboration between TVET colleges, the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET), and the Quality Council for Trades and Occupations (QCTO). By working together, they ensure that lecturers from colleges which have already rolled out this qualification—and those preparing to do so—receive the necessary training and support.

Such programmes are instrumental in upskilling lecturers, who in turn can confidently transfer current, practical knowledge to their students. Ultimately, this effort contributes to the national goal of producing competent artisans and professionals who can actively contribute to South Africa's economic growth.

Lecturer excellence PHD Graduates

A Journey I Never Imagined, but One Worth Every Step

Becoming **Dr Mabasa, Engetani Lucia** was a transformative journey that began in 2022—one that profoundly shaped both my personal and professional growth. Over three demanding years, I balanced my role as an English lecturer with doctoral studies in Media Studies, navigating long hours, moments of self-doubt, and sustained perseverance. The journey was entirely self-funded, which required unwavering commitment and discipline at every stage.



My PhD in Media Studies has significantly strengthened my work as an English lecturer at a TVET College. It enables me to teach language in ways that are practical, relevant, and responsive to workplace and industry needs. The qualification has sharpened my critical reading, writing, and analytical skills, allowing me to better support students with academic writing, communication, and comprehension across vocational contexts.

By integrating media texts such as news, advertising, and digital content into my teaching, I help students understand how English operates in real-world and professional environments. Most importantly, this academic journey has enhanced my confidence and ability to mentor diverse TVET students effectively, preparing them for both employment and further studies.

The journey was challenging, but it was worth every step.

DR MH Marakalala - Advancing Safety and Policing in the College Environment



MH Marakalala holds a PhD in Policing from Tshwane University of Technology and is passionate about promoting safety, discipline, and professional excellence within the college environment. His academic background is rooted in the belief that understanding crime is essential to preventing it. His studies focused on key areas of policing, including crime investigation, modus operandi, theoretical explanations, and crime prevention strategies.

His doctoral research was conducted at Waterberg TVET College, with a specific focus on the Mahwelereng Campus. The study explored student violent behavior, including protests, class disruptions, and the intimidation of fellow students and staff. Using qualitative research methods, he engaged directly with students and staff through in-depth interviews to better understand their lived experiences, emotions, and perceptions of violence within the learning environment.

The motivation behind this research was to strengthen the practical relevance of policing within educational institutions and to contribute meaningfully to the college sector. As a lecturer in Safety in Society, MH Marakalala believes that educators must be well-equipped with relevant skills, knowledge, and professional dedication to effectively address modern challenges facing campuses today.

Through his studies, MH Marakalala gained not only advanced academic knowledge, but also personal growth in resilience, self-discipline, and time management. His work continues to inspire a culture of professionalism, safety, and continuous learning within the college community.

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