



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Welcome to the First Issue

What is going on in our various departments with the Career Centre



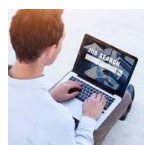
CV-writing and interview preparation

Career Advisory Services offer training in CV-writing and interviewing; CV reviews and feedback; work readiness interventions; and resources/articles.



Campus Liaison Officers

Establishing career-related projects and initiatives to help students prepare for and enter the workforce.



Employer Engagement Office

We provide industry linkages related to graduate recruitment opportunities for all NWU students/ alumni.

Welcome Letter

The Career Centre is thrilled to introduce our first eNewsletter of 2021. This is long overdue and we could not miss another year without this publication.

Connect with us

Get all employability related information, job opportunities, and career centre events with our students on the Careers Centre's platforms.

CareerZone Relaunch

A career services management platform that provide job seekers more opportunities and career preparation tools than ever before.

Welcome Letter

Thoriso Maseng: Manager - Career Centre

The Career Centre is thrilled to introduce our first eNewsletter of 2021. This is long overdue and we could not miss another year without this publication. As a team of eight staff members, we have grown in many ways during this prolonged health crisis and are really appreciative of the new insights and challenges that came along with Covid19. The department is now in a good space to take many more steps towards progress and success. Hence, this publication is adopting the name **"KGATELOPELE"**, a Setswana word that means progress towards success.

In 2020/21, the department was exposed to and adopted many interesting work activities that seek to sustain our employability offerings and ensure that we remain relevant, as NWU students can now remain in touch with all these offerings during the lockdown period. We are proud

to have made a transition towards improving our online presence during this time of change. As a team, we have worked diligently towards improving and developing new and relevant training content on eFundi and revamping our Career Centre website. We also developed and improved the Career Service Portal (Career Zone), which contains new features that are configured as part of the upgrade in order to ensure that all our offerings are integrated in a central online platform. The Work Readiness Seminar will now be hosted virtually as a five-day marathon webinar, with a series of empowering topics that can benefit NWU students and NWU alumni in **making a** success of their chosen career path, whether they are employed or self-employed. In 2020, the department hosted one of the first virtual career fairs and in 2021, we hosted another set of these virtual fairs.

Our annual **Career Guide publication** is also available online; please find this guide via our webpage link. As we near the end of 2021, we are also looking forward to our collaborated project **to develop** a work-readiness, short learning programme. This will assist NWU students in improving their knowledge as well as the relevant soft skills that will assist them in attracting and retaining any professional career opportunity. These are just some of the exciting efforts the team undertook during the Covid19 health crisis.

The department also undertook a quality enhancement initiative to improve our offerings to NWU students. This included the self-evaluation process that gave us an opportunity to reflect on the work that we do as a team, how we are doing this work, and whether there are gaps in our quality. Additionally,

the process was followed by a soft review evaluation process that included our customers and stakeholders from both the academia and industry. We are pleased to have undertaken this journey, as it is valuable to look at the recommendations following this process and to reflect on how to improve the touch points in order to add more value to our services.

In reflection, we firmly believe that if you are an NWU student, you need to be part of us. There are many more resources that can assist you to better your chances in **obtaining** any career opportunity of your choice. Enhance your career journey by ensuring that you get help and assistance to compile your own CV, **and gain awareness and understanding of the world of work through our interesting article resources and training on eFundi, the Career Zone** et cetera. Your CV



is a gateway to communicate with any potential holder of a career opportunity. We thus urge you as a registered NWU student to connect with us at the NWU Career Centre on Facebook or via the Career Zone, eFundi and the **Career Centre website**; alternatively, connect with our staff or our campus-based liaising officers and take advantage of our offerings. **It is our belief that the services we offer can assist you as a student and empower you to enhance your industry readiness** in order to endure all the challenges that come with the world of work and to find career opportunities beyond your academic life.

We are determined to work closely with all our customers and stakeholders, both from industry and academia, to ensure that we enhance the employability of our NWU students. If there is a lesson that we have all learned, it is to move together as a team; this will

remain our strength that we will always embrace. It is only through team effort that we can make great things happen during any phase of change; whether it is a health crisis or something else, it is important to come together to find solutions. This is the most fulfilling practice that you can ever undertake to remain relevant during such a period of change.

For now, all we can say is that the NWU students, academia team and the industry must **stay close to us as we take many more steps towards KGATELOPELE to ensure that more of the NWU students can be part of us and benefit from our offerings.** Our team is very committed and dynamic, with much potential; they have exciting ideas on how we can improve and do greater things towards enhancing the employability of our students.

From the Career Advisory Services

Dr Peet Roos: Career Consultant

This portfolio of the NWU Career Centre aims to prepare graduate students for their imminent interactions with the recruitment processes and their readiness and preparation for the professional world of work that they will soon enter.

