ELSENBURGAgricultural Training Institute

CLASS OF 2024

GRADUATION CEREMONY

7 December 2024





The National Anthem

Nkosi sikelel' iAfrika Maluphakanyisw' uphondo lwayo, Yizwa imithandazo yethu, Nkosi sikelela, thina lusapho lwayo.

Morena boloka setjhaba sa heso, O fedise dintwa le matshwenyeho, O se boloke, O se boloke setjhaba sa heso, Setjhaba sa South Africa, South Africa!

> Uit die blou van onse hemel, Uit die diepte van ons see, Oor ons ewige gebergtes, Waar die kranse antwoord gee,

Sounds the call to come together, And united we shall stand, Let us live and strive for freedom, In South Africa our land.

General information

MEMBERS OF THE AUDIENCE ARE REQUESTED:

- To rise and remain standing while the academic procession enters and leaves the hall.
- Not to leave the hall before the end of the ceremony. Only leave the hall after the academic procession and graduates exit the hall.
- Not to move around in the hall during the ceremony.
- To switch off their cellular phones.
- The filming or photographing of candidates is not permitted, but only by the official appointed photographer.
- Students must please return academic wear directly after the ceremony.
- In any emergency, you are requested to evacuate by the side and main entrances and gather at the tennis courts. We have trained medical emergency staff on standby should you require medical assistance.
- All candidates receiving special awards are requested to return to the hall after the ceremony for a photo opportunity with sponsors and dignitaries.
- We would like to extend an invitation to you to join us for drinks directly after the ceremony.

GRADUANDS' PROCEDURE DURING THE CEREMONY:

- Following the keynote speech, the graduands whose names appear first in the programme will be asked to stand, holding a seating card in their right hand.
- Present your card to the college representative, who will announce your name.
- Approach the stage from the right side (from the audience's perspective), stand facing away from the audience but slightly angled to your right, make eye contact with the cameraman and remain standing as the principal awards the degree/diploma/certificate. A photograph will be captured during this moment.
- Proceed across the stage to the second podium, climb up, and face the audience while your hood is draped over your head.
- A photograph will be taken at this point; please turn to your right, maintain an upright position, and gaze straight at the camera.
- Exit the podium to the left side (as viewed by the audience). An official will present your certificate to you.
- Quickly return to your seat and DO NOT EXIT THE HALL.



Message from HOD

Dear Graduates

Congratulations on reaching this remarkable milestone in your academic journey. As you step forward into a world filled with possibilities, remember the words of Desmond Tutu, "Hope is being able to see that there is light despite all of the darkness."

The theme of this year's graduation, "HOPE," is both inspiring and timely. Hope is not merely a feeling but a force that propels us to act with courage and determination. As graduates of Elsenburg College.

you are entering a critical chapter in your lives where your knowledge and skills will shape the future of agriculture and the communities we serve.

The agricultural sector is a cornerstone of our province's prosperity and resilience. Your journey does not end here; it begins anew as agents of change, innovation and sustainability. Your education has equipped you with the tools to face challenges with resolve and to transform those challenges into opportunities.

As you leave the nurturing academic environment of Elsenburg, embrace the vast landscape of opportunities awaiting you. Whether you are pioneering new agricultural techniques, contributing to food security, or fostering sustainable practices, your contributions will echo across generations.

In the words of Nelson Mandela: "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." Let your education be the beacon of hope that lights the path for others.

Remember that you have the power to make this a great life, not just for yourself but for others, through your unique contributions you change the course of history, let it be a remarkable footprint for others to follow. We are immensely proud of you and excited to see how you will shape the future of agriculture. Go forth with confidence, courage and an unshakable sense of hope.

Signing off #ForTheLoveOfAgriculture

Dr Mogale Sebopetsa Head of Department Western Cape Department of Agriculture

CERTIFICATES

National Certificate in Plant Production: Viticulture NQF 4

GADANA, Emihle

GWAZELA, Sivuyile

HEYNS, Rikus Hernando

JANUARIE, Valentino Franco

JOYI, Unathi

MACPHERSON, Mario Alzano

MBELU, Andiswa Yolanda

PINDA, Onke

SIGUQA, Clint Lunga

VAN AARDE, Jakobus Abraham

WARRIES, Gelomb Patrick

ZONDANI, Lelethu

National Certificate in Plant Production: Pomology NQF 4

BOTHA, Pierre Werner

DAVIDS, Aneeqah

FOURIE, Winston Annewill

JAMES, Peter

KUSTOOR, Chadwin Mark

MIETAS, Gilbert Maurice Eastern

POSWA, Qaqambile

SAM, Luzuko

SPANDOU, Elrenchia

VAN WYK, Petrovene Desnay WILSON, Uriah ZAULANA, Yondisiza

National Certificate in Animal Production: NQF 4

BAARTMAN, Bettie DAVEY. Keshia Kim Lee DYANTYI, Zintle ENGELBRECHT, Branwill GERTSE, Lionel Stanley GEYSMAN, Steve GROENEWALD, Danelle HENDRICKS, Georgia Jacinta LITSHI. Khanvisa Ernest MALANGENI, Aphumle MGOBO, Siphesihle MGQIBELISO, Inganathi MIENIES, Jayzelle Lizandré MKENTANE, Okuhle MTYOBILE. Thimna

NDLOTYENI, Nokubonga Cynthia NTANJANA, Sanelisiwe NTANJANA, Sixolisile John

PIKA, Inam

QHALI, Modisa

QINA. Yamkela

SEEKOEI, Nadia

SIKO, Thando

SIKO, Sinalo

SULANI, Avuyile

TSHINGA, Zizipho Elvenice

TYALALIPHELI, Mitha

VAN HEERDEN, Richter

Equine Studies

Professional & Head Groom: EQASA Module 1

FAIRLIE, Monique

FOKWANA, Lelethu

MARAIS, Nadia

MC ELHONE, Mirske

NKAMBA, Yanela

VAN RHYN, Angelique

VERMEULEN, Anelda

Professional & Head Groom: EQASA Module 2

MARAIS, Nadia

VAN RHYN, Angelique

VERMEULEN, Anelda

DIPLOMA IN AGRICULTURE

AUGUST, Davinuto

BENADE, Une (cum laude)

