

eThekwini Municipality Inspiring Future Engineers

On the 20th of April 2015, eThekwini Municipality launch its annual Career Symposium week at the University of Kwa-Zulu Natal Edgewood campus.

The Deputy City Manager's Office; Support Services in partnership the University of Kwa Zulu Natal School of Agriculture, Engineering and Science and Department of Education Pinetown and Umlazi District joined forces to host 3600 Science and Mathematics Learners throughout the week from 35 different schools across the eThekwini Municipal Area.

Overview of Symposium

The Career Day Symposium is a prestigious outreach project under the Human Settlements, Engineering Services & eThekwini Transport Authority Cluster, and Trading Services Cluster: Support Services Office.

The initiative is targeted to specifically Mathematics and Physical Science Learners in Grade 11 & 12 to broaden learners knowledge of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematical professions to ultimately ensure that they make wise choices in regards to their future career. This comes to effect after the City has identified the rapid increase in scarce skills shortage within the Province and South Africa at Large.

The Launch Day

J G Zuma Secondary High School led the audience to sing the National Anthem, followed by a sensational short song that left the audience astonished.



Welcome Message & Purpose

The Acting Deputy City Manager and Deputy Head of Human Resources: Mr Gideon Vundla welcomed delegates and learners to the Symposium 2015 sharing a brief insight of the purpose of the day. He highlighted the mandate and role of the Support Services Office under the Deputy City Manager's Office: the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) Initiative and its means to be an influential mechanism to address the identified scarce skill of STEM related professions in Municipal areas and nationally.



Message by: Professor Bala Pillay

The Head of the School of Agriculture, Engineering and Science: (please check with Leena, his position) Professor Bala Pillay; welcomed delegates, educators and learners

on the behalf of the University of KwaZulu Natal.

He addressed learners on three significant aspects namely environmental awareness, individual growth and development and future prospects on achieving your goals through education .He concluded his speech with an admiration on the collaboration of the stakeholders involved in making possible such an event.



Message by: the Department of Education

Ms A Meyer: Pinetown District

Dr Mngoma (Represented by Jay Naidoo): Umlazi District

Ms A Meyer from the Department of Education Pinetown District and Mr J Naidoo on the behalf of Dr Nmgoma of the Umlazi District: shared intriguing folklore to delegates and guests before captivating them with in-depth motivation to the minders of learners.

Ms A Meyer emphasised on the importance of the learners believing in themselves, not allowing situation to determine the outcome of their future. The learners were reminded that they are the future generation and that it is up to them to be the change they want to see in society.



Message by: Gareth Mogambery, Top Matriculate Academic Achiever in South African 2014

Gareth Mogambery 2014's Top Matriculate Achiever from Newlands High School is currently studying at the Nelson Mandela School of Medicine in the University of KwaZulu –Natal . Mr Mogambery gave a speech targeted at his fellow peers and congratulated them for reaching thus far. Mr Mogambery placed emphasis on the importance of self-motivation, time management and to be open and willing to asking educators, if they aren't sure or unclear is particular section in the syllabus.



Interaction

The Program Directors: Nondumiso Kubone and Minenhle Scott engaged with the learners in a brief exercise to relief learners and delegates from the formalities of the event.



Science Show

Doctor Govendor known as Dr G, marvelled delegates and guests' attention with intriguing scientific experiment .The last experiment he performed left the entire audience astonished with an unexpected fright.



Message by Dr Phethiwe Matutu



Dr Phethiwe Matutu: Chief Director of the Department Science and Technology shared an inspirational speech on the great strides that Government has made over the 22 years in South Africa as a Democratic country. She shared the fundamental philosophies of the Late Former President Mandela in reference to the Freedom Charter: with the testament of her background and the pivotal role of her choice of profession how social economic issues propelled her.

She reminded learners that, “the Future is in their hands”, as extended her hands to demonstrate this well-known metaphor.

She recommended the Support Services Office for identifying physically challenged learners studying Mathematics and Science; for it was one of the areas her department had missed.



previously disadvantaged background are exposed and receive opportunities at their fingertips, he probed them on reach out and involved in them .Encouraged learners to continue further in tertiary academics in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics related professions. To be the change they want to see in their communities, City and ultimately the Country commit themselves

Vote of Thanks : Venna Naidoo –Co-ordinator of Support Services Office

Veena Naidoo: Co-ordinator of the Support Services Office: Thanked Dr Phetiwe Matutu from the Department of Science and Technology.



Introduction and Key Note Address

Due to the absence of the Mayoral Office, His Worship, Cllr James Nxumalo the Mayor of EThekweni Municipality and the Speaker’s Office representatives ; Acting Deputy City Manager & Head Deputy of Human Resources :Mr Gideon Vundla ; delivered Key Note Address Speaker for the Day .



The Acting Deputy City Manager and Head Deputy of Human Resources , Professor Bala Pillay from the School of Agriculture ,Engineering and Science .

He apologised on the Behalf of His Worship, Cllr James Nxumalo on his absence, for it was due to the abrupt Imibizo announced by Zulu King Goodwill Zwelithini; after the recent xenophobia attacks that spiralled in the City in the recent weeks.



He highlighted the commitment of local government to ensuring learners from

The Department of Education Pinetown & Umlazi District. Ms A Meyer and Mr J Naidoo on behalf of Dr Mngoma;



Gareth Mogamery with a special token of appreciation all the speakers received gifts and appreciation certificates.

Delegates were escorted to the holding room, where they received refreshments.

Learners were assigned team leaders to guide them to all exhibitors' tables, afterwards received lunch packs and treated to some fun in games by Coca-Cola.



On the 22nd – the 24th of April

On the 22nd to the 24th of April, learners received informative presentations from the Public Relations personal: Leena Rajpal with the assistance of different Post Graduate Students in School of Agriculture, Engineering and Science University of KwaZulu Natal.



This gave in-depth insight of the UKZN Institution, which highlighted the different Schools, but more especially the School of Agriculture, Engineering and Science and requirement level through the point system to obtain acceptance to study.



The Durban University Technology presented their institution, placing emphasis to learners on the key success factors and distinctive qualities of Technological institutions in the faculty of Engineering, unlike academic mainstream institutions.

The representative elaborated on the application process and career guidance facilities offered by the Durban University of Technology.

After the presentations were concluded, learners were led around exhibitors, by team leaders, to gain further information from UKZN, DUT and the many other exhibitors included: Damelin, EThekwini College, Mancosa. The EThekwini Departments: Skills & Development, Water and Sanitation, City Engineering and Electricity.



The Presence of Coke made the end of Exhibition a memorable event.

