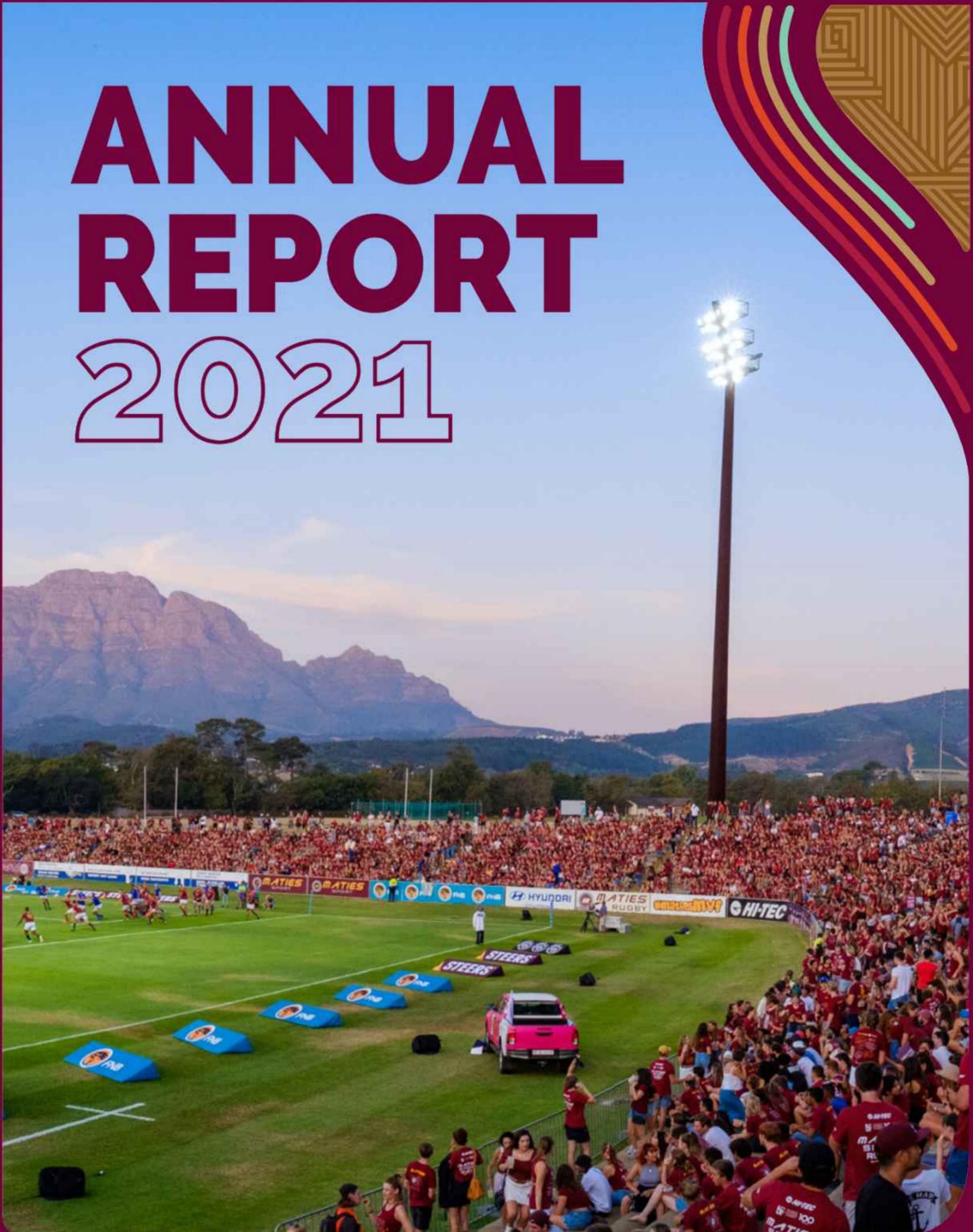




**MATIES  
SPORT**

# ANNUAL REPORT 2021





**MATIES  
SPORT**

**A Maties Sport Publication**

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# Introduction from the Maties Sport Chief Director

Over the past two years the global pandemic has impacted so many lives - especially our student-athletes and the concept of excellence has severely been tested.

2021 has been a challenging year: the on-going Covid-19 pandemic and the resultant stop-start of our sporting calendar. Thankfully, the team demonstrated Maties Sport's excellence across the board with a winning strategy, tenacity, creativity, ingenuity, dedication and true grit determination.

The interruption to sporting activities has had an immense impact on our student-athletes. They have had to readjust how they train and refocus on competitions that have often been cancelled. However, by March 2021 our fields were able to open for play and my hopes for 2022 is for our fans to return to Coetzenburg to cheer on our champion student-athletes.