BONANI, Manyano Unity BOTES, Charles Andries Christiaan BOTHA, Jacobus Philippus CELLIERS, Greybe André CHRISTIANS, Tyler John DAMMERT, Ciaran Danial DARISENI, Tsholofelo Siyabulela DE KOCK, Jaco (cum laude) DEYZEL, Ernest Manley DIPPENAAR. Ellen Helize DOMINGO, Mariska She-Arl DU PLESSIS, Mattheus Gerhardus Uys DUBANI, Siyolise **ENGELBRECHT. Jacobus** FRANS, Hilton John GADANA. Nomvelelo GALANT, Jay-Jay Henric GELDENHUYS, Gideon Theodorus GERBER. Frans Johannes GOSLING, Jarryd David GROENEWALD, Dirkco Taljaart JACOBS, Logan Monique LE ROUX. Danel MATHUMBU, Yolisa MFENGU, Siyavuya

MGIDLANA. Mihle

MOKOTO, Oarabile Lawrence

M'SWATI, Brainwal

MUNDIE, Lachlan Norman

NDIZANA. Mzolisi Bantu

NICHOLLS, Heidi-Lee

NIEUWOUDT, Erika

OTTO, Abri

OWIES, Chloe Thyle

PAPAS, Matthew

PIETERSEN, Hugo

RIPPON, Victoria

SAPUKA, Lusindise

SLATER, Bradley Guy (cum laude)

STOEDER, Frederick

STROH, Eli David

STRYDOM, Franco

SWANEPOEL, Thean Dirk

SWARTS, Anthea Elzaan

TOTO, Pheliswa Rochelle (cum laude)

UITHALER, Engela Johanine-Drei (cum laude)

VAN BRAKEL, Cristiaan Johannes Frederick

VAN NIEKERK, Bevan Phil Patrick

VAN REENEN, Pierre

VENTER, Wiehan Rudolph

VERMEULEN, Evert

VISSER, Johannes Christiaan

VOLLGRAAFF, Marthinus Petrus
WILLIAMS, Benito Morgan
WULANA, Anathi

BACCALAUREUS IN AGRICULTURE

ALLWOOD, Mathew ANDERS. Sarah Grace BARNARDO, Danita BLOMERUS, Johan BOTHA, Charles Beyers BOTHA, Dane BOTHA, Izak Johannes CALDWELL, Tannah Rochael CILLIERS. Keanu (cum laude) COETZEE, De Villiers (cum laude) COETZER. Adrianus Daniel DE JAGER. Jandre (cum laude) DE VOS, Le Roux Burger DIPPENAAR, Alwyn Jacobus DREYER. Willem Petrus DU PISANI, Dehan Stefan DU PLESSIS, Maria Hendrika DU RAND. Danielle DUBULA, Sinoxolo EKSTEEN, Hendrik Johannes ERASMUS. Divan

ESTERHUIZEN, Andre Jean

GERBER, Inge

GILIOMEE, Johann Philip

HAMIED, Usamah

HANCKE, Stiaan

HANEKOM, Joshua

HATEM, Rob

HERHOLDT, Stephanus Johannes

HEYNS, Ryna

HOBSON, Blyth Leslie

HOLT, Matthew George Charles

HORNE, Skyla Jenna (cum laude)

JACOBS, Kaiden

JOUBERT, Hayli (cum laude)

JOUBERT, Johannes

JOUBERT, Simon

KINGMA, Aiden

KNOTT, Raquel Grace

KOTZE, Johannes Francois

KRUGER, Liam Jan

LE ROUX, Philippus Petrus

LOUW, Andries Abraham

MBONANE, Sicelimpilo Mcdophian

MEYER, Marx

MKHATSHWA, Eddie

MOHUBE, Khanyo

MPUPU. Sizeka

NIEUWOUDT, Charles

OLWAGEN, Malan

PEYPER, Tiaan Wicus

SCHULTZ, Michael Ludwig

SLABBER, Johanna (cum laude)

STRETTON. Matthew Ellis

SUKAZI, Done

SUMAILI, Fatuma

SWART. Barend Leonard

TERBLANCHE, JOHANNES HENDRIKUS

THERON, Georgia

THIART, Daniel

THOMAS, Luke Dave

UYS, Japie Walters

VAN COLLER, Richard Justin

VAN DER MERWE, Jani

VAN DER WESTHUIZEN, Luc

VAN HEERDEN, Andries Pinnie Rudolf

VAN WYK, Elizabeth Susanna Gertruida (cum laude)

VAN ZYL, Willem Adriaan

VERMEULEN, Leonie (cum laude)

VILJOEN, Gert Conradie (cum laude)

VISSER, Anja (cum laude)

WIESE, Rian

ZURNAMER, JARED GAVIN

SPECIAL AWARDS

LEARNERSHIPS

Best student in Animal Production: NQF 4

GROENEWALD, Danelle

Best student in Plant Production: Viticulture NQF 4

JANUARIE, Valentino Franco

Best student in Plant Production: Pomology NQF 4

VAN WYK, Petrovene Desnay

DUX AWARDS

Dux: Learnership Programme

GROENEWALD, Danelle

Dux: Diploma in Agriculture

UITHALER, Engela Johanine-Drei

Dux: B.Agric

SLABBER, Johanna

EXTERNAL AWARDS

The National Wool Growers Association Award in Wool Production

CILLIERS, Keanu

Best Student in Animal Health: Small Stock

(Sponsored by the Western Cape branch of the South African Veterinary Association)

VILJOEN, Gert Conradie

Best Student in Animal Health: Large Stock

(Sponsored by the Western Cape branch of the South African Veterinary Association)



Message to the Elsenburg Graduands of 2024

Congratulations to the Elsenburg Graduating Class of 2024!

As you reach this remarkable milestone, I am filled with pride and excitement for each of you. This year, our theme is "Hope," a word that speaks to the very essence of what it means to be in agriculture. In your hands, you hold the seeds of the future that will grow and nourish our communities, just as your passion and dedication have grown throughout your journey here at Elsenburg.

Hope is more than just a feeling; it's a force that drives us to envision a better tomorrow, even when the path ahead seems uncertain. In agriculture, hope is in every new crop we plant, in every challenge we overcome and in every innovation we create to sustain our environment. You, our graduates, are the embodiment of that hope. You are the future stewards of the land, the innovators who will meet the demands of a changing world and the leaders who will inspire growth and resilience in our communities.

