

Year-end speech from the Principal



Ladies and Gentleman

Let me express my gratitude for availing yourselves to attend this Christmas or Year-End function. It means so much to me, as a principal of Ekurhuleni West College. **I wish we could, one day, all of us learn not to make news of unacceptable attitudes.** I will also like to thank you for serving the college selflessly. As management, we are always conscious of the hard work you always put to make EWC a better place for all to be. I will forever be indebted to you.

The reality of our journey in the four (4) years I've been with EWC can easily fill scrolls and scrolls of our historical account. **I am aware that the road has not always been smooth – nobody expected 'sugar candy mountain' anyway.** "At times, life hits you with a brick on the head and it is necessary" it becomes "an awful testing medicine, maybe what the patient needed", Steve Jobs. I have been hit many a times and was able to wake up – thanks God. I have tested that kind of medicine and I am becoming wiser everyday. Whilst licking my wounds, I have always gathered the strength of a tiger and I shall never waiver nor wither in the face of any difficulties or challenges that I might face along.

I wish to salute the strength and courage you demonstrated as men and women of Ekurhuleni West College. You have shown faith, a vision and a fighting spirit in making this college to achieve all the greater things to date. **Today we pride ourselves not only with the accreditation of ISO: 9001 of 2008 but having been awarded an OHS 18001 standard accreditation – the first in the country. We have also established ourselves in the Business Industry landscape – the 'World'**

knows us by now. We have been brave enough to request Price Waterhouse Coopers to be our internal auditors – the road not travelled by many colleges. We have responded to the National call especially on matters of quality and pass rates – a lot still needs to be done on certification rate. This is an indication that we are "tried and tested" soldiers – we could only do it as a collective. In appreciating your selfless character, **allow me to quote Michael Debakey,** whilst speaking of unsung heroes and heroines once said: **"Success is achievable without public recognition and the World has many unsung heroes. The teachers who taught you the noblest human principles are a success"**. And for that I will remain eternally grateful. **Thanks for understanding that Reconstruction and Development is a never ending project at EWC.**

Like athletes, our hands are set on marks for twenty 13. Tomorrow can only be better than yesterday or today. The future is greater and brighter than the road we have travelled and this should give us hope not to turn back, not to falter, not to allow or wish the journey to end – so that history must judge us fairly. Let us continue demonstrating that we are an outstanding talented collective patriots.

Whilst celebrating let us be mindful of the social ills of this country of ours. We are also celebrating the World HIV/AIDS day at EWC. We should always remember that it is either you are **infected or affected.** Let us demonstrate patriotism by caring for those that are infected and be responsible by abstaining or protecting ourselves – do not get into the workshop without protective clothing. Let us demystify this pandemic by testing and the better if we all know our status – so that we either stay negative or live positively and healthier forever. I did my bit and I hope you will also do your bit.

I wish to conclude by saying that we must learn to focus on what we want and not on what we do not want, build upon what worked and not on what did not work and keep your eyes up to see the bigger picture.

Steve Jobs said, in one of his quotes, "Being the richest man in the cemetery doesn't matter to me Going to bed at night saying we've done something wonderful That's what matters."

Enjoy your lunch and company.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Hellen Manakedi Ntlatleng

Principal

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Editor's Letter

Colleagues have been working so hard to make Ekurhuleni West College what it is today. The year has ended at last. I am in no doubt that it won't be the end of the world.

According to NASA the planet Nibiru was predicted to destroy planet earth in May 2003. Last year people were surrounded by fear when it was again predicted that the world will end on 20 May 2011 by Harold Camping. When nothing happened the doomsday was predicted to be on 21 December 2012. It is however linked to the Mayan calendar – End Times Prophecy and the earth reversal or pole shift which presumably could be chaotic to the earth, because of gravitational effects.

I believe that the world will not end now. But it will be the beginning of new age and hope for humankind. Remember what happened in 1999 with the Y2K and the end of the world in the new millenium rumours. Hey, this is just another scam, only the Almighty knows when the world will end.

During this festive season remember to share your love and the Christmas spirit with those who are less fortunate.

Best wishes for 2013.

Editor
David Muleele

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."

Nelson Mandela

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Quality Management

SABS Quality Surveillance Audits were conducted by SABS at Kempton and Alberton Campuses, 29 and 30 October 2012.