Services are rendered by the three campus liaison officers and the career consultant, who are assisted, where necessary, by the information officer and the secretary/receptionist.

The services offered are training in CV-writing and interviewing; CV reviews and feedback; work readiness interventions; and resources/articles.

We provide CV-writing and interview preparation training in the following ways:



On the **Career Centre eFundi page**, six short video clips are available at any time and can be studied in every student's own timeframe. To access the eFundi page and take part in the training, please follow the steps in the HOW TO guide on the Career Centre webpage: <http://services.nwu.ac.za/career-centre>



We also do **real-time presentations** (ZOOM or TEAMS) when invited by groups such as academic student societies, hostels, and lecturers, who regularly request us to present training in class time for their students. For more information on this, please write to peet.roos@nwu.ac.za.



Every month, we also present similar **webinars that are open to every student** at any campus and in any class or society. Please check our webpage and social media posts regularly for the relevant dates and times



Very soon, the training and resources in eFundi will also be accessible in our **Symlicity CareerZone**; an announcement will be posted when we are ready to launch.

After students have drafted their CVs based on the information in the training videos, they will find instructions on where to **send their CVs for our review and feedback.**

This portfolio also arranges **Work Readiness Seminars**, of which the **annual** week-long event in August is the flagship. Please read the article below for more information on this year's event. We also have **monthly** mini webinars with two to three presentations in one day. Please also check our webpage and social media posts regularly for the relevant dates and times.

The portfolio also **contributes towards the content** in the annual **Career Guide** and posts many useful **articles and resources** in the Work Readiness Resources section of the eFundi page and in the CareerZone.



Entrepreneurship & Work Readiness Seminar 2021

In the week of 23 to 27 August 2021, the NWU Career Centre hosted their annual Entrepreneurship & Work Readiness Seminar, presented virtually in MS TEAMS. Because not all students could attend the live presentations in real time, the recordings of all these presentations will be added as resources in the Career Centre's Symplicity Career Zone. Information on how to access these presentations will be on the Career Centre Webpage.

The aim of these annual seminars is to equip NWU students with knowledge about the transition from student life to work life. The presentations usually have an informal and interactive nature and the emphasis is on practical and useful information that students can apply in the transitional period.

Twenty presenters, representing 12 companies from different industries, delivered 25 presentations on topics in the following six broad themes: entrepreneurship; graduate development organisations; industrial psychologists; professional development consultants;

a health perspective; and financial literacy.

A full entrepreneurship skills development programme was offered by the College of Chartered Accountants, consisting of five different presentations that covered the following topics:

- Why South Africa needs entrepreneurs
- Understanding an organisation's environment
- Managing operations of your business
- The impact of the 4th IR on your business
- Business intelligence with big data analytics

Students were also given the perspectives of two graduate development organisations with whom they can affiliate and participate in their own professional development. Both GradStar and Harambee made presentations, demonstrating their support for graduates fresh out of university.

From the perspective of industrial psychologists and human resources management, The South African Board of People Practices made presentations on the following:

- Work readiness and behavioural styles
- The power of intention and initiative

- Futures threading (how we are framing the future)

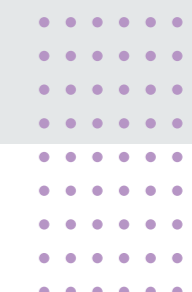
A group of collaborating professional development consultants, the Citi Changers Institute, The Foundry and ShadowMatch, presented the following:

- The future of work: an industry 4 an enabled mind set
- Career guidance in an industry 4 an enabled world
- Psychological capital of the entrepreneur
- A panel discussion on workplace reality vs expectations

Students were reminded to tend to their physical and mental health through presentations made by a biokineticist, a dietician and a psychologist.

The financial literacy training was presented in five separate talks by the North-West Branch of the Professional Provident Society. They covered the following topics:

- What is financial freedom and how is it reached?
- What does my financial portfolio consist of?
- Why should I consider my spending?
- How do I avoid financial pitfalls?
- What do I do in case of emergency?



From the Employer Engagement Office

Hloni Putsoane

The Employer Engagement's core responsibility is to provide industry linkages between academia, industry and students related to graduate recruitment opportunities for all NWU students/alumni. We foster industry relations across all sectors of business and encourage companies to strongly consider NWU graduates and students when securing their future talent pipeline through various engagement platforms ie: career fairs, company showcases and guest lecturing.

Our comprehensive offering basket of services-as per the rate card-to employers affords us an opportunity to add value in the recruitment efforts.



Guest Lecturing remains one of the highly sought after services where companies are invited to give talks about specific topics as indicated and requested by the school/faculty. The idea behind guest lecturing is to strengthen relations between academia and students and to ensure that currently and relevant topics about real industry happenings are covered.