As you step into the next chapter of your lives, I encourage you to hold onto that hope. Let it guide you as you face new challenges, let it inspire you to find solutions and let it remind you of the power you have to make a difference. Remember that you are not alone on this journey - you are now part of the proud Elsenburg alumni that has shaped the agricultural landscape for more than a century. Stay connected to us, so we can both benefit from your contribution, as well as support you as you make your mark in the world.

Congratulations once again and may your journey ahead be filled with hope, success and boundless opportunities.

With pride and best wishes,

Mr Darryl Jacobs Acting Principal from 1 July 2023 - 31 October 2024

Our year in review

2023 Graduates

On 2 December 2023, 187 proud students received their qualifications at the Elsenburg Agricultural Training Institute. The Elsenburg Annual Graduation Ceremony marks the culmination of hard work and dedication from both the students and the staff.

Last year's ceremony also celebrated the College's 125th anniversary, honoring Elsenburg's rich history, which reflects a story of resilience, rebirth and growth. As Dr Ivan Meyer, Minister of Agriculture, expressed, "The College embodies **HOPE - Higher Opportunities for People to Excel** - and will continue to provide these opportunities in the years to come."









Photos from left to right:

Mr Albertus van Zyl with Minister Dr Ivan Meyer
Ms Zaakiyah Cader with Dr Mogale Sebopetsa
Dr Mogale Sebopetsa proposing a toast at the 125th celebration
Mr Mawande Siduka – graduate of 2023

In the 2024 academic year, we are proud to announce that 189 graduates will receive their well-deserved qualifications, marking a significant achievement in their educational journeys.

Orientation and welcoming of first-year students

The first step for every Elsenburger is to attend a formal orientation programme to ensure a positive first-year experience for students. This orientation provides an opportunity to learn about the College's policies and procedures and important topics related to health, wellness, safety and diversity management. It also helps students acclimate to the campus environment. During this time, students can connect with their peers, meet academic staff, explore available resources and receive support as they embark on their Elsenburg journey.

In January 2024, all students were officially welcomed by Dr Ivan Meyer, Mr Darryl Jacobs and the Student Representative Council, who encouraged them in this new phase of their lives.

Ms Carla Beyers and Abongile Feni arranged and coordinated this year's orientation programme.

Top photo: Welcoming by Minister Dr Ivan Meyer

Middle photo: Welcoming in the hall

Bottom photo: Introduction of the Student Representative Council







Industry engagements

Finalising Memorandums of Agreements (MOUs) with diverse industry partners guarantees the adoption of best practices and promotes cost-efficient and effective working methods. A notable example of such an MOU is the one established between the Western Cape Department of Agriculture and the Agricultural Sector Education Training Authority (AgriSETA), Fertiva Trust and Karstens Boerdery (PTY) LTD, which provided essential financial backing for the RPL process, capacity enhancement and bursaries.

Partnership between Local Dairy Farmers and Elsenburg Agricultural Training Institute



On 25 June 2024, the Faculty of Animal Production finalised an agreement with Mr Phillip Blackenberg from Klipheuwel Dairy Farm, who supplied twelve Holstein Friesian dairy cows for the **Artificial Insemination (AI)** course, providing our students with valuable hands-on experience.

During the first practical session, one Elsenburg student made a significant discovery: a healthy, growing foetus that may have been overlooked at the cow's previous farm. This moment highlighted

the critical importance of hands-on training and demonstrated the students' developing proficiency in real-world scenarios.

This collaborative effort between Elsenburg and the surrounding dairy farmers serves as a powerful testament to the unity and strength of Western Cape's agricultural community.

We sincerely thank the Blanckenberg family of Klipheuwel Farm for donating cows, and De Heus Animal Nutrition along with Overberg farmers for sponsoring feed. Their support has enhanced training for future agricultural professionals and strengthened the livestock industry with skilled workers in reproductive technologies.



Student developments

First female shearing team

This team, comprising (from left to right), Jaun-Mari van Jaarsveld, Wilmarie Coetzee, Caitlyn Williams and Rianette Swart, represents a significant step in breaking gender barriers in an industry traditionally dominated by men.

Springbok Head Wool Classing Course

Student **Anja Visser** obtained the highest result during the two 1-week Springbok Head wool classing courses held at Elsenburg. Anja attended the wool chain in Port Elizabeth as part of a prize awarded to the two best 2nd-year students.



Anja Visser



Engela Uithaler

Engela making history!

The Viticulture and Oenology Faculty takes great pride in announcing that **Engela Uithaler**, a final-year Diploma in Cellar Technology student, has been selected to join the Cape Winemakers Guild Protégé Programme. This marks the first time a Diploma student has been chosen for this prestigious initiative. The programme is a targeted three-year internship designed to facilitate skills transfer, provide practical experience, promote knowledge sharing and offer mentorship, all while nurturing young talent in the wine industry.

SAWIPB Primary Production Knowledge Donation Day

The South African Wine Industry Professional Body (SAWIPB) hosted a Knowledge Donation Day for final-year students of the Elsenburg Agricultural Training Institute, Stellenbosch University and Cape Peninsula University of Technology. The day was sponsored by South African Wine, FELCO Tools South Africa and KAAP AGRI. The programme for the day entailed the annual Intervarsity Pruning competition, an information session about the Professional Body and two guest speakers that shared their work experience in the viticulture and the wine recruitment industry.

The pruning competition was the highlight, and it was very competitive. It was a proud moment when the winners were announced. Elsenburg students, **Carlo de Vries** and **De Villiers Coetzee** took second and third positions respectively, while Stellenbosch University student, Talitha Liebenberg, scooped the first position.



Pictured: Second prize winner De Villers Coetzee (left) and third prize winner Carlo De Vries (middle) with Skyla Horne (on the right).



New developments

The winners of the 2024 National Master Dairyman Awards were announced by the Agricultural Research Council (ARC) on Wednesday 13 November, at Lanzerac Estate in Stellenbosch.

Ms Marguerite van Niekerk, dairy science lecturer, formed part of a panel discussion on sustainable youth development.