The long-awaited Tygerberg Multipurpose Sport Facility was completed, reinforcing us as a destination of choice. Most importantly, our sports residence, Huis Neethling, continued to provide a nurturing home away from home for our High Performance rising stars.

Looking back on the past year, I am extremely proud of how Maties Sport has achieved its goals and answered to its mission and vision. We prioritise excellence at all levels, ensuring that we continuously advance our support for student-athletes to enable them to achieve holistic success.

Even as the world went into isolation, sport united us all – from home workouts to sport and participation taking place once again. Our student-athletes are unlike any other as they continually balance dual responsibilities and exceed expectations - even in this time of uncertainty, our student-athletes have been at the forefront of excellence by representing Maties Sport at national and international levels.

To be more specific, our students who participate in our programmes at University Sport South Africa (USSA), Varsity Cup, Varsity Sports and Team South Africa levels, continue to provide compelling

evidence in every way that high level participation in university sport can be fully integrated into the educational mission of a university of excellence, such as ours.

For universities, corporates in the business of sport, leagues, clubs and sponsors, tackling strategic and operational challenges will help extract the most value and build a sustainable business going forward. And Maties Sport, with Vision 2040, will be ready to continue our journey of excellence with them.

We want Maties Sport to remain one of the strongest brands in the higher education arena, with our clubs thriving through participation at all levels. The Maties Sport team is committed to distinguishing itself at all levels of sport participation to enable and support a transformative student experience, provide thought leadership and to make a difference through sport development initiatives.

This Annual Report is dedicated to the University's leadership at all levels (academic and professional support services), coaches, sports medicine and science and technology support staff, sport club support staff, sport managers, administrative support staff, facilities assistants, partners, sponsors, donors, volunteers, fans, family members and, most importantly, to our student-athletes. Without you we would simply not be able to enjoy what we are doing.

**Ilhaam Groenewald**  
*Chief Director: Maties Sport*



# Message from **The University's Chief Operating Officer**

## **Reinvention keeps the ball rolling**

Nothing gives me more pleasure than to see our students back on campus and our Maties Sport student-athletes training on our sporting fields. The pandemic threw a curve ball but our team showed incredible resourcefulness and resilience to reinvent themselves and take to the challenges in their stride.

I applaud this phenomenal team that turned sport at Stellenbosch University virtually on its head, ensuring that we could send a group of athletes to the Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics 2020 last year. Anruné Weyers sacrificed her job to focus on her training and did us proud with a gold medal in an exciting 400-metre event. Kerwin Noemdo might have missed the bronze medal but brought back a new African Record with his 4th position in the shot-put final. These are just some of the highlights on the athletics field, matched by student-athletes in many other sporting codes.

Whether on the field, in the water or even virtually, our Maties Sport student-athletes have shown that no lockdown could prevent Maties from giving their best to ensure that they upheld our University's name in their excellent performances over the past year.

We also ended the year on a high note by signing a Memorandum of Understanding between our University and the Stellenbosch Academy of Sport (SAS) to foster a better relationship and develop footballers for Stellenbosch and the greater Winelands community.

Her remarkable dedication to Maties Sport in bringing about transformation and encouraging innovation in her division saw Chief Director, Ilhaam Groenewald, receive the prestigious Chancellor's Award from Rector and Vice-Chancellor, Prof Wim de Villiers, last year. I congratulate our Chief Director on the merited recognition for her outstanding work.

Prof Stan du Plessis  
*Chief Operating Officer*



# PRIORITIES FOR 2022



Maties Women's Basketball players



New interns, from left, Amy Apollis, Jamie Wyngaardt, Bathabile Ndevu and Brady Wiseman

## Women in Sport Focus

Maties Sport looks to focus on women in sport and to uplift them through strategic pillars that include participation; investment and infrastructure; marketing and promotion; leadership; and governance.

The Women's Sport strategy, that forms part of the overall delivery model of Maties Sport, will provide a dedicated, inclusive and unique approach to championing women's sport. Each pillar was unpacked at an internal Forum and a plan was devised for 2022 and beyond to level the playing fields for our women athletes and female staff.

Furthermore, in line with Maties Sport Transformation Plan, two women head coaches were appointed for our women's Football and Hockey teams. The appointments will provide support to student-athletes through the delivery of a world-class holistic High-Performance programme that further contributes to SU as an Employer of Choice.

The appointment of a female Manager for Media and Communications was made in 2021 and four female interns were appointed for 2022 in the High Performance, Recreation and Active Lifestyle and Media and Communications units.



## Establishing an Esport and Gaming Venue

The Maties Esports Club was the first university Esports club of its kind when it was established in 2017, placing Stellenbosch University at the forefront of Esports development within the tertiary sport space.

In 2021 Maties Sport established a partnership with Innovus to pursue an overall vision for Esports and Gaming at the institution and successfully petitioned the Stellenbosch University's Strategic Fund for the establishment of a dedicated venue on campus to grow the sport among students, staff and within the broader Stellenbosch community.

"The collaboration between Innovus and Maties Sport on our first Esport and Gaming Centre for a local university is an example of how this institution stays relevant,"

says said Chief Director of Innovation and Commercialisation, Anita Nel.

"Esport athletes and gamers need access to state-of-the-art facilities, equipment and bandwidth. The dream is to establish a safe and accessible venue in 2022 on campus and ensuring that it is a place people want to visit on a regular basis.

"Although the venue has our University population top of mind in planning this, we also realise that there is a need for it within the wider Stellenbosch community and therefore the venue will cater for schools and the surrounding public just as much as for the on-campus population. We believe this is a critical element to an integrated solution for the whole Stellenbosch and surrounding area," she said.

# Driving Operational Excellence – Human Resources

In alignment with the University's strategic objective of being an Employer of Choice, Maties Sport provided training and development opportunities for staff as follows:

- ▶ Administrative staff: Emotional Intelligence, Business Communication, Presentation Skills and Marketing Essentials,
- ▶ Sport Managers & Coaches: Best Practice for Effective Talent Acquisition Training.

This was in line with the staff talent Management of Staff strategy to support succession planning and the principle of "Fit for Purpose".

We have reached the end of our 5-year Human Resource strategy and achieved a 100%

success rate on planned job evaluations and successfully implementing our Employment Equity Plan, for both qualitative and quantitative measures identified.

Our annual Training and Development Plan has worked well in partnership with the University's Human Resource Department and supports our Human Resource strategy.

Maties Sport prides itself on staff growth and our commitment to training and development remains a priority to help of our staff and coaches in acquiring new skills in the ever evolving sport environment. We have covered a broad range of topics across disciplines in sport and are eager to grow our output annually.



The Maties Sport Senior Management Team, from left: Sean Surmon, Andy de Bruin, Ilhaam Groenewald and Jerry Laka

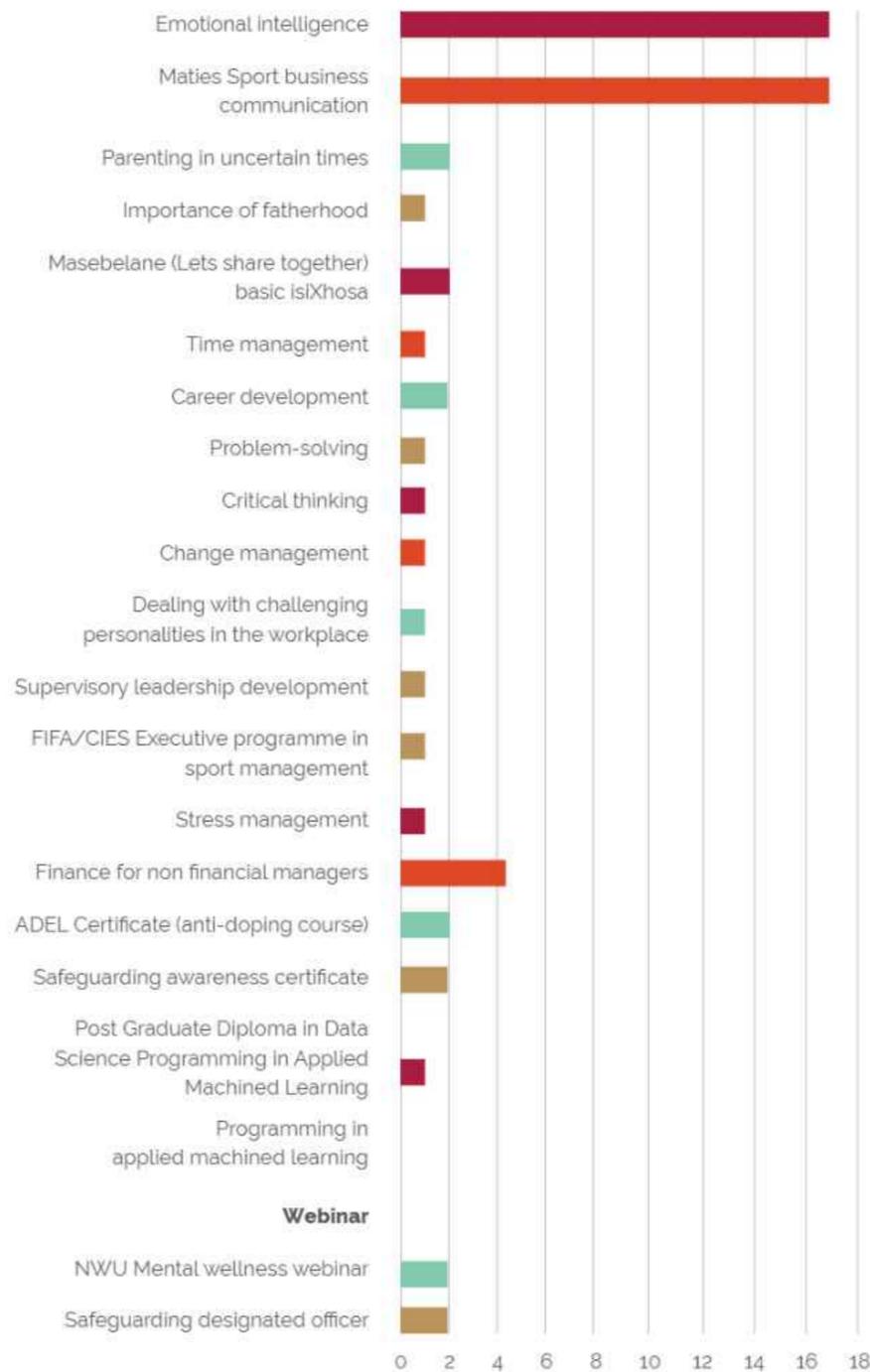


Maties Sport runs a popular Rugby Academy



Administrative Staff enjoyed a number of workshops

## Breakdown of courses/training



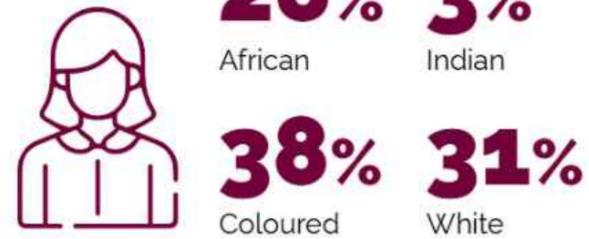
## Types of Training



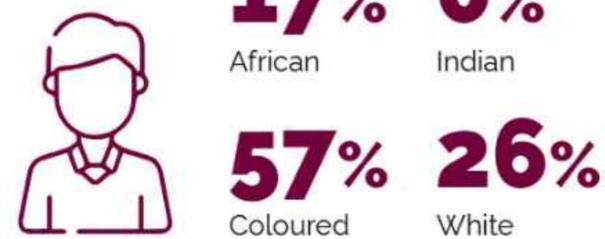
## Demographics



## Females



## Males



## Staff Recognition

An important component of staff recognition is celebrating the diverse contributions made by employees.

The Institution's Chief Operating Officer: Finance & Operations (and Maties Sport line manager), Prof Stan du Plessis, introduced an initiative in 2019 aimed at recognising staff across his responsibility centre with Excellence Awards.

The two colleagues to receive this recognition for passion and commitment in 2021 were Candice Williams (Sport Manager) and Jerry Laka, Director: Support Services.

And through leading by example, Maties Sport Chief Director, Ilhaam Groenewald, was



Receiving the Chancellor's Award of Excellence, Chief Director of Maties Sport, Ilhaam Groenewald, with Chief Operating Officer, Prof Stan du Plessis, left, and Rector Prof Wim de Villiers

awarded the Chancellor's Award of Excellence in December. She has dedicated with life to sport for the past 30 years and was delighted with the recognition given to her by Stellenbosch University and the Rector and Vice-Chancellor, Prof Wim de Villiers.

# DESTINATION OF CHOICE

## Preferred Playing Ground

Although the pandemic shifted the sporting calendar in 2021, Maties Sport remained the destination of choice and hosted a number of sporting events, including several soccer matches in the iconic Danie Craven Stadium through an historic partnership with Stellenbosch FC.

Furthermore, our Events and Projects management team are working with the University's newly-established Central Events and Conference Office to further advance our service delivery and identify new initiatives to support income-generation.

