



Communication and Marketing Department
Isebe loThungelwano neNtengiso
Kommunikasie en Bemerkingsdepartement

Private Bag X3, Rondebosch 7701, South Africa
Welgelegen House, Chapel Road Extension, Rosebank, Cape Town
Tel: +27 (0) 21 650 5427/5428/5674 Fax: +27 (0) 21 650 5628

www.uct.ac.za

26 August 2019

UCT victorious at Entrepreneurship Intervarsity regionals

The University of Cape Town (UCT) shone at the inaugural Entrepreneurship Intervarsity's Western Cape regional round, with the five winning teams selected to go through to the national finals coming from the institution.

The purpose of the competition is to identify the top student entrepreneurs at each public university, to recognise and showcase their businesses, and to prompt investment.

Hosted by UCT on Thursday 22 August, the regional round saw 19 teams of student entrepreneurs from four tertiary institutions – UCT, the University of the Western Cape, Stellenbosch University, and the Cape Peninsula University of Technology – competing.

Participants entered in one of four categories: Innovative Ideas, Tech Businesses, Social Impact Businesses and General. One founding member from each team had two minutes to present their business idea to a panel of six judges, after which two further minutes were devoted to questions from the panel.

The winners were:

- Innovative Ideas: **Lungile Macuacua** from **LabV**. Her idea to create a virtual laboratory that can help prepare learners from under-resourced schools for laboratory work at university level is all about bridging the digital divide.
- Tech Business (joint winners): Denislav Marinov from **DVM Designs**, whose 3D printing service strives to democratise innovation by giving clients access to equipment, and **Tamir Shklaz** from **Quillo**, a safe, efficient and affordable second-hand online textbook marketplace.
- Social Impact: **Mvelo Hlophe** and his innovative coding platform **Zaio**. Taking a gamification approach, Zaio assists student developers build an IT skills profile and maybe even land their dream job, through coding challenges and practical experience.

- General: **Changing Lives Shoe Laundry**, represented by co-founder **Vuako Khosa**. Harnessing the sneaker trend beloved by students and young professionals, Changing Lives strives to provide clients the best shoe-cleaning services while creating job opportunities for young people who have been in conflict with the law.

Nurturing entrepreneurship within the realm of South African tertiary institutions is of the utmost importance, Vice-Chancellor Mamokgethi Phakeng said, as it might offer a solution to the high unemployment rates in South Africa.

She added that even if students end up working for someone other than themselves, the learnings that come out of competing in the Entrepreneurship Intersivity will prove valuable.

“Whether you become an entrepreneur or not when you leave university, it doesn’t matter,” she said. “Because having an entrepreneurial mindset is important even in environments where you’re not running your own company.”

The five winners will participate in the final leg of the intersivity competition on 18 September, where South Africa’s student entrepreneur of the year will be selected.



UCT’s top entrepreneurs. They are (from left) Denislav Marinov from DVM Designs, Lungile Macuacua from LabV, Vuako Khosa from Changing Lives Shoe Laundry, Mvelo Hlophe from Zaio and Tamir Shklaz from Quillo.

Photo: Brenton Geach/UCT

[Download high-resolution photo](#)

ENDS

Note to editors:

The intervarsity is an initiative of the Entrepreneurship Development in Higher Education (EDHE) programme and presented by the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET) and Universities South Africa (USAf), and is supported by the Allan Gray Orbis Foundation, University Capacity Development Programme (UCDP) and SAB Foundation. Importantly, all the student entrepreneurs who have made it to the final round of the competition are expected to have a good academic record too.

Issued by: UCT Communication and Marketing Department

Aamirah Sunday

Media Liaison and Monitoring Officer
Communication and Marketing Department
University of Cape Town
Rondebosch
Tel: (021) 650 5427
Cell: (076) 947 6071

Email: aamirah.sunday@uct.ac.za

Website: www.uct.ac.za