The Elsenburg Agricultural Training Institute offers formal and non-formal education and training to all interested in the agricultural sector

The Institute provides the following academic qualifications in the Higher Education and Training band: Bachelor of Agriculture degree (B. Agric) (3 years: NQF 7) and the Diploma in Agriculture (3 years: NQF 6) which includes Workplace Integrated Learning (WIL) for students in their final year. On the Agricultural Skills Development (ASD) level, the following qualifications can be obtained: Equine Studies (1 years: NQF 1 - 3), One Year Occupational Certificate: Orchard and Vineyard Foreman (NQF Level 4) and Occupational Certificate: Livestock Farmer (Livestock Farm Supervisor) NQF Level 3 and Formal or Non-formal short courses (2 to 10 days).

Applications

Applications to study at Elsenburg open on 1 April and close on 30 June each year, for studies the following year. The high demand for agricultural training is evident in nearly 6 300 applications received for studies during the 2025 academic year.

Enrolments

Across the four formal training programmes offered, a total amount of **612 students registered for the 2024 academic year**.

Agricultural skills development

Since Agricultural Skills Development (ASD) is crucial for economic advancement and food security, the ASD sub-programme has continued to offer skills development training to all interested beneficiaries. From 1 April 2024 to date, 1993 beneficiaries have been trained, with a target of 2 500 to be reached by 31 March 2025. The programme also expanded its Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) initiative to recog-

nise and validate the knowledge and experience of 200 agricultural workers, helping them obtain the qualifications they deserve. This initiative will continue in the 2025 academic year, with an additional 162 participants set to be evaluated.

The National Certificate programmes (Learnership Programmes) will be discontinued in 2024 and will be succeeded by Occupational Qualifications in 2025. This transition will enable students to pursue a career pathway within the framework of the National Qualifications Framework.

Financial assistance

A total of **R8,911,331.00** has been awarded in bursaries to 173 deserving students at the Elsenburg Agricultural Training Institute, demonstrating our strong commitment to fostering talent in the agricultural sector.

Curriculum alignment

The curriculum is regularly revised and updated to remain current with the evolving agricultural landscape, encompassing the Internet of Things, robotics and immersive technology. Consequently, students participate in technology training initiatives that include drone technology, webinar conferences and the development and delivery of online educational materials. The Institute, in collaboration with Stellenbosch University, is evaluating the Bachelor of Agriculture degree to assess the curriculum's relevance as part of a quality management initiative.

International agreement

The cooperation agreement between Western Cape and Burgundy (now Bourgogne-France Comté Region), has been in effect since 12 September 2002, renewed in 2011, and includes cooperation in the areas of Agriculture, Trade and Tourism.

One of its initiatives is the development of individuals within the cellar environment with a focus on acquiring skills such as barrel maintenance, wood influence on wine, variety of toasting techniques and the assembly of a barrel. To fulfil this agreement, the Institute will provide seven cellar assistants from various wine estates and cellars across the Western Cape with the opportunity to travel to France in 2025 for training in winemaking, as well as barrel management and maintenance. The advertisement and selection process has been concluded and the successful candidates are currently engaged in development courses to prepare themselves for the intensive exchange programme scheduled for September – October 2025.



On 27 August 2024, the Western Cape - Bourgogne Franche-Comté Alumni Network was formally inaugurated. This network aims to give members a deeper understanding of global challenges and cultural diversity, promoting mutual understanding, enhancing communication abilities and broadening activities and perspectives.

Photo above: Cellar assistants selected to participate in the Burgundy Exchange Programme

Front from left to right: Wilfred Fortuin (Anthonij Rupert Wines), Tjaleni Matlakala (Stellenzight Wines), Natasha Van Schoor (Administrative support: Elsenburg College), Brendin Benjamin (Rustenberg Wines) and Thezwill Ruiters (Leopards Leap).

Back row from left to right: Eugene Arens (Montagu Winery), Dewald Hoorn (Anthonij Rupert Wines), Bernard Louw (Rondebosch Kelders), Brenton Maarman (Lecturer: Elsenburg College) and Sandile Mkhwanazi (Lecturer: Elsenburg College).

Upgrade of library systems

Our library system has successfully upgraded to the GeniePlus Integrated Library System. This advanced programme is essential for the needs of students, researchers and department officials alike. With its intuitive interface, the system will significantly enhance the efficiency of our library's workflows and services, empowering students and staff to achieve greater precision and productivity.

Infrastructure upgrades and maintenance

The importance of maintaining essential infrastructure cannot be overstated. The Institute acknowledges that investing in the modernisation and upgrading of aging facilities is crucial. Consequently, several significant restoration and upgrade projects have been undertaken this year, with more planned for the upcoming year. These projects include upgrades to several student residences, improvements in the Vegetable and Agronomy section and maintenance and enhancements of IT infrastructure.



Message from Ms Jacobs

Dear Graduands,

Today marks not just the culmination of years of hard work and a big milestone in your academic journey, but the beginning of your next great adventure. We are immensely proud of this achievement and filled with optimism and hope for your future.

During your journey to this academic milestone, you have demonstrated remarkable resilience, adaptability and determination. Through the challenges, the highs and lows,

you have survived, thrived and proven that excellence can emerge from adversity. Whatever path you choose from here onwards, remember that your education at Elsenburg has equipped you with knowledge, as well as the wisdom to use that knowledge ethically and effectively. As you step forward into your chosen fields, carry with you not just your qualification, but also the responsibility to use your education as a force for good.

Your relationship with this institution doesn't end today - it evolves. You join a distinguished network of alumni who are making their mark globally. Stay connected, mentor those who follow in your footsteps and continue to embody the values that defines the Elsenburg community: integrity, inclusivity, innovation and impact. Let Agriculture Flourish (Floreat Agricultura)!

I extend my heartfelt congratulations to each of you and look forward to watching you write the next chapters of your stories, knowing that you will continue to make us proud.

May you go forth with courage, wisdom and purpose.

With warmest regards,

Gertrude Jacobs

Director: Agricultural Skills Development

Sports tournaments

Rugby Sports Week

The South African Agricultural Colleges Rugby (SAAC: Rugby) Sports Week is an annual intercollegiate tournament that began in 1969 to bring together athletes from all of South Africa's Agricultural Training Institutes. The event is hosted on a rotating basis, a practice that continues today.

