



Stellenbosch

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sonke siya phambili
saam vorentoe

First-year Achievement Awards

Eerstejaarsprestasietoekennings

**liMbasa zokuWonga iMpumelelo
yaBafundi boNyaka wokuqala**

**FOR THE 2023 ACADEMIC YEAR
PRESENTED ON 20 MARCH 2024**

Top Achieving First-Year Students 2023

Ahmed Khaki	Elsje-mari Louw	Mogammad Sauls
Aldrich Rossouw	Gilah Kellner	Nadia Botha
Alexandra Dames	Gregory van Selm	Paul Roos
Anke Scheffer	Julliette Roux	Peter-Ivan Mitrovich
Anna Smit	Kenneth Janson	Rachel Cochrane
Annika van der Walt	Kian Claassen	Samuel Johnson
Carl van Rooyen	Lars Penzhorn	Samuel Leggatt
Christian Kotze	Leo Mackenzie	Sandhya Naidoo
Cornél van Lill	Luka Joubert	Sebastian Ridge
Danielle Boshoff	Margaret Lourens	Simone Louw
Darren Dube	Mickayla Manuel	Tamsin Hofmeester



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Nominated Lecturers 2023

Annine Schultz	Gareth Boxall	Lynn Chambers
Armand du Plessis	Hans Strijdom	Marcus Joubert
Bradley Slade	Hardus Diedericks	Monica Matthews
Carine Terreblanche	Hermann Swart	Nika van der Merwe
Christine Steenkamp	Isabel dos Santos	Pieter Gouws
Clive Coetzee	Jerome Fredericks	Tess Lubbe
Dirk Basson	JJ van Zyl	Sharon Malan
Ebrahiem Botha	Karin-Therese Howell	Suzanne Martens
Francois Smit	Lerato Melato	
Gareth Arnott	Lesley Wessels	



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Gilah Kellner
Arts & Social Sciences



Cornél van Lill
Arts & Social Sciences



Peter-Ivan Mitrovich
Arts & Social Sciences



Dr Suzanne Martens
Arts & Social Sciences



Dr Isabel dos Santos
Arts & Social Sciences



Ms Carine Terreblanche
Arts & Social Sciences



Nadia Botha
Arts & Social Sciences



Rachael Cochrane
Arts & Social Sciences



Alexandra Dames
Arts & Social Sciences



Ms Nika van der Merwe
Arts & Social Sciences



Prof. Hermann Swart
Arts & Social Sciences

Excerpts from student letters to lecturers



“My mindset changed in large part due to your teaching style; your insistence on helping us develop intuition for each new topic allowed me to redevelop an appreciation of pure maths, as well as strive to properly understand what I was being taught.”

“You always motivated us as a class to do and try our best. You reminded us that mistakes are okay and that we need to make them to learn. You provided constructive feedback and encouraged us to improve.”

Excerpts from lecturer letters to students



“Being part of a learning institution where striving for excellence is encouraged, supported and acknowledged is certainly conducive to this process. But a challenge that faces most lecturers teaching first years, is that real learning can only take place once the learner takes responsibility for and actively engages in the learning process.”

“... talent alone does not guarantee success, it must be underpinned by a sterling work ethic and unwavering dedication. Discipline, humility, as well as a positive mindset will always be the key factors in securing future success.”



Anke Scheffer

Education



Margaret Lourens

Education



Sandhya Naidoo

AgriSciences



Ms Lynn Chambers

Education



Ms Annine Schultz

Education



Prof. Pieter Gouws

AgriSciences



Anna Smit

Economic & Management Sciences



Kenneth Janson

Economic & Management Sciences



Luka Joubert

Economic & Management Sciences



Dr Lesley Wessels

Science



Prof. Gareth Boxall

Science



Ms Tess Lubbe

Economic & Management Sciences

Excerpts from student letters to lecturers



“Furthermore, your enthusiasm for professional growth and ongoing improvement acts as a continual reminder of the value of lifelong learning. Through your commitment to staying up to date with the most recent research and best practices in teaching, I am motivated to approach my own growth and development. You have inspired me to constantly look for new opportunities to grow and to push the limits of my own ability by the example of your leadership.”

“My hunger to learn grew and drove me to learn eagerly and with genuine enjoyment in doing so.”

Excerpts from lecturer letters to students



“The first year at university is a time of tremendous change and growth. It is the first step to adulthood and autonomy. With that comes freedom and responsibility. The world is your oyster, but each choice you make comes with a price tag. But there is an upside. The lessons it offers are lifelong. One learns to struggle, ask for help, feel despondent and try again, and most of all, there does not always need to be a memo! There is wisdom in this for life too.”

“Just as I learn so much from my students each year, the students in your class one day will be the richest source of your learning.”



