

LIVING AND LEARNING AT VAAL UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY



Vaal University of Technology

Your world to a better future



Living and Learning at Vaal University of Technology

WELLCOME TO RESIDENCE LIVING AND LEARNING

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Find balance in your schedule, get involved in the residence communities and I hope your time here will be both academically and personally rewarding

MISSION STATEMENT

To create a safe supportive, inclusive and engaged living learning community that enhances students' personal and academic success.

VISION STATEMENT

To have quality program that provides educationally purposeful programming, initiatives and leadership opportunities that promote student growth, independence, excellence and persistence at VUT and beyond

OBJECTIVES

- To provide best services that are accessible to all our students.
- Create a living and learning environment that is convenient to the academic campus
- Living in a community of VUT students with similar priorities
- Begin quarterly academic awards as a form of motivation and holistic development of our students
- Schedule regular mentor-mentee meetings for feed back

DEPARTMENTS

When you live at VUT residences, you are part of a diverse campus community where the University encourages discovery, community and learning within and beyond the classroom. Living and learning department strives to build a community that values the potential of

each individual and encourages students to broaden their perspectives, enhances personal growth and prepare for life beyond VUT

This department is established to provide the basic housing services that are made available to the resident students and to ensure the orderly, cost effective operation of the campus residences.

It is there to promote the existence of an environment where students and community development, academic excellence, respect for individual differences and the constructive social interaction is valued and advanced.

Our residences have 6 departments: Living and Learning, Placement, Hospitality, Welfare and Wellness, Maintenance and SRC

They all work as a team to provide a fully integrated support services for VUT students. We ensure that our services are accessible and inclusive for all students and staff including those on the basis of sex, pregnancy and maternity, gender, disability, race, ethnic or national origin, age, socio economic background, religion and belief, political beliefs, family circumstances etc.

LIVING AND LEARNING DEPARTMENT

The Acting Residence Director, Living and Learning Manager, Residence Life Officer, Student Programme Officer and the Gym Instructor complement the professionals in the Students Living and Learning Office. Our office is temporarily located at SSS and is open from 8:00am – 16:00pm.

The Living and Learning Manager, Res Life Officer as well as Student Programme Officer can also be found in the warden houses at the residences after hours for any assistance needed.

PROGRAMS

Living and Learning Programmes are structured in such a way that they allow students to make success and academic excellence at VUT their priority, hence the 2016 first Academic Awards that was hosted at Emerald.

Our Academic Excellence Awards will be hosted annually with the intention to motivate and instil the need to strive for excellence in students' studies.

A close second may be students' personal life, activities and friends, hence the Mentoring programme that helps in supporting transition from school to university through a well-organised orientation programme.

Mentoring programme as well as boot camps assist residence students in making academic choices which will enhance their future career prospects.

In addition, it also involves providing a pleasant working environment, both for students in our residential system and for those living in our external residences.

The programs are also encouraging the broader development of students through sporting and cultural programmes.

We try to emphasize from the outset that our programs must encourage our students to aim to achieve more than a degree certificate while at VUT.



2016 boot camp



Award Ceremony 2016



2016 mentors



2016 Residence league



2016 health and fitness training



2016 HK training



2016 Academia awards



2016 women's day celebration

As living and Learning we will try to encourage a mature and responsible approach among students to drinking. The University has a "Responsible Use of Alcohol" policy and all students are advised to read it. Some of the more relevant University liquor regulations are as follows: • No function (including residence and inter-residence functions) which involves the consumption of liquor may be held in both our internal and external residences.

Application for events must be made to the Living and Learning Office. The aim of this regulation is to avoid exposing new first year students to "liquor pressure" in their introduction to the University.
NB no function involving alcohol may be held in our Residences

We will also encourage students' sense of ownership to all available resources by avoiding vandalism

SPORT

All students are entitled to make use of the sports facilities and join any sporting code of his choice. Our sporting codes offer a wide variety of interest areas and students are encouraged to take part on a social, recreational or competitive level. The availability of a Gym in the residences helps and

encourages health and fitness to our students in the residences. A small annual fee is charged for the gym which is paid by those interested.

Aerobics and boot camps form part of sport. The instructor is available to assist with training programmes.

RESIDENCE SUPPORT

VUT residences is more than simply an educational institution – it is a community, and is one of the best home away from home. Our Residence system makes us the best because each residence is run by a Welfare officer as well as other Residence Officers who are always available to offer support or help for any reason.

Students are strongly encouraged to draw on the resources available to them in their residences: Res Officers and Welfare Officers respect the need for confidentiality, and they are always ready to help, and offer solutions to students' problems.

PLACEMENT AND ACCOMMODATION DEPARTMENT

Placement works extra hours to make sure that our students are correctly placed. We have approximately +_ 5800 students both internal and external and residences who decided to be part of our residential community because:

- Our residences are convenient to the academic campus and library which opens 24hrs
- Live-in staff that is there 24hrs for assistance
- They are placed as communities with similar priorities and mentors always available for both their academic and social needs
- Opportunities to meet other students i.e. social networks
- Their rooms are well furnished with a bed, desk, desk chair, wardrobe, microwave oven, fridge, stove and have accessible laundry halls. Each residence has a living area and a tv.

HOSPITALITY DEPARTMENT

Hospitality is always there to ensure a clean, comfortable, and well maintained residences and apartments.

The cafeteria is well cared for and hygienically proven food are accessible to all the students

WELFARE AND WELLNESS DEPARTMENT

Our Welfare officers are there to render assistance to the students and refer them for provisional assistance to the applicable on campus department.

They also render emergency assistances after hours.

MAINTANCE DEPARTMENT

Our dedicated on campus staff is always available for any repair and damage incurred in our residences. They are just a phone call away and offer their assistance 24hrs

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL (SRC)

The VUT Student Representative Council (SRC) represents students and negotiates with the university authorities on their behalf. When necessary, the SRC calls meetings of the student. The University Council allocates an annual budget to the SRC, which may also raise additional funds for special projects, with the permission of the Senate and Council. The SRC finances, controls and co-ordinates the activities of registered societies and clubs on campus and organises events benefiting all VUT residence communities

The Office of Residential Living and Learning is committed to ensuring that as a member of a Living-Learning Community, you'll have the chance to really get to know your faculty member(s) and develop strong friendships with your fellow students in all our internal and external residences. We are grateful for all of the hard work and energy that our staff, HKs (House committees) mentors and SRC is giving to the LLC members, and I know that it will only get better. As we continue to improve and move forward, our goal is to ensure that the LLCs continue to be a great resource for our first year students.

MEET SOME OF OUR RESIDENCE TEAM

HARD WORK, DEDICATION, TEAM WORK AND TOGETHERNESS RESIDENCES CAN BE HOME AWAY OF HOME



Acting Director Mr Jerry Molutsi



Manager Living & Learning Phasha R.P



Manager Welfare Wellness Faith Tsoku



**Acting Manager Placement & Accommodation
Bongani Mbuli**



Manager Hospitality Maureen Ngwenya



Life Rhihlamfu SRC (housing)



Residence Life Officer Tjotjo Pakiso



Mahlaela Ophney Residences Student Programme officer

VUT RESIDENCES, HOME AWAY FROM HOME