For two consecutive years, the Elsenburg Agricultural Training Institute proudly served as the host of this event.

The Elsenburg rugby team remains undefeated, having secured a 20-6 victory over Grootfontein after a challenging week of rugby. This win marks their 37th victory in the history of this annual competition.



Photo above: Elsenburg rugby team

Photo to the right: CJ Van Vuuren (Grootfontein captain) and Johan Lamprecht (Elsenburg captain) with the runner-up and championship trophies.



NACSANO Sports Week

The Institute participated in the National Agricultural Colleges Soccer and Netball Organisation (NACSANO) Sports Week, held at Tompi-Seleka Agricultural College in Polokwane from 20 to 27 September 2024.

The golf team emerged as the overall winner, with Team 1 taking gold and Team 2 securing the bronze medal. The soccer team finished with a silver medal after a hard-fought final against their rivals, Grootfontein Agricultural College.

Top photo: Golf team

Middle photo: Soccer

team

Bottom photo: Netball

team







College Council

The College Council of the Elsenburg Agricultural Training Institute provides advice and support to the Principal and staff. It makes recommendations for governance, academic functions and internal monitoring and quality mechanisms. Our current Council was appointed from 01 August 2022 until 31 July 2025.



LEN CONRADIE
Deputy Director: Agricultural
Management and Social
Sciences, EATI



PAUL ROCKMAN Acting Principal, EATI



MARIO BONZE

Manager:
Administration and Training
Support Services, EATI



PROF. MARET DU TOIT Vice-Dean: Learning and Teaching, Faculty of AgriSciences (SU)



PROF. MORRIS FANADZO Associate Prof., Head of Programme: Agriculture: CPUT



MR CHARLES GOODWIN Principal: Boland College



MR HEINI DU TOIT Vice-President, Agri Western Cape



KGADI SENYATSI Head: Business Development, South African Pork Producers' Organisation



ADV. NICO BOSHOFF Chief Director: Legal Advisory Services, Department of the Premier, Western Cape



GERTRUDE JACOBS Director: Agricultural Skills Development, EATI



MARITJIE CORNELISSEN Deputy Director: Quality Assurance, EATI



JAUN-MARI VAN JAARSVELD Chairperson: Student Representative Council, FATI

CHAIRPERSON



PROF. DANIE BRINK Dean, Faculty of AgriSciences, University of Stellenbosch (SU)

DEPUTY-CHAIRPERSON

PROF. NDOMELELE LUDIDI Professor of Biotechnology, University of the Western Cape



MS ZENOVIA PARKER Office Manager, Elsenburg Agricultural Training Institute (EATI)

Appointment of Honorary Professor and Research Fellow

The Elsenburg Agricultural Training Institute has named **Professor William Gumede (below left)**, an Honorary Professor and **Mr Wandile Sihlobo (below right)**, a Research Fellow. Their appointments are for three years, from 1 October 2023 to 30 September 2026.





Both individuals are recognised experts in their respective fields. They possess established academic credentials and specialised knowledge in a certain study area, along with notable accomplishments in professional pursuits, commerce, industry and creative endeavours. Professor Gumede and Mr Sihlobo are likely to make a significant academic contribution to the College due to their prominence in teaching and research or achievements. They would substantially enhance the body of knowledge and reputation of the College.

College Staff



ZENOVIA PARKER Office Manager



ZONELE YILANI Household aid



YAMKELA MPANDE Intern: Student Administration



WILNA BRINK Librarian



THIRZIA DANIELS
Personal Assistant - Chief
Director



SIPHOKAZI WASA Intern: Bredasdorp decentralised centre



SIMONE OSMAN Intern: Administration and Training Support Services



SHE-EARL APRIL Student Administration



SANDRA VAN EEDEN Lecturer: Horticulture



SANDILE MKHWANAZI Lecturer: Viticulture and Oenology



PAULINA HAMMER Household Aid: Bredasdorp decentralised centre



PAUL ROCKMAN
Acting Principal



PAMELA SIPELE Student Administration: Agricultural Skills Development



NGOAKOANA CHOKOE Senior Lecturer: Extension



NATASHA VAN SCHOOR Personal Assistant: Agricultural Skills Development



NATALIE JITHOO Administration Clerk: Oudtshoorn Training Centre



NANDIPHA MBIZANA Lecturer: Agribusiness Management



MARITJIE CORNELISSEN

Deputy Director:

Quality Assurance



MARIO BONZE Manager: Administration & Training Support Services



MOURRIN LEKHETHA Household aid



MASIXOLE KULA Household aid



MANFRED ANTHONY Household aid



LOETFIA ROSENBERG Administration and Training Support Services



LIESL JARVIS Student Administration



LEON HARTMAN

Administration and Training
Support Services



LEN CONRADIE
Deputy Director: Plant
Production and
Animal Husbandry



LONA SOGA Household aid



LEE-ANN JACOBS Household aid



JOHN-RAY ADAMS Lecturer: Computer Science



JASON JAFTHA Intern: Oudtshoorn Training Centre



JANE THEUNISSEN

Lecturer:

Horticulture



HILTON ABRAHAMS Lecturer: Biology



HENRY COOK Lecturer: Agricultural Skills Development



HENDRINA BANTHAM Household aid



GLORIA BLAAI Administration and Training Support Services



GERTRUDE JACOBS Director: Agricultural Skills Development



GCOBISA BUNGA Household aid



EVA NEL Lecturer: Agricultural Engineering



ERNST MOLLER Senior Lecturer: Horticulture



ELROY LOSPER Administration and Training Support Services



ELIZABETH EVERTS Student Administration



ELIZABETH DANIELS Centre Manager: Bredasdorp decentralised centre



ELTON BARENDS Household aid



ELIZE JOHANNES Household aid



DR THAPELO KEKANA Senior Lecturer: Animal Production



DR ELSA LOMBARD Lecturer: Chemistry and Soil Science



DR ANNELIE CLOETE State Veterinarian



DESIREE CHINA-SAMY-DAMPIES Student Administration



DEIRDRE JEFTHAS Library Assistant



CONSTANCE MALAMLELA Household aid



BRONWYN AND BRENTON MAARMAN Hostel parents



BERNADETTE ABRAHAMS Senior Lecturer: Vegetables and Agronomy



BELINDA AHRENDS Personal Assistant - Director Higher Education and Training



BABALWA MJAKUJA Household aid



ANDRIES LE ROUX Lecturer: Agronomy



ALIDA PRINS Household Aid: Oudtshoorn Training Centre



ALFRED MALAMLELA
Administration and Training
Support Services



AKHONA TUKU Centre Manager: Oudtshoorn



ABRAHAM VAN NIEKERK Lecturer: Agricultural Engineering



ABONGILE FENI Lecturer: Vegetables and Agronomy



ALICIA MDODA Household aid



ASHLEY LINDOOR Administration and Training Support



BRENTON MAARMAN Lecturer: Viticulture and Oenology



DR JASPER CLOETE Lecturer: Animal Production



ERIN SMITH Intern: Vegetables and Agronomy



EVELINA KOERIES Household Aid: George Training Centre



JACQUELINE JULIUS Administration: Agricultural Skills Development



LAETITIA SMITH Administration and Training Support



MARGUERITE VAN NIEKERK Lecturer: Animal Production



MARLON PIETERSE Administration: George Training Centre



MARQUE LUKAS Household Aid Supervisor



MPUMELELO SOMTSEWU Lecturer: Extension



MXOLISI CAPSANA Lecturer: Agricultural Skills Development



PRINCE GQWESA Administration and Training Support



SAMUEL JELANDER Centre Manager: George Training Centre



THEMBELANI MTHOKO Lecturer: Vegetables and Agronomy



UNATHI LIWANI Learnership Coordinator



WILLENE REYNECKE Technical Assistant: Equine Studies



ZIMASILE STENTYI Intern: Agricultural Skills Development

Retirements and appointments



Celebrating a legacy of dedication

Marianne Samuels worked as a Household Aid at the Elsenburg Hostel for 40 years and retired in November 2024. During her time, she dedicated herself to preparing and providing well-balanced meals to students. We thank her for her unwavering dedication and the countless ways she touched the lives of students and those around her.

New appointments

We are thrilled to announce the appointment of **Mpumelelo Somtsewu** (below left) as a lecturer in the Faculty of Extension and **Thembelani Mthoko** (below right) as a lecturer in the Faculty of Vegetables and Agronomy, effective 1 September 2024. These individuals bring a wealth of knowledge, experience and passion that will undoubtedly elevate our Institution and positively impact the future of agriculture.





Administration and Training Support

Gcobisa Bunga (left), Manfred Anthony (middle) and Masixole Kula (right) have become valuable members of the hostel team as of 2024. Their unique skills and dedication will contribute significantly to the smooth operation of the hostel and catering services.







International staff development

Marguerite at the agricultural training programme in Taiwan

From 8 to 27 July, Ms Marguerite van Niekerk, Lecturer: Animal Husbandry (large stock), had the incredible opportunity to participate in a three-week agricultural training programme in Taiwan at the National Pingtung University of Science and Technology (NPUST). This initiative aimed to equip African farmers and agricultural professionals with farming techniques and practical knowledge while offering insight into Taiwan's agricultural practices. The training schedule consisted of lectures from esteemed professors at NPUST, field visits to industries and local farms, and firsthand practical sessions. Each week focused on a different aspect of agriculture i.e. Soil Health, Agronomy and Horticulture, and Animal Husbandry.

According to Ms van Niekerk, the country, the people and the experience exceeded her expectations. "The total cultural immersion was fantastic, from the wonderful food, the beautiful sights and scenes, and the amazing people of Tawain. The staff of NPUST spoiled us weekends by taking us to traditional attractions such as several ancient temples, beautiful art galleries, Lukang Old Town, which was once the busy port wash of the Qing Dynasty in the 1600s, colourful street markets and one of the tallest buildings in the world, the Taipei 101, and an Indigenous tribal village surrounded by lush green vegetation and mountains."

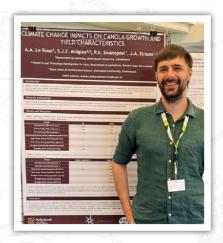






Andries at the 18th Congress of the European Society for Agronomy (ESA) in France

In August 2024, Mr Andries Le Roux, Lecturer: Agronomy, attended the 18th European Society for Agronomy (ESA) Congress in France, presenting his PhD research on the impact of climate change on canola production in the Western Cape. The congress provided a valuable platform for connecting with international researchers, discussing innovative agricultural practices and exchanging ideas on adaptive strategies for resilient farming systems. The experience highlighted insights into Rennes' unique crop rotation systems and engaging in discussions on sustainable agriculture with experts from diverse fields. The congress also featured memorable events, such as a practical excursion to Mont Saint-Michel and a gala dinner fostering meaningful networking opportunities. This trip expanded Mr Le Roux's knowledge of global agricultural challenges, equipping him with insights to incorporate into his teaching at Elsenburg to support students and farmers in adapting to climatedriven changes. The experience was made possible with the support of Stellenbosch University, the Protein Research Trust and the Western Cape Agricultural Research Trust.



Andries Le Roux presenting the poster on "The Effect of Climate Change on Canola Growth and Yield" at the European Society of Agronomy Congress in France.



Andries Le Roux, Sandra Hull, and Manfred Venter representing South Africa at the European Society of Agronomy Congress in France.



A Graduate Intern's Experience: Learning Agricultural Innovations in Beijing

As a graduate intern with a strong commitment to sustainable agriculture, Ms Erin Smith seized the opportunity to attend the Training Programme on Modernised Vegetable Seedling and Plant Factory Production Technology in Beijing, China, from 10 - 30 October 2024.

Organised by the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Mechanisation Sciences Group Co., Ltd. (CAAMS) and sponsored by the Ministry of Commerce of China, this programme

was a powerful combination of advanced agricultural knowledge and hands-on learning.

From the outset, the programme fostered a collaborative environment through engaging team-building activities and a welcoming luncheon. Over three intensive weeks, Erin participated in lectures led by industry experts on critical topics such as cucumber seedling grafting techniques and the latest advancements in facility vegetable research. These sessions were intellectually stimulating and directly relevant to addressing today's agricultural challenges.

The field visits to the Key Laboratory of Agricultural Engineering, the College of Horticulture at Shandong Agricultural University and Shandong Weifang Cui Seedling Co., Ltd. provided exceptional insights into cutting-edge technologies and their practical applications.