Anna van der Walt
Economic & Management Sciences



Darren Dube
Economic & Management Sciences



Leo Mackenzie
Economic & Management Sciences



Ms Lerato Melato
Law



Prof. Karin-Therese Howell
Science



Dr Sharon Malan
Economic & Management Sciences



Samuel Leggatt

Economic & Management Sciences



Aldrich Rossouw

Economic & Management Sciences



Larz Penzhorn

Economic & Management Sciences



Ms Monica Matthews

Economic & Management Sciences

Excerpts from student letters to lecturers



“Your approachability and willingness to offer guidance both inside and outside the classroom have been invaluable to me, especially during moments of academic uncertainty.”

“Your lecture style is energizing and humorous, and your passion for the content, as well as the teaching thereof, is clear. The clarity with which you present complex concepts, coupled with your efforts to ensure they are accessible and not overwhelming is invaluable, and I know many other students also appreciate this.”

Excerpts from lecturer letters to students



“Life is not a ‘Big Bang’ theory or a string of incredible successes. It is always a series of ups and downs, triumphs and failures. You may be successful if your triumphs outnumber your failures. But to be successful, you must experience and learn from your failures ...The more you know, the better equipped you will be to tackle all the obstacles you meet on your way to reaching your goals.”

“If I can encourage you in one thing ... help others understand what you have understood. Be the person who helps others climb up and you’ll find happiness and fulfillment in all that you do.”



Christian Kotze

Engineering



Kian Claassen

Engineering



Simone Louw

Engineering



Prof. Francois Smit

Science

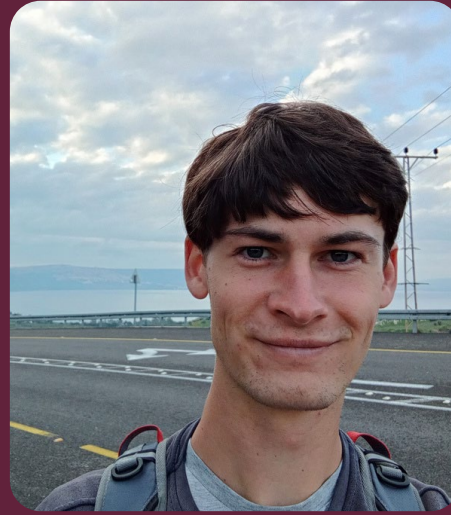


Dr Armand du Plessis

Engineering



Mogammad Sauls
Engineering



Paul Roos
AgriSciences



Carl van Rooyen
Engineering



Dr Ebrahiem Botha
Science



Dr Dirk Basson
Science



Gregory van Selm
Law



Danielle Boshoff
Medicine & Health Sciences



Elsje-mari Louw
Medicine & Health Sciences



Prof. Bradley Slade
Law



Prof. Hans Strijdom
Medicine & Health Sciences



Mr Jerome Fredericks
Medicine & Health Sciences

Excerpts from student letters to lecturers



“I vividly remember anxiety being replaced with excitement as I attended your lectures ... not only that, but you were easily approachable and happy to entertain any question.”

“You created an environment of ongoing learning and critical thinking within – and outside – your lectures.”

“Your way of teaching was such a joy to experience ... It truly felt like you wanted and believed in the success of each of your students.”

Excerpts from lecturer letters to students



“One’s intellectual ability is not fixed. Although you are at the top of your group at the moment, you should never take it for granted. Always keep working hard and strive to learn new things. If you do that, the sky is the limit, and nothing can stop you from staying successful in life.”

“Cultivate a love for learning, be inquisitive, and explore fields that excite you outside of your chosen discipline. By enjoying activities such as reading, the theatre, music, and museums, you will experience the joy of intellectual pursuits and become well-rounded.”



Tamsin Hofmeester

Military Science



Mikayla Manuel

Theology



Ahmed Khaki

AgriSciences



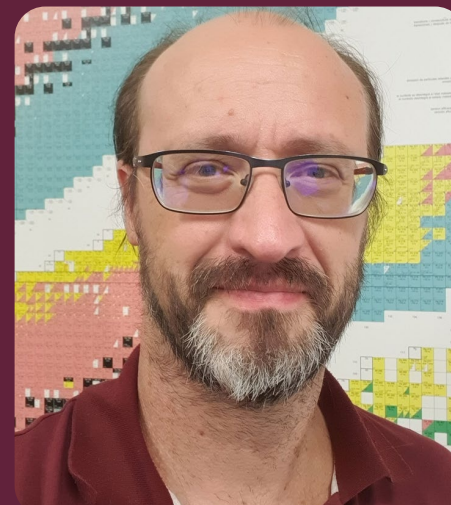
Dr Clive Coetzee

Military Science



Mr Marcus Joubert

Arts & Social Sciences



Dr JJ van Zyl

Science



Sebastian Ridge
Science



Juliette Roux
Science



Samuel Johnson
Science



Dr Hardus Diedericks
Science



Prof. Gareth Arnott
Science



Dr Christine Steenkamp
Science

Congratulations to all students and lecturers!
Best wishes for your academic future!