Kempton and Alberton Campuses were audited in two successive days by two different auditors, the Person auditing Alberton being very well experienced internationally. I am happy to report that no non-conformances were raised, it was clear that both Campuses were prepared very good and all standards of work proved to be on a very high level.

News on the Environmental 14001 standard: A gap analyses was done at Kempton Campus and we are busy closing these gaps, new terminology comes into play here like Nema (National Environmental Management Act 107 of 1998) and DWAF (Minimum Requirements for Handling, Classification and Disposal of Hazardous Waste).

We will have induction sessions in 2013 where this new standard will be introduced to staff.

News on the 27001 ISMS standard (Information Security Management Systems):

We have had two introductory sessions and application will start early 2013. Again, induction sessions with all staff will be conducted.

Lastly 18001 (OHS): as reported in the previous newsletter all non-conformances raised by SABS were closed. The Principal signed the required 1800 contract and we hope to have positive feedback shortly.

Robert Ehlers
Quality Manager

EWC Job Fair Marketing

Ekurhuleni West College hosted the Job Fair on 26 and 27 September 2012 at Kempton Campus.

The Breakfast Opening Ceremony took place at 08:30 on 26 September 2012. Ms Hellen Ntlatleng, Principal of EWC, welcomed the guests of honour and prospective employers and declared the Job Fair officially open. Ms Esther Tloane, Chief Director, Employer Services from the National Department of Labour, did a presentation on the Employment Services system of South Africa and the Employment Services Bill.

The objectives for hosting the Job Fair were to bring together employers and job seeker, to enable job seekers to gather company information regarding careers and available positions within the sectors and develop networks and to give the various employment sectors opportunities to disseminate information regarding the skills that they require to help students avoid enrolling for irrelevant or wrong skills courses.

More than 3500 graduates and job seekers attended and applied for jobs at various institutions for possible placements (as interns, temporary or permanent appointments).

The Job Fair coincided with SANDF recruitment drive for young people with N6 Engineering Studies, who will be trained in various technical corps, and for those with Grade 12 with Maths and Science, who will go on Military Skills Development Training.

Graduates were excited to submit their employment application forms and CVs to various institutions.

Ekurhuleni West College wishes to express its sincere appreciation and thankfulness to the following institutions which made the Job Fair a success: South African National Defence Force, Department of Labour, Indlela, NYDA, Ekurhuleni Municipality, South African Airways, Transnet, Setas, Barloworld Equipment and Kuro Marketing.



Human Resources Management

Vacancy List

A total of 42 posts were advertised on Vacancy List 1 of 2012. The assumption of duty is aimed at 1 January 2013 when the College re-opens.

Re-appointment of Staff on Contracts

Approval was granted by the College Council for the re-appointment of staff currently on contracts. This will see contracts go until 31 March 2013 and also based on the outcome of appointments on Vacancy List 1 of 2012.

Service Benefits to Council paid Staff

The College extended the payment of 37% in lieu of benefits to all Council paid staff members to try closing the gap previously experienced by Council paid staff members.

The Unit engaged all staff members affected to explain the benefits in details.

Training and Development

The College established the Training Committee and nominations were done at Campus levels. To this date, 545 staff members have been trained in different areas of operations, this aims to offer support to Teaching and Learning within the College.



Academic

Access to higher education

The Academic Division represented the College at a meeting called by Wits to discuss future access opportunities of FET students and future implementation of Level 5 and Level 6 Programmes by FET students that have exited with Level Certificate.

Future partnership with the Department of International Relations

Ekurhuleni West College had a meeting with the Department of International Relations on 05 October 2012 to discuss future partnerships in offering their programmes to benefit their staff and our students that have passed Level 4 and N6.

Results

Trimester 2/2012 Engineering results were received and we acquired 72.2%.

DHET workshop

The Academic Division attended a two day workshop organized by DHET where Report 191 ICASS Guidelines was discussed for implementation at the beginning of 2013.

SSACI (Swiss-South African Co-operation Initiative) also introduced an improved WBE Log Book to benefit the students, the College and the Employer.

Marketing

On 1 November 2012, Ekurhuleni West College hosted the Swiss Minister of Education and Research, Dr Mauro Dell' Ambrogio, Swiss ambassador to South Africa, His Eminence, Mr Christian Meuwly and delegates from the Swiss-South African Co-operation Initiative visited the Tembisa Campus.



