



100-UP

**Enhancing
excellence**

**Changing lives
of students
who are
ready to excel**



Why 100-UP?



Tefelo Mathibane is a final year medical student. Zimingtonaphakade Sigenu is currently studying for a MPhil in Development studies. Both of them study at the University of Cape Town (UCT) and are 100-UP alumni. They hail from schools in Khayelitsha.

Their lives would be very different were it not for 100-UP.

Getting into a university - and especially a prestigious university such as UCT - takes a unique set of academic and life skills. It is enormously difficult for learners from underprivileged communities to find, and fund, their way into the University. It's harder still for them to thrive as students once they are there.

UCT started the 100-UP project to help learners in poor and under-resourced communities navigate and thrive the world of higher education.

Each year, 100 talented learners in Grade 10 are selected from schools in Khayelitsha and then coached over three years to prepare them for university.

The university's Vice Chancellor, Prof Mamokgethi Phakeng and the Schools Development Unit that runs the project know what a critical role 100-UP plays in the lives of talented students.

And that's why there are plans to expand 100-UP, making sure the programme reaches more lives and serves more learners who are ready to excel.



What are our aims?

The main purpose of 100-UP is to better prepare academically-gifted learners from Khayelitsha and through its Gill Net component, learners from other disadvantaged communities in the Western Cape, to compete for places at tertiary institutions once they have completed their Matric studies. The project aims to:

- strengthen learners' abilities in core academic areas such as Mathematics, Sciences and English Additional Language
- provide opportunities to acquire skills and experiences in preparation for tertiary studies
- develop a sense of confidence and belief in their ability



A longer-term objective is to use 100-UP to build institutional knowledge and experience, which can better inform the university's transformation and bridging programmes, along with its school-based interventions.

The Schools Development Unit runs 100-UP in close collaboration with a range of individuals and groups across the university community, most notably UCT Careers Services, UCT admissions and financial aid offices, and various UCT student organisations.

What does 100-UP do?

The three-year enrichment programme is structured around a range of activities that includes:

- Grade 11 and 12 Saturday schools
- Grade 11 and 12 Residential camps, one of which is held at UCT main campus
- Grade 11 and 12 Summer Schools
- Enrichment workshops and career guidance
- Participation in the UCT Open Day and the annual UCT Mathematics competition
- Matric assistance in the tertiary application process, application and registration for National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS) and support in writing the National Benchmark Tests (NBTs)



Zimi's story

Zimingtonaphakade Sigenu



Today Zimingtonaphakade Sigenu, is worlds away from the shy teenager who was first identified as a learner with potential at Luhlaza High School in 2012. For Zimie, 100-UP was a game changer and gave her the confidence she needed to excel at academics.

She is currently doing an MPhil in Development Studies at the University of Cape Town and holds a Bachelor of Social Science degree in Political Science and Sociology.

"I never thought I had it in me," Zimie comments quietly. Although she never considered herself an exceptional student, her consistent hard work more than paid off.

For Zimie, 100-UP provided her with much more than just study skills. "I didn't believe that I was good at Physics, but then the team from 100-UP encouraged me and provided me with extra lessons and I found that I could do it. But more than that, they taught me leadership skills and made me believe that I had a contribution to make. They allowed me to find my voice."

Of course, transitioning from school to university was a huge adjustment but because Zimie had attended courses on campus during the 100-UP programme, she wasn't completely overwhelmed.

"I'm excited about being an academic," says Zimingtonaphakade. "There is so much to learn and study."

She goes on to say that growing up in a township where so many people don't have the opportunity to study further can be very isolating and that the 100-UP group provided her with like-minded students who were also pushing themselves to achieve. "To this day, we are still friends and check in on each other all the time. 100-UP gave us so much."

Who are the Gill Net learners?

We recognise that there are many academically-gifted learners who do not get the opportunity to participate in 100-UP from Grade 10. The project has extended its reach and selects matriculants, based on their June examination performance, from underprivileged communities. Gill Net learners are offered:

- an intensive third term revision programme
- assistance with the tertiary application process, NSFAS and NBTs like their matric counterparts in 100-UP

100-UP Success

100-UP and Gill Net matriculants have proven that - given the necessary encouragement and support - they too can step up and out! To date, six cohorts have successfully gained admission to UCT and other tertiary institutions in South Africa.



Results

Matric	100-UP & Gill Net in project	Pass	% Pass	University Entrance Pass	% University Entrance Pass
2013	194	194	100%	183	94%
2014	171	171	100%	143	84%
2015	210	210	100%	188	89%
2016	203	202	99,5%	195	96%
2017	214	214	100%	180	84%
2018	239	238	99.5%	220	92%



Tefelo's success

Tefelo Mathibane

Tefelo Mathibane is in his final year of medicine at UCT and attributes much of his success to the programme since it gave him a more competitive edge in mathematics and sciences, especially given the poor resources he had to contend with at school. While he had plans to specialise in anaesthetics, he is rethinking this choice. Whatever he settles on, there's little doubt that whatever Tefelo puts his mind to, he will be successful.

"I attended Centre of Science and Technology (COSAT) and was part of the Gill Net programme where high-achieving pupils in matric are identified and mentored. Being part of 100-UP is a great opportunity to improve your scholastic abilities, but they also focus on soft skills as well, such as how to cope with student life and how to manage your time."

For Tefelo, the camps during the June vacation where students spend time on campus, were invaluable. There the students receive lectures on a wide range of topics which he found very helpful.

"A lot of my friends were part of 100-UP. It is good to have that support system. Although a lot of them have already left university, we are still in contact."

"The need for programmes such as 100-UP is overwhelming," Tefelo continues. "There are so many students who need this kind of support, not just high-achieving ones."

Tefelo is hoping to complete his community service in 2020 in Mpumalanga. They will be lucky to get him!

University Enrolments

Year	University Entrance Pass	UCT Enrolments	Other Universities	Total	% University Enrolment
2014	183	61	108	169	92%
2015	143	55	71	126	88%
2016	188	100	82	182	97%
2017	195	95	65	160	82%
2018	180	74	96	170	94%
2019	220	100	109	209	95%

What is particularly encouraging is the high number of matriculants who have obtained university-level school exit passes (or B-Degrees as they are known in South Africa). The increased level of university enrolments each year bears testimony to the success of the programme. Of direct significance to UCT is the fact that enrolments from the disadvantaged schools in which 100-UP operates, have increased significantly since project inception.

Financial Support for successful 100-UP applicants to UCT

Learners eligible for financial aid will receive NSFAS funding towards their study costs and are only required to pay the Expected Family Contribution (EFC) that is calculated based on their family income, every year. Learners eligible for GAP funding will receive a part tuition bursary and a set loan offer based on their family income and will need to pay the balance of study costs.

All learners are encouraged to apply to as many funders as possible including UCT's Student Financial Aid. Full details on UCT's funding programmes, policies and rules, are available on the UCT website.

All 100-UP and Gill Net students that are accepted at UCT are accommodated in university residences. Once they are on campus further opportunities such as study trips abroad, being identified for various bursaries and scholarships, and opportunities to join top foundation programmes such as the Mellon Mays Programme, come knocking.

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