Moreover, the programme offered valuable cultural enrichment, greatly enhancing her understanding of the socio-economic context driving these innovations. Networking with participants from various Belt and Road countries allowed Erin to exchange ideas and build strong professional connections.

This programme not only equipped her with practical skills but also broadened her perspective on agricultural innovation. According to Erin, she is more determined than ever to contribute to sustainable farming solutions in her community.

Our students

Learnership class of 2024



MBELU
"Even though I walk through
the darkest valley, I will fear
no evil, for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they



ANEEQAH DAVIDS "Graduation is not the end, it's the beginning"



APHUMLE MALANGENI



BETTIE BAARTMAN "Success comes to those who seek it"



BRANWILL ENGELBRECHT "Gaan groot of Gaan huis toe"



"Time flies, but YOU are the pilot"



GELOMB PATRICK WAR-RIES "Don't let your past determine your Future"



HENDRIKCS
"Opportunity does not knock, it presents itself when you beat down the door."



GILBERT MAURICE EASTERN MIETAS "Your efforts today are foundation for a brighter tomorrow"



INAM PIKA
"A journey of a thousand
miles begins with a single
step,it's a bad not a bad life
one bad chapter doesn't
mean your story is over"



INGANATHI MGQIBELISO "Take courage to grow up and become who you really are"



KESHIA KIM-LEE DAVEY "Celebrate endings — for they precede new beginnings"



KHANYISA LITSHI
"If agriculture goes wrong,
nothing else will have
a chance to go right."
- M. S. Swaminathan



MARIO ALZANO MACPHERSON 'Sleep is for the weak"



MITHA TYALALIPHELI
"Success is no accident. It
is hard work, perseverance,
learning, studying, sacrifice
and most of all, love of what
you are doing or learning
to do."



MODISA QHALI
"Every late night of
studying and every difficult
assignment is a step toward
achieving our dreams. Let's
keep our eyes on the prize!!"



NADIA SEEKOEI "Slow and steady always win"



NOKUBONGA CYNTHIA NDLOTYENI "Every challenge you face will help you grow, just like the crops you nurture"



OKUHLE MKENTANE"Some things have to end for better things to begin."



PETROVENE DESNAY VAN WYK Jeremiah 29 verse 11



RICHTER VAN HEERDEN "Dankie Elsenburg"



RIKUS HEYNS
"Craft each bottle with passion, for in every glass lies the art of your dedication."



SANELISIWE NTANJANA
"You are never too old
to set another goal or to
dream a new dream ,don't
watch the clock do what
it does"



SINALO SIKO
"It is only when we take
chances that our lives
improve"



SIPHESIHLE MGOBO "The future is yours to create, go out and make it happen"



SIVUYILE GWAZELA "All Rose are Blushes but not all Blushes are Rose"



THANDO SIKO
"Failure is a part of life and
is not the end of the world.
None of us know what lies
ahead in the future but that
won't stop you from striving
to improve."



THIMNA MTYOBILE "Success is the child of audacity"



UNATHI JOYI "Rise above All"



VALENTINO FRANCO JANUARIE "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God"



WINSTON ANNEWILL FOURIE "The Future Starts Now"



YONDISIZA ZAULANA
"Every Setback Is a Setup
for a Comeback so Embrace
Your Imperfections"



ZIZIPHO ELVENICE TSHINGA "Nothing is impossible, the word itself says I'm possible"

Our students

B.Agric class of 2024



ALLWOOD, MATHEW Did A3's !, Got a degree about trees while I looked steeze!



ANDERS, SARAH GRACE I can do will things through christ phil 4:13



BARNARDO, DANITA Long story short, I survived.



BOTHA, CHARLES BEYERS As jy nie score nie, kan jy nie score nie



BOTHA, DANE Create a life you can't wait to wake up to



BOTHA, IZAK JOHANNES



CILLIERS, KEANU Grow where you're planted? I took that literally



COETZEE DE VILLIERS You are never too old to find your passion or purpose in life



DE JAGER, JANDRE



DU PLESSIS, MARIA HENDRIKA "Life is like a sewer... what you get out of it depends on what you put into it"



DU RAND, DANIELLE "Welkom opi burg, 'We didn't realise we were making memories we were just having fun' Oor en uit."



DUBULA, SINOXOLO Pray until something happens (Luke 18: 1-8)



MEYER, MARX Never Give up!



MKHATSHWA, EDDIE Life is a journey, education is a lifestyle!



ERASMUS, DIVAN



NIEUWOUDT, CHARLES



ESTERHUIZEN, ANDRE JEAN



HANCKE, STIAAN
Gaan slaap saans met 'n
droom. Staan soggens op
met 'n doel! ß My favourite
motto.



SCHULTZ, MICHAEL LUDWIG



HEYNS, RYNA



HANEKOM, JOSHUA Work hard smile harder



HORNE, SKYLA JENNA What doesn't kill you makes you stronger. Elsenburg was the best 3 years ever!



JACOBS, KAIDEN "Grow through, what you go through"



JOUBERT, HAYLI "Bloom with grace, no matter the challenges you face"



SLABBER, JOHANNA Luke 22:42 "not my will, but thine, be done" Our purpose on earth is to do God's will.



SUKAZI, DONE Rooted in growth, I'll cultivate change everywhere I go



KINGMA, AIDEN A is great not because he hasn't failed; but because failure hasn't stopped him.



SUMAILI, FATUMA All will happen in due time



THERON, GEORGIA How you see the world matters.



KRUGER, LIAM JAN
The harder you work the
more lucky you get!



LOUW, ANDRIES ABRAHAM It's hard to stumble when you're on your knees



THOMAS, LUKE DAVE
"Bohos?"



MBONANE, SICELIMPILO MCDOPHIAN This was my last year being broke



VAN COLLER, RICHARD Cultivate, Innovate, Succeed!



VAN ZYL, WILLEM ADRIAAN Take a chance on Elsenburg - it will be one of the best decisions you've ever made.



VERMEULEN, LEONIE You determine your own happiness



VISSER, ANJA
"Success is the sum of small
efforts, repeated day in and
day out."



WIESE, RIAN It can only get better from here!