The Minister visited the college to assess and verify the progress made by the SSACI initiative. The SSACI projects are aimed at supporting public skills development systems in the Further Education and Training Colleges and the apprenticeship training sub-system through Work Based Exposure. This initiative assists FET colleges in terms of placing students in real work places during the course of their studies. Ekurhuleni West Public FET College is one of the beneficiaries of this project.

After a meeting with SSACI Board member, SSACI's CEO and the Principal of Ekurhuleni West College, Ms Hellen M Ntlatleng, the Minister had an opportunity to talk to EWC broad management staff and students who benefited from the project. He also visited some of the Tembisa Campus workshops.



Switzerland Minister of Education Mauro Dell' Ambrogio and the EWC principal Ms Hellen Ntlatleng

Promise yourself

The Optimist Creed

Promise yourself to be so strong that nothing can disturb your peace of mind.

To talk health, happiness, and prosperity to every person you meet.

To make all your friends feel like there is something in them.

To look at the sunny side of everything and make your optimism come true.

To think only of the best, to work only for the best, and expect only the best.

To be just as enthusiastic about the success of others as you are about your own.

To forget the mistakes of the past and press on to the greater achievements of the future.

To wear a cheerful countenance at all times and give every living person you meet a smile.

To give so much time to the improvement of yourself that you have no time to criticize others.

To be too large for worry, too noble for anger, and too strong for fear, and too happy to permit the presence of trouble.

Homework Supervisors' Certificate Ceremonies

The Gauteng MEC for Education Barbara Creecy launched the Extra School Support Programme with the aim of assisting learners from impoverished and underperforming primary schools, with supervised homework and recreational activities after school every day. Ekurhuleni West College was amongst the FET colleges that were privileged to provide training to the Homework Assistants.

On completion of their (Homework Assistants) training, certificate ceremonies were organised and held at the Kathorus and Tembisa campuses in October 2012. About 667 learners were presented with certificates during the events that took place at the aforementioned campuses. Both events were honoured by the presents of GDE officials.



Campus News

ALBERTON

Personalia

We would like to congratulate N Nyandeni who got married during the September holiday and N Kesiloe who was blessed with a baby boy. Our condolences are also going out to M Vorster who lost her mother and N Vudzijena who lost his brother – may God bring comfort and peace. Congratulations to N Herbst who will be receiving her 15 years long service award from EWC at the end of the year. Alberton welcomes our two new ETL's S Mathadisa and C Mukhithi who are replacing E Hlathatsi and P Chilwane whose contracts expired. We bid the L4 students well at a prestigious farewell function at Isolomzi Place – Palmridge.

The campus had a very good SABS audit and is proud to announce that no Non-Conformances were lodged.

H Matsoso – one of our Hospitality lecturers attended a very exciting work base experience at Emperors Palace.

During EWC annual management review Alberton Campus received an award for the Best Performing

Campus 2012 Quality Management. When reflecting on 2012 you realise that it is team work that made Alberton Campus a success. Thank you to all the staff members that worked hard in achieving the same goal – quality! Quality in the way we look, receive our guests and teach our students.

We are all preparing for our December holidays – enjoy the well deserved rest and let this Xmas be blessed with a wonderful 2013 that awaits us!!



BOKSBURG

Challenges:

It is that time of the year again where we bid 2012 farewell. It has been a great year especially for us at Boksburg campus with the developments happening around us. We can only thank God for a leading us throughout.

New Staff Members

We have 3 lecturers who joined the Boksburg family and we are glad that they could have shared the latter part of the year with us:

Mr Seshoka
Mr Nyathi and
Ms Ncube.

Lecturer Development

Six lecturers had an opportunity to attend the Fullbright training which was offered by Ms. Carol Mayford from abroad. It was an enlightening and empowering programme which will be rolled out to the rest of the campus staff in 2013. We hope that this will bring about improvement in the teaching and learning experience for both staff and students.

Student Support Services

Health Awareness

The SSS together with SRC hosted a health awareness day where voluntary testing and information sharing was conducted by 20 volunteers. Two equipped mobile vans were used for counseling and testing purposes.

Exam Prayer Meeting

Prayer meeting took place Friday, 12 October 2012 at the Campus where they got motivated to study for their upcoming examinations in order to prepare their future. The Pastor delivered an encouraging message which we hope lead the students safely into the examination sessions.

2013 Apprenticeship

Grinaker LTA will be visiting the campus to recruit L4 Engineering students for the 2013

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apprenticeship. We would like to encourage students to prepare well and we wish them all the best with this great opportunity afforded to them.

