

Report on the Career Exhibition held at VukaMabaso Community Hall (30 May 2015)

On Saturday the 30th May 2015, Ikusasaletu Education Project held its 2nd annual career exhibition at VukaMabaso Community Hall, Mseleni, Mhlabayalingana under Mkhanyakude District municipality in KwaZulu Natal, in collaboration with University of Pretoria, Mhlabayalingana Municipality, through the support of Tagsolvent as the main sponsor for the event.

IEP invited different organisations to honour the event and to ensure that the event became a success, namely: Ithala Bank, Metro College, College SA, Mbazwana Police Services, Western Cape Department of Forestry and Fisheries, Eskom and University of Zululand made this career fair a great success, Department of Trade and Industry as well as CSIR, based in Pretoria, could not honour the event but Mr. Shaun Moses from the DTI together with his colleague Mr. M Moropene, and Mr Tsepo Majake from CSIR, gave relevant material and handouts on which students can relate on in order to enable the

Students from about 10 different High Schools were present to make good sound decisions when it comes to their chosen career paths, namely Nsalamanga, Mshanguzana, Zenzeleni, Inkosi Justice Nxumalo Technical, Sukasambe, Sthembinhlahlhla, Sgedeni, Jikijela, Dundubala and Mlingo High Schools were present.



Ikusasaletu Education Project Team

This was the 2nd year annual community engagement project aimed at supporting the underprivileged learners of rural schools in KZN with particular interests in Career guidance and development. Different organisations were invited by a Non-Profit organization (NPO) Ikusasaletu Education Project based in Mseleni KwaZulu Natal to support the organisation's planned career fair. The NPO realized the desperate need for career guidance in that area which is very rural characterized by a need for education as a key pillar of the Millennium Development initiative.

The team together with Tagsolvent reached a common understanding that giving back to rural communities was the best way to shape our communities and unlock poverty trap in our communities whilst building resilience against poverty, hence the theme of the day was "Resilience through career guidance, sustainable fuel for education". And the motto was "Do not train a child to learn by force or harshness; but direct them to it by what amuses their minds, so that you may be better able to discover with accuracy the peculiar bent of the genius of each."

— Plato



The Program Director was Mr Msibi and he did a fantastic job as Program Director. His dance steps, sense of humour and words of wisdom captivated the hearts of the audience and kept every person who attended the event awake and keep looking for more of his versatility and motivation.



Mr Msibi, directing the program

Ithala Bank representatives elaborated on differing business opportunities that the organisation offers as well as funding that they have for the youth development, she further elaborated on the importance of choosing the right career choice, whilst advising students that the fact that one is not able to further studies mean it does not mean that your life is over.



Ithala Bank member addressing students

College SA, was represented by Surprise Sekgota, who elaborated on available opportunities through distance learning, he motivated student in terms of wherever you are, finances should not stand on your way and that is what College SA is currently doing, he gave insight of what distance learning entails and how it can improves one's life especially those leaners who cannot afford to pay for tertiary expenses and also those who are already doing some form of work but who are willing to pursue their studies.



College SA, about to make presentation

University of Pretoria

From University of Pretoria, there were several candidates who motivated student on what needs to be considered when one is willing to make a success out of his /her career path, Mr. Moses Kebalepile, who is currently busy with his PHD in Public Health (Inhalation Toxicology) and a University employee as a researcher, conducted a pilot study with students who were present, which aims at assisting them to be able to choose the relevant career path based on their strong points, the conducted survey will then be used in assisting students and Ikusasaletu Education Project in identifying the grey areas when it comes to career choices.

From the feedback received from students the pilot study was an eye opener to them and introduced them to different careers that they can choose from after their grade 12, those who have already passed grade 12 who were present, they were so grateful that now they are fully aware of different careers which are out there through this exercise.



Moses Kebalepile, taking the students through the survey process





Teams assisting students with questionnaire completion

Dr. Maximas Sefotho an Educational Psychologist at University of Pretoria based at Groenkloof campus and the Head of Residence in one of the post-graduate residences, who made it his responsibility that team Pretoria attends the career day, he funded the trip from Pretoria to Mseleni, and ensured that the team arrives safely and made the career day a success it was.

He did the exercise with students based on their strong attributes and what they like most based on their career choices.

The career exhibition was an immense success. Over 400 learners attended the career fair, Dr.Sefotho used one of the well-developed Education Psychology tools, a tool used to assess and guide learners for career paths, to assist the learners during the career fair to discern their strengths, opportunities and possibilities in shaping and developing a career path.

Tag Solvent, (private chemical company) through the aid of Gareth Taylor donated R5000.00, which was used by the NPO to provide necessary logistics in order for the organization to be able to fulfill its mandate and above that the company also assisted by donating the amount that was used to embroide team's t-shirts, banners, the tool that Dr. Doctor Sefotho used and business cards, and setting up the NPO's website: www.ofep.co.za, the amount that was donated summed up to almost R13,000.00.

ikusasalethu Education Project

Resilience through career guidance, sustainable fuel for education



ikusasalethu Education Project
Empowering young minds

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For more information please contact any of the following members:

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| Realist | <p>Do you like practical hands on activities?</p> <p>Do you like working with tools?</p> <p>Do you like working with equipment and machinery?</p> <p>Do you like building things?</p> <p>Do you like make things better?</p> <p>Do you like working outside?</p> <p>Do you like growing things?</p> | <p>A Doer: Doers tend to follow tradition, are practical with of common sense. Realistic in their approach, doers usually like to get things done.</p> <p>Possible careers might be: Hospitality, Tourism, Cookery, Land & Conservation, Horticulture, Mining & Resources, Automotive, Carpentry, Electrical, Engineering, Welding, Bricklaying, Building & Construction, Plumbing, Hairdressing, Beauty Therapy, Health & Safety.</p> |
| Investigator | <p>Are you analytical, intellectual and explorative?</p> <p>Do you like science?</p> <p>Do you like conducting research?</p> <p>Do you like analysing and solving problems?</p> <p>Do you have good maths skills?</p> | <p>A Thinker: Thinkers tend to be independent and are often careful about how things work. They generally have an investigative approach to life.</p> <p>Possible careers might be: Business & Computing, Accounting, Land & Conservation Management, Horticulture, Mining & Resources, Automotive, Carpentry, Wine, Electrical, Engineering, Welding, Health & Safety, Applied Science, Surveying, Web Based Technologies.</p> |
| Artistic | <p>Are you creative, original in thought and have a interest in self-expression?</p> <p>Do you like activities like art, drama, dance, music or creative writing?</p> <p>Do you like using your imagination?</p> <p>Do you have an interest in visual arts, language and writing?</p> | <p>A Creator: Creators usually prefer to follow careers that are more independent and less structured and are generally thought of as being creative with an artistic approach to life.</p> <p>Possible careers might be: Hairdressing, Interior Design, Beauty Therapy, Art, Fashion Design, Building Design, Travel and Tourism, Furniture Making, Visual Arts.</p> |
| Social | <p>Do you think of yourself as being friendly and helpful?</p> <p>Are you cooperative and supportive?</p> <p>Do you like helping and supporting others?</p> <p>Do you like helping people in to business, counselling, nursing or giving information?</p> <p>Do you like working in a team environment?</p> <p>Do you enjoy social activities?</p> | <p>A Helper: Helpers are usually people who are good listeners and have excellent communication skills. They are generally really caring and keen to help others.</p> <p>Possible careers might be: Legal care, Nursing, Child Care, Sports, Recreation and Fitness, Community Services, General Education, South Africa University, Health, Education, Research, Training and Assessment.</p> |
| Enterprising | <p>Are you sociable, energetic and ambitious?</p> <p>Are you interested in leadership, business or politics?</p> <p>Are you competitive, persuasive and motivating?</p> <p>Do you like selling ideas or things?</p> <p>Do you like power, status and thrill on taking risks</p> | <p>A Persuader: Persuaders enjoy meeting people and speaking in public. Enterprising individuals are usually thought of as being persuasive and take an innovative approach to life.</p> <p>Possible careers might be: Business Administration, Management, Computing, Fashion Design, Interior Design, Hospitality, Travel & Tourism, Hairdressing, Beauty Therapy, Retail, Building Design.</p> |
| Conventional | <p>Are you a detailed person who is organised, accurate and efficient?</p> <p>Do you like working with written records, numbers, systems and machines in an orderly way?</p> <p>Do you work well with data, numbers, processes and procedures?</p> | <p>An Organiser: Organisers love organising things. They have good implementation and follow up skills and are structured and methodical in their approach to life.</p> <p>Possible careers might be: Business Admin, Computing, Accounting, Account Admin, Carpentry, Electrical, Mining and Resources, Laboratory Technician</p> |

University of Zululand

Team from Zululand faced so many challenges on their way to the venue as there was a community strike taking place on the road that they were going to use but it never stopped them, they arrived late after hours of waiting at that spot where the road was closed and no cars were allowed to drive pass, tired as they were, on their arrival they did a wonderful presentation that left the audience thinking about the careers and what was mostly exciting is the fact that all representatives were from the rural parts of KZN, and some of them from the local communities around Mhlabuyalingana Municipality, who have achieved a lot in their careers and came to share their growth path in academics. Mandla Manzini, from Mseleni who is currently busy his masters studies at University of Zululand took it upon himself that the team arrives safe and they serve the purpose of the day with great success.

Eskom

Lungile the first local girl from Mabaso, Mseleni community who became an Eskom employee, faced the same challenges as the University of Zululand team, she was stuck from 23h00 from the previous day till the next day on the road till the road was cleared around 11am, she came with great energy shared her academic life journey with students enthusiastically, engaging them to questions and when they got the answers correctly an Eskom t-shirt was awarded to the student who got the correct answer. Students were so happy that in their own rural, poverty stricken community there are people who are doing great academic wise, it brought hope to their eyes. **Western Cape** The Western Cape Department of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries representative, talked about the bursary and job opportunities in the Agricultural sector, and advised student on how to do a proper application for a bursary and mostly he elaborated on the importance of the documents that need to accompany the bursary application form.



Western Cape representative delivering his speech to the students

Mbazwana police

The students were also honoured by the presence of the local police, Mr.Khumalo, who is dealing with student division in the local police station, warned student not to commit crime by any chance as this will ruin their chances of employment in future, irrespective of whether they are aiming at joining the security departments or other career disciplines, he gave them a word to take home that the future lies in their hands, and shaping that future begins at high school level.



A police representative addressing the students during career day



Team Pretoria receiving a certificate from Ikusasaletu Education



College SA receiving a certificate from Ikusasaletu Education Project



University of Zululand receiving a certificate from Ikusasaletu Education Project



Western Cape Department of Agriculture forestry and Fisheries, receiving a certificate from Ikusasaletu Education Project



Mshanguzana High School receiving a certificate from Ikusalethu Education Project



Video recorder receiving a certificate from Ikusalethu Education Project



The DJ receiving a certificate from Ikusalethu Education Project



Eskom representative receiving a certificate from Ikusalethu Education Project

The Photos



