Company Showcase affords companies an opportunity to engage our students and graduates where they share in-depth information related to their company. Representatives get an opportunity to share their organizational culture and what it takes to be part of the organization (employee profile).



Career Guide is an annual publication that is distributed to students of the NWU across all campuses and serves as another platform through which students can be engaged. Companies have an opportunity to buy advertising space at discounted rates.



From the Admin Assistant

Avis Erens

This will be the friendly, smiley face that greets you at the reception area when visiting the Career Centre, and the polite and friendly voice of assistance when phoning the office. Always tactfully and patiently ready to assist with inquiries, and making appointments for students with the career consultant. Ensuring the day to day running of the office and maintaining a professional yet friendly office environment throughout each day. She is also the finance lady that attends to all finance related tasks by ensuring that all purchases and payments are kept up to date. Keeping record and filing of all Career Centre related information and documentation are at the order of her day. Assisting students and giving administrative assistance to colleague are always done with passion and great joy. Always looking forward to welcome new faces at the Career Centre.

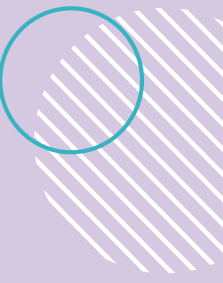
Our most interactive platform was the face-to-face career fairs that used to take place in your respective campuses around the month of May annually but due to the current COVID-19 restrictions, we have since decided integrate digital presence in all our offerings.

Since January 2020 to date, we hosted 04 virtual career fairs and impacted over 6000 students across all campuses and had over 100 companies to engage with students.

We are certain that the Career Centre's adoption of a solid online strategy will play a vital role in the continued provision of Career Development services to all our stakeholders.

We are excited that through strong collaborations with all key stakeholders, we will take the graduate recruitment services to even greater heights.

Best Regards,



From the Campus Liaison Officers

Mphinyana Nemasitoni

As the campus liaison officers, our core focus is on establishing career-related projects and initiatives to help students prepare for and enter the workforce. In addition to breaking down barriers between the industry and students, we also work with faculties and schools to ensure that our golden prospects are available to as many students as possible. We strive to assist students in having a better grasp of the workplace and the attributes employers want in graduates. We also offer and assist with career services and possible opportunities to virtually all NWU students and alumni by means of CV training, preparation for interviews and the job search process, career fairs, employer presentations, guest lecturers, and entrepreneurship and work readiness seminars. Regardless of the year/ field of study or job objectives, the NWU Career Centre provides all students with guidance and access to professional development activities. We are here to help you achieve your goals and dreams.

Having said that, we are pleased of our marketing initiatives in reaching out to students, especially at this difficult time. Since the Covid-19 pandemic outbreak, we have reached and positively impacted over 10,000 students across all campuses through CareerZone, emailers, radio campaigns, word of mouth, social media, fruitful assistance and collaboration with faculties, schools, supporting departments, student council society, academic student associations, and other stakeholders.



From the Information Officer

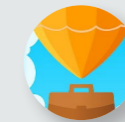
Hope Abrahams

The information officer shares all employability-related information, job opportunities (graduate programmes, internships, bursaries and vacation work), and Career Centre events (virtual career fairs, employer presentations, and entrepreneurship and work-readiness seminars) with our students on the Career Centre's platforms, namely our facebook page, eFundi, our website and the CareerZone (career portal). The roll-out of the Universum and Graduate Destination Surveys, as well as the annual Career Guide, also forms part of the tasks on this desk.

Connect with us via:

CareerZone

<https://nwu-za-csm.symplicity.com/>



Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/NWUCareerCentre>



Website

<http://services.nwu.ac.za/career-centre>



What is CareerZone?



It is a career services management platform that provide job seekers more opportunities and career preparation tools than ever before. The platform also allows employers to connect with our well rounded students.

How can I access it?

You can access the NWU CareerZone: <https://nwu-za-csm.symplicity.com/>

What will it do for me?

In summary from NWU CareerZone students are able to:



Connect and reach the Career Centre



Access Careers Services online resources via the resource centre



Apply for jobs



Sign up for Career events and workshops



Access and participate in virtual career fairs



Connect and sign up for appointments with Careers staff



Research on employer profiles that work with NWU



Have at any time video interview practice

NWU CAREERZONE PORTAL RELAUNCH

We have restyled, revamped and revitalised Careers Portal.

[Find out More](#)

Read Online: Career Centre Highlights



Another successful Entrepreneurship and Work Readiness Week, this time round virtually!



NWU Career Centre hosted its 1st Virtual Career Fair!

Career Centre CONNECT WITH US

Career Advice

- CV Training
- Preparation for Interviews
- Job Search Process

Opportunities

- Career Fairs
- Employer Presentations
- Work Readiness Seminars
- Guest Lectures

Resources

- Career Guide & CareerZone
- Information Centre on each Campus

[Facebook](#)

[NWU Career Centre](#)

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