The Electrical students enjoyed the privilege of visiting Samsung in Boksburg where they had a great exposure to the world of technology.

Infrastructure and Facilities

History has been made, for the first time the students at Boksburg campus wrote their Oct/ Nov examination in the hall. It was a beautiful experience and as a Campus we thank the Principal and her team for making it possible for us. We urge our student community and staff to look after this work of art in our campus.



The campus is also having the staffroom in construction which is at the advanced stage currently. We will hopefully be taking occupation in the first quarter of 2013.



Our administration block will also have a face lift with renovations due to take place before the end of 2012.

How can we say thank you to the executive management and all role players in these activities. We really thank God for you and we hope that He will continue to bless you with visionary leadership.

EWU going green

The campus has received four recycling bins for paper, plastic, glass and cans. We will be using these bins as part of the college initiative to care for our environment through managing waste.



Long service award

The following staff will receive their long service awards:

Moepye MS – 10 years

Chukudu – 15 years

Radebe – 15 years



Lastly, let me take this time to thank the Boksburg staff for all their hard work and dedication throughout the year, from lecturers to support staff, general assistants and my PA. Your hard work and dedication is highly appreciated and does not go unnoticed. May you all have a lovely festive season.

Wishing the Whole EWU family a very prosperous new year.

May God bless you all.

GERMISTON

Hair & Beauty Extravaganza - 20 Sept 2012

EWU hosted the annual Hair & Beauty Extravaganza on Thursday 20 September 2012 at the Germiston campus. Students from Germiston and Kempton campuses who are doing Hair care and Beauty Therapy were given the opportunity to apply knowledge in make-up techniques during the competition. The event also covered a number of Level 4 Hairdressing assessment criteria. Students participated in three categories: Day Style, Evening Style & Fantasy Style as inspired by their own or another culture.

The panel of judges consisted of representatives from the hair and beauty industry as well as a former Miss EWU and the current Miss Earth, Tamarin Jardin. The event proved to be an extravaganza of note.



KEMPTON

NC (V) L4 & N6 Farewell Function

The event was held on Friday, 12 October 2012. The event was a success and best students who were selected by lecturers were given gifts as a token of appreciation. Lecturers and students from all exit levels attended the function.

The year end function of SRC was held on Friday, 12 October 2012 at Afrique Boutique in Boksburg and all four members attended with the SSSO.

Training:

Training on Peer Education (Society for Family Health) was held on 17 - 20 September 2012 at Kempton Campus in the Occasions Restaurant. The Training was based on HIV/Aids Basic Questions & Answers. The training was successful and informative. EWU Students from Tembisa, Kempton & Boksburg attended the training.

The national exams for both Report 190/1 and NC (V) have concluded. We are proud to announce that no major incidents were encountered.

Kempton Campus would like to thank all divisions in EWU that have been supportive in 2012, may 2013 be more productive. We would like to wish all EWU staff members a Prosperous New Year!!

TEMBISA

Tembisa Campus hosted The Swiss State Secretary, Ambassador and Minister of Education along with the CEO, board member and the project manager from SSACI on Thursday 1 November as part of an evaluation of the SSACI placement programme. The delegates met with Ms Ntlatleng and were introduced to the rest of the executive management team, Corporate Centre and Tembisa Campus staff. Our Swiss visitors also discussed the successes of the SSACI placement model with ten of the successfully placed students.



Brave as ever Mr Sadiki, one of our mathematics lecturers has entered the Soweto marathon which took place on 4 November and completed the 42 km to secure a gold medal. This is in addition to the Comrades marathon, which he entered and completed earlier this year. Next year our money is on him to win the EWU fun run and to set a record.

The Campus is going green and received two solar geysers from UNT Consulting which is conducting the alternative energy project, whereby unemployed youth are trained to install solar geysers.

The media centre building is reaching completion and we expect to occupy the building early next year, the building has a library, a study area and a computer room where students can do research and complete assignments.



At the end of every year one cannot help to reflect on the time passed, lessons learnt, challenges overcome and the excitement of goals achieved. It is then appropriate to thank each and every staff member of Tembisa campus for their commitment to educate our youth and to make a difference in the lives of the people we come into contact with. For being role models to our students and for never ever giving up, but to always persevere and encourage one another when the going gets tough. For their enthusiasm, laughter, for being brave and having the courage to take on any challenge that comes our way and for believing in one another. Team Tembisa is looking forward to 2013.