ZURNAMER, JARED GAVIN
"Too often. I would hear
men boast of the miles
coverd that day, rarely of
what had seen."
- Louis L'Amour

Diploma class of 2024



AUGUST, DAVINUTO Dankie Elsenburg



BENADE, UNE N Ford bly beter as n Hilux



DARISENI, TSHOLOFELO SIYABULELA If you stumble, make it part of the dance



DIPPENAAR, ELLEN HELIZE



DU PLESSIS, MATTHEUS GERHARDUS UYS



ENGELBRECHT, JACOBUS

For the love

of agriculture



GALANT, JAY-JAY HENRIC Every effort counts, every success matters.



GOSLING, JARRYD DAVID Mountains are meant to be climbed and explored, experience the glory of God in his creation.



GELDENHUYS, GIDEON THEODORUS Live the journey



GERBER, FRANS JOHANNES



LE ROUX, DANEL
The magic of winemaking
lies not only in the taste but
in the stories the wine tells.



M'SWATI, BRAINWAL If you think it, you can do it.



MATHUMBU, YOLISA Believe, achieve, elevate



MFENGU, SIYAVUYA Success is earned, not given, keep on pushing.



MGIDLANA, MIHLE "Before u-one kuqal' u-zore, you cannot just Usain Bolt..."



MOKOTO, OARABILE LAWRENCE Just like potatoes, all eyes are on me



OWIES, CHLOE THYLE Philippians 4:3 "I can do all things through christ who strengthens me"



STROH, ELI DAVID



STRYDOM, FRANCO Success is the sum of small efforts repeated



SWANEPOEL, THEAN DIRK



SWARTS, ANTHEA ELZAAN Challenges are what make life interesting and overcoming them is what makes life meaningful



JOHANINE-DREI She is clothed with strength and dignity, and she laugh without fear of the future: Proverbs 31: 25



TOTO, PHELISWA ROCHELLE "You are not judged by the hight you have risen, but from the depth you have climbed" Fredenek Douglass



VAN BRAKEL, CRISTIAAN JOHANNES FREDERICK Mistakes are learning curves in life



VAN NIEKERK, BEVAN PHIL PATRICK Never give up because, you deserve to see your hard work pay off.



VISSER, JOHANNES CHRISTIAAN



WILLIAMS, BENITO MORGAN Probeer bly die beste geweer



VENTER, WIEHAN RUDOLPH
Don't let someone tell you the sky is the limit when there is footprints on the moon.



WULANA, ANATHI Wherever you go leave a mark, it is up to a person if it is a good or bad mark

Equine class of 2024



ANGELIQUE VAN RHYN When life closes a door, open it again as that is how it works.



LELETHU FOKWANA When you don't have a confident position, it's saying to people you don't believe in yourself.



NADIA MARAIS Wyn vir die pyn



YANELA NKAMBA Joy virtue service through work.



ANELDA VERMEULEN When life gives you lemons, take it with tequila.

Today we honour the dedication, resilience and passion you've poured into reaching this milestone. Your time at Elsenburg Agricultural Training Institute has equipped you not only with skills but also with the values needed to make a lasting impact in agriculture and beyond.

As you move forward, remember that you carry the knowledge, integrity and drive to shape a better future for our communities and industry. Since your first registration, you have been part of a proud tradition, and we look forward to seeing the difference you will make both here in the province and across the world.

Congratulations on this achievement. Keep moving forward with confidence!

Faculty: Animal Production

Encouragement from staff

Congrats and best wishes for your next chapter!
Elizabeth Everts
Student Administration

Wishing you much success as you pursue your dreams.
Congratulations and good luck Elsenburgers!
Ms Laetitia Smith
Administration and
Student Support

Do not follow where the path may lead. Go, instead, where there is no path and leave a trail.

Dr Elsa Lombard Lecturer: Chemistry and Soil Science

Congratulations and best of luck on your new beginnings!

She-Earl April
Student Administration

May success always find its way to you in all your pursuits as you enjoy the fruits of your labour. Dare to live passionately, accept your genuine self, dream big, and never stop aiming for the stars. Continue to shine and go for your goals!

Ms Gloria Blaai Administration and Student Support Today marks not just the end of your studies at Elsenburg, but the beginning of your potential. Chase your dreams fearlessly, for the world awaits your unique impact!

Ms Maritjie Cornelissen Deputy Director: Quality Assurance Congratulations on your graduation. We are proud that you have applied yourself to your studies and successfully completed your respective courses. We expect great things from you. Let agriculture flourish!

Brenton and Bronwyn

Brenton and Bronwyn
Maarman

Our Lecturers salute you on your decision to enter the still growing, exciting opportunities and subservient purpose of agriculture. May even the bad days seem good to you.

Mr Abraham van Niekerk Lecturer: Agricultural Engineering

Congratulations on cultivating your dreams and finally weeding out all those latenight study sessions.

May your harvests be plentiful as you plough into the next chapter of your lives.

Mr Ernst Möller | Senior Lecturer: Horticulture

Graduates of 2024, today marks not just the end of a chapter, but the beginning of an extraordinary journey. May the knowledge you gained and the challenges you've overcome be the foundation of future success.

Trust in yourself, and your potential, embrace the unknown, GO BOLDLY, dream fiercely, and never stop learning. All the best for the future!

Ms Liesl Jarvis
Student Administration

Congratulations, class of 2024. You believed you could, so you did! Well done!

Zenovia Parker Management Support

Congratulations on reaching this significant milestone! May your future be filled with success and fulfilment. I wish you all the best.

Desiree Chinasamy-Dampies | Student Administration

Acknowledgments

We extend our sincere gratitude to our dedicated staff for their commitment and professionalism throughout the year.

We acknowledge Dr. Ivan Meyer, Minister of Agriculture, Economic Development and Tourism, for his passionate advocacy for agricultural education and training, which profoundly impacts our sector.

We also appreciate Dr. Mogale Sebopetsa, Head of the Department of Agriculture in the Western Cape, for his steadfast support and leadership.

Finally, we thank all contributors to this yearbook, with special recognition to Ms. Zenovia Parker for her diligent compilation and Ms. Robyn Carstens for her professional design and layout.

The Western Cape Department of Agriculture and the Elsenburg Agricultural Training Institute would like to thank you for your attendance and continued support.

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