



# FOCUS

THE PRIVATE HOTEL SCHOOL

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## August is Women's Month - Women in Hospitality: A bright future

For many years various hospitality experts have referred to the 'glass ceiling' which has prevented women to ascend to the upper ranks of supervisory and managerial positions. Although still outnumbered by male counterpart's opportunities for women in the hospitality industry have expanded to leading the way for a new generation of females who aspire to become leaders and managers.

Women make up the majority of the executive committee team at PHS. Ms Susina Jooste heads up PHS in the capacity of Director of Academic Development. Dr. Deborah Johnson is the Vice Dean for Innovation and Strategic Planning linking PHS internationally. Ms Erika Theron is the Academic Manager and responsible for all academic matters at PHS. We wish our ladies well with their leadership roles.



Women leaders at PHS

Natalia Mukarakate is a first semester student at PHS. Natalia is originally from Zimbabwe and moved to South Africa during 2007. She has experience as a model and visited destinations such as Paris and New York. Her interest and passion for hospitality started in school and as she travelled she further developed a love for the industry. Natalia enjoys her studies at PHS and says that the variety of subjects provide her with a broad understanding of the industry. She also enjoys the smaller class groups providing individual attention from the facilitators. She loves her lecturers and says that PHS is "amazing and life-changing". Natalia advises prospective students and current students to choose their careers wisely and to be the best you can be at all times. We wish Natalia much success with her future plans.



Natalia Mukarakate  
Spotlight on  
PHS Students



Yolani Abrahams  
Message from the SRC  
Chairperson



Bianca Labuschagne  
Top Academic  
Achievers

Yolani Abrahams, a third semester student is the Chairperson of the PHS SRC. She is the spokesperson on behalf of the PHS students. Yolani believes that the role of the SRC is vital and that they constantly strive to promote and enhance student life. The SRC is the forum of student expression and through friendship and mentoring they hold out their hands to fellow students and the broader community. Yolani says that the SRC is focused on keeping a bond between students and that they arrange fun events to break away from the work and study pressure experienced during the course of their studies. These events provide students with a platform to collaborate and relax. Yolani advises students that "an original is better than a copy, we all gain the same knowledge, depending on what you study, but it is what you take from it and make it unique". We salute Yolani as leader of the SRC.

According to Bianca Labuschagne, a third semester student at PHS, studies are important and education is the foundation of success. Bianca scored over 75% in her second semester. Bianca says that while she is studying she focuses on the key aspects of each course and applies what she is learning practically. She also believes in balancing time with outdoor activities twice a week to ensure a focussed approach to her studies. To achieve a good result Bianca says that "managing your studies and time-management are the best ways to ensure the marks you wish to achieve are reachable".



Food is a Science

Karla van Zyl, a Masters Degree student at University of Stellenbosch, joined the PHS students to complete the sensory section of her thesis on "The Chemical Profiling of Boar Taint". She is currently in the process of completing her MSc in Food Science at the University of Stellenbosch. Knowledge on this topic is important for those in the food and hospitality industries as the presence of androstrenone in pork may cause consumer dissatisfaction. As a practical, the students assisted Karla in preparing pork chops by using three different methods; pan frying, oven roasting and "sous vide". The pork meat as well as pork fat of these different preparation methods were chemically compared to each other to determine how they affect the concentration of boar taint compounds within the pork meat and-fat as well as how the preparation methods affects the movement between the subcutaneous fat and pork meat. She aspires to enter the working world as a Food Scientist. Being excited and focused is her manner of ensuring success.

**"The difference between a good day and a bad day is your attitude" (Unknown)**

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