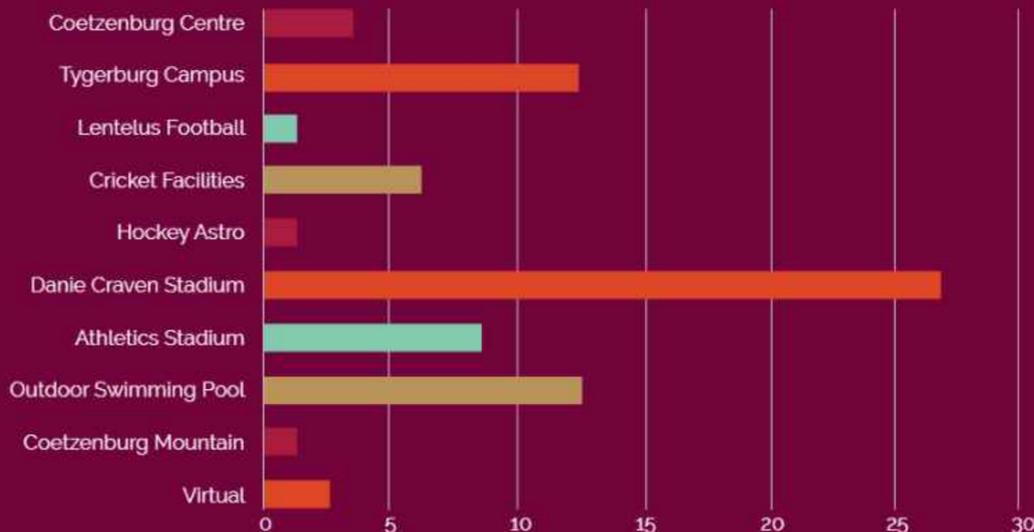


The Danie Craven Stadium became a venue for soccer

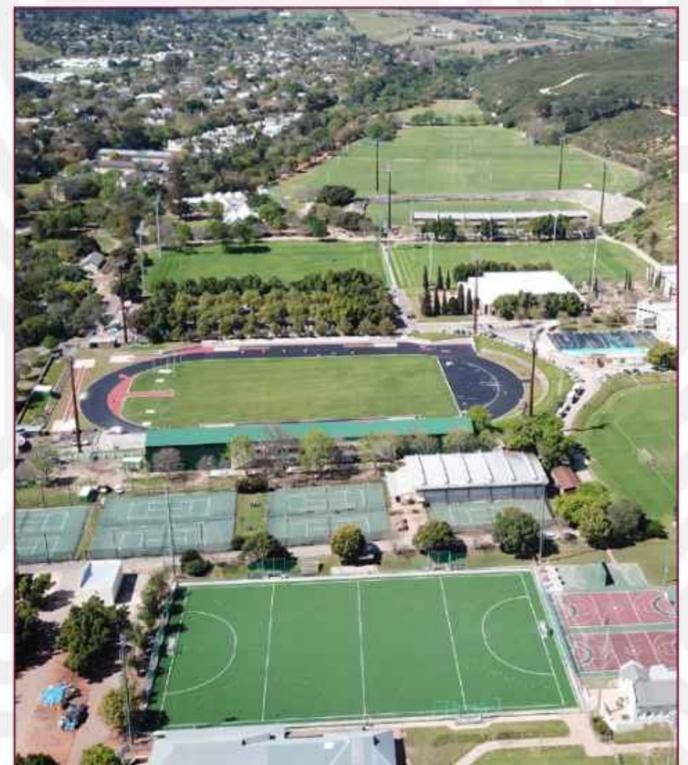


The outdoor pool is a popular venue for clubs and competitions

### No of events per facility



Danie Craven Stadium hosted the most events in 2021 thanks to the partnership with Stellenbosch Football Club.



Maties Sport's Coetzenburg campus must rank among the most spectacular in the world

# Upgrading facilities

To further position itself as a Destination of Choice, Maties Sport is upgrading its facilities in line with its strategic objective of providing access to a diverse recreation and active lifestyle programme to the University students, staff and to the community.

Led by the Institution's Facilities Management, the Tygerberg Multipurpose Sports Facility project will cater for Tennis, Netball, Basketball, Badminton and other recreational codes. The project began in March 2021 and was launched in February 2022.



Tygerberg Multipurpose Sport Facility

## Huis Neethling is Home away from Home

Huis Neethling is our dedicated residence for student-athletes and strives to create a home away from home for every student athlete. The aim is to establish a family environment where respect, kindness and decency are instilled into every student athlete.

The residence housed 97 student-athletes (44 females and 53 males) including 28 first year students.

Huis Neethling continues to nurture student-athletes academically and provide special support for their High Performance programme.

The motto of the residence is a family bound by the ties of friendship.

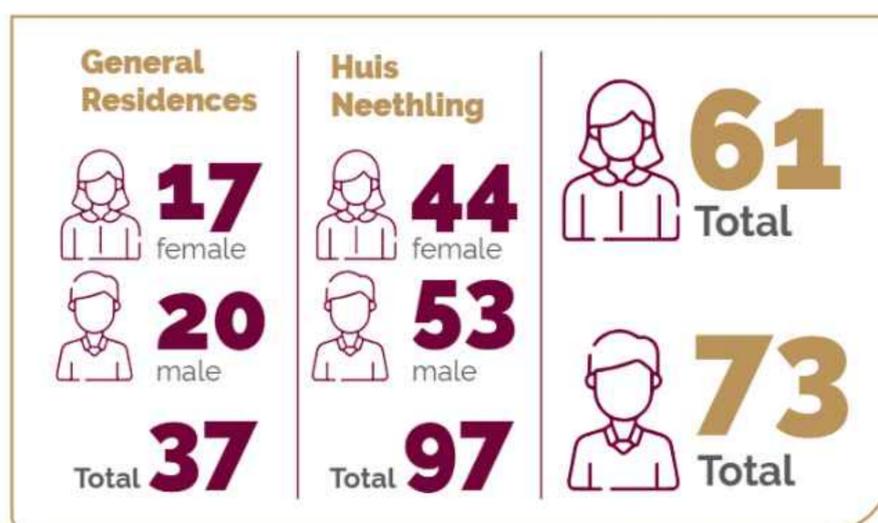
Yaseen Gangat, Sport Administrator: Tygerberg Campus says "It will allow users to host recreational activities after hours – which is essential when it comes to the busy schedule of our students on campus."

Wandile Mokhele, TSRC Sport Manager: Tygerberg Campus, says the facility will make a huge difference to students' physical health and mental health. "In the first week of the courts opening, more students than ever have taken to the fields at all hours of the day."

The Welgevallen Multipurpose fields for Cricket, Rugby and Soccer were also approved and construction will be completed in the second quarter of 2022.

"My time at Huis Neethling has sadly come to an end but I leave with amazing memories and long-lasting friendships," says 2021 Prim/Maties Cricket player Khanya Dilima. "When I reflect on my time I think of it as a home from home; a place full of positive energy and support for one another."

2022 Vice-Prim Alexandra Gerber says she felt welcome from day one. "This house is so diverse and inclusive. Everyone looks out for their house mates, everyone makes an effort to check-in with their friends and even if you do not know someone they will still ask you how you are doing. Residents share the struggles and joys of being a student-athlete. We all know how hard it can be."



# STRIVING FOR EXCELLENCE – HIGH PERFORMANCE

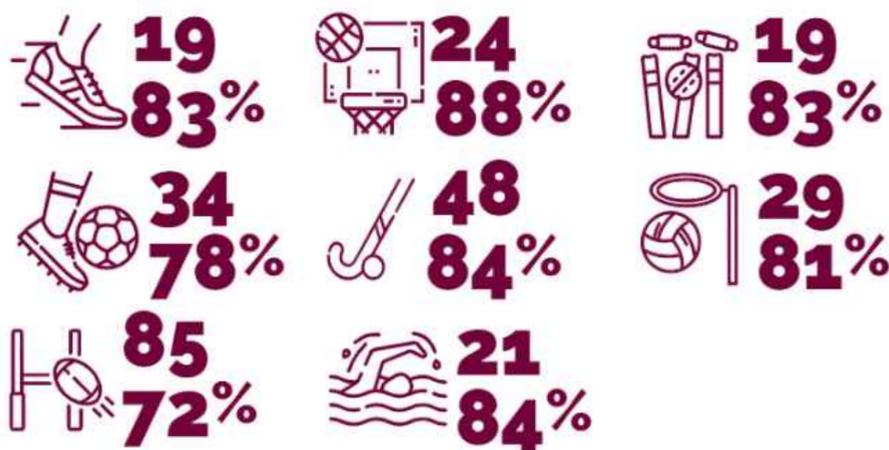
## Winners on and off the field

Maties Sport student-athletes were unable to participate as they would have done previously because of the pandemic which affected training and competitions - except for two Varsity Sports tournaments in 2021: Varsity Cup Rugby, Varsity Sport Netball; several USSA competitions; and a BCIA tournament.

However, in the classroom 73 students across all codes graduated with an overall 81.6% pass rate. Credits taken across all High Performance student-athletes is proof that our holistic approach and the PACER programme is growing from strength.

Through the PACER Holistic Support programme, we have shifted our focus towards leadership development. As a first, all Sport Club first team captains got together bi-monthly to attend interactive sessions presented by previous student-athletes who served as captains on a provincial, national or international stage and who represented as an individual or on a team.

Percentage of credits passed per sport code for the full 2021 academic year



2021 HP student-athlete graduation information:



2021 Undergraduate HP Squad Credits (N = 279)



## Bursaries and Retention

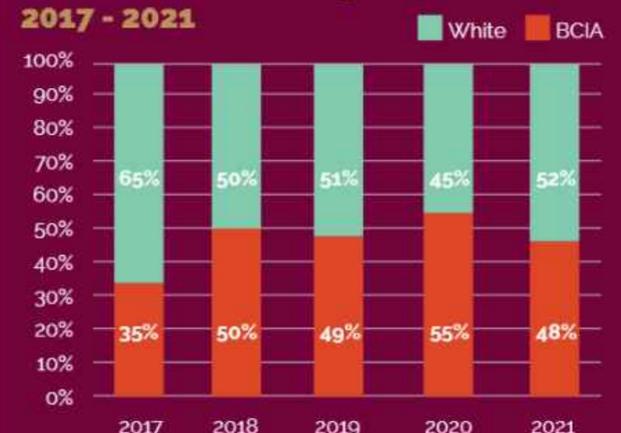
Maties Sport implemented a three-year rolling sport bursary budget parallel to the recruitment strategies that incentivise the recruitment, development and retention of BCIA student-athletes. This was another strategic step to ensure long-term growth in increasing Maties Sport student-athlete representation in our HP squads.

The HP squad intake of student-athletes for 2021 across eight High-Performance codes indicate that over the past five years the strategy has yielded good results and we continue to adapt on an annual basis to ensure we reach our strategic goals.

2021 Total Sport Bursary Allocation Breakdown in Numbers



BCIA vs White Bursary Allocations 2017 - 2021



# Tech in Training

The HP Unit expanded its capacity to deliver world-class sport technology services to HP teams through advanced Global Position Systems (GPS) units and software to monitor teams in velocity-based training devices to optimise training in the gymnasium. The Unit also purchased and implemented state-of-the-art Performance Analysis software to enhance the video-analysis capacity of coaches and teams across HP sport codes. The Sport Technology Unit makes use of Catapult Vector GPS units, Velocity Based Training (VBT), FAST system and, Smartspeed.



## Navigating the Pandemic

**Our student athletes faced three key performance challenges during 2021 as they navigated the uncertainty and unpredictability of the Covid-19 pandemic:**

- 1** Training to 'get-ready-to-get-ready' was particularly difficult as, like an archer, the arrow of daily action and commitment for the athlete requires a clear target. Student athletes' motivation to put their bodies on the line was relatively low as tournament dates and fixtures were not always settled and confirmed.
- 2** It was tough for many athletes to quarantine when testing positive for Covid-19 to protect their teammates as well as being away from their families. Within High Performance, we are noticing that certain athletes are recovering slower than others and this is an important consideration for managing the general health and the return-to-training process.
- 3** It is evident that the mental health of both coaches and student-athletes required specific care and attention. With the loss of life, loss of income, and general stress from the waves of infection, this remains an ongoing challenge in a high performance environment.

Performance Psychologist Eugene Oppelt

# Olympics and Paralympics Recap



Maties Hockey was well represented in the Olympic Hockey squads with five former players being named in the men and women's team heading to Tokyo.



## Players

- Erin Hunter © (alum)
- Quanita Bobbs (alum)
- Taryn Lombard (Glasby) (alum)
- Taryn Mallet (alum)
- Keenan Horne (alum)



## Management

- Ashlin Freddy (alum)



Maties Aquatics had their fair share of current and former athletes in the Team South Africa squad for water polo:



## Players

- Lwazi Madi (student-athlete)
- Cameron Laurenson (student-athlete)
- Ross Stone (student-athlete)
- Jason Evezard (club member)
- Georgia Moir (alum)
- Megan Sileno (Schooling) (alum)
- Hannah Calvert (student-athlete)



## Management

- Duncan Woods (alum)
- Vaughn Marlow (Maties Men's Head Coach)
- Candice Williams (Maties Aquatics Manager)

Seven Maties Parasport athletes and two coaches attended the Paralympic Games in Tokyo, namely Anruné Weyers, Charl du Toit, Kerwin Noemdo, Anika Pretorius, Dyan Buis, Zanele Situ, Reinhardt Hamman, Daniel Damon (Coach) and Suzanne Ferreira (Coach)

Maties Sport is proud of the gold medal in the 400m by our alumna Anruné Weyers. This comes in her third Paralympic Games and is an outstanding achievement as she has won silver

at both the Rio and London games. Anruné gave up her job as a special needs teacher to focus on Tokyo 2020 and remained dedicated even in the midst of a global pandemic that delayed the Paralympic Games.

Matie Kerwin Noemdo who finished 4th in the Men's F46 Shotput Final with a new African Record of 15.65m, narrowly missed out on the bronze medal.



Maties Sport Paralympians, above and right, took Tokyo by storm



# Recruitment and Retention Strategy



In line with Maties Sport's Transformation Plan, a particular focus has been on student-athletes and coaches, as well as the requirements of all University-based competitions. The strategy remains focused on the recruitment of BCIA potential student-athletes who possess sporting talents and are academically strong enough to qualify for admission to the academic programmes of the University.

To support student-athletes with a history of being previously and currently disadvantaged, the High Performance unit offers an Individual Integrated Medicine and Science Accelerated Development support programme to assist in the fast-tracking of student-athletes' progress towards elite sporting levels. These athletes are nominated by their coaches and commit to intervention plans to enhance their performance in a specific timeline.

Maties Sport managers and head coaches have implemented a strategy of earlier identification of talent, focusing on Grade 11, but also starting engagements as early as Grade 10 to assist in subject choice for courses and admissions to university academic programmes.

A key strategic objective since 2019 has been the recruitment and appointment of female coaches across our expanding women sporting codes. Over the past three years Maties Sport High Performance was successful in the:

- Reappointment of the Netball female head coach;
- Appointment over three years of four female HP Interns;
- Appointment of a Women's Basketball female head coach;
- Appointment of a Women's Football female head coach;

- Appointment of a Swimming female assistant coach; and
- Service delivery from a female sport psychologist (external service provider).

Going forward, Maties Sport is investing in Women's Football and Rugby towards incorporating these codes into the HP programme.



New coaches, from top, Coaches Jabulile Baloyi, Lenise Marais, Nathaly September and Zanele Mdoana

# PARTICIPATION IN 2021

## Return to Training and Play

Most of our Maties Sport clubs returned to training in March 2021 but this was short-lived as the stricter lockdown regulations allowed only for certain sports codes that were preparing for national or international competitions to resume activities.

However, Maties Sport participated in the Varsity Cup tournament in three staggered "bubbles" at the beginning of 2021 and later in the year Maties competed in the Varsity Netball competition as a host university, while USSA Athletics, Swimming, Netball, Hockey, Rowing, Chess, Canoeing, Cricket and Water Polo took place from April to December around the country.

We also competed in FASU tournaments in Kampala and Nairobi in Rugby 7s, Tennis and Basketball.

Back home, our Residence Leagues (Hockey, Soccer and Netball) kept 2 598 student-athletes busy until play was halted as a result of new Government Covid regulations and restrictions.



Maties Rugby in training for Varsity Cup

Maties fared well in those competitions that did take place:

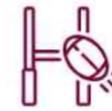
- ▶ The Maties Rugby Varsity Cup campaign ended against Tuks in a semi-final clash, that ended with second place.
- ▶ Although Maties Netball remained unbeaten in the Varsity Netball tournament, they narrowly missed out on the title to Kovsies in the finals.
- ▶ Maties Football won the SAFA Cape Winelands Regional League and Provincial play-offs. The team then got promoted to the WC ABC Motsepe Provincial League.

### FASU



#### Tennis

Women – First  
Men – Second



#### Rugby 7s

Men – Second



#### Basketball

Women – Knocked out in GS  
Men – Knocked out in GS

### USSA



#### Athletics

Overall – Fifth



#### Netball

Women – Third



#### Swimming

Women – Third  
Men – Third  
Overall Third



#### Chess

Men – Third  
Women – Seventh



#### Hockey

Women – Second  
Men – Fourth



#### Canoeing

Women – First  
Men – Second  
Overall Third



#### Water polo

Women – First  
Men – First  
Overall First



#### Cricket

Men – Second



#### Rowing

Men A Crew – Fifth  
Women A Crew – Fifth  
Men B Crew – Sixth

**Excellence in participation**



**30**  
Total Maties  
Sport Codes



**1 664**  
League  
Membership



**563**  
**1 101**



**2 598**  
Residence  
League



**225**  
Provincial  
Competition  
Participation



**104**  
National  
Championships



**62**  
2020 Special  
Achievement  
Awards



**59**  
Varsity Cup/  
Varsity Sport



**73**  
Graduates Across  
Sport Codes



**88**  
National Competition  
Participation



Anruné Weyers wins gold in Tokyo



Kerwin Noemdo after breaking the African record



Maties Swimming at USSA 2021



Maties 7s at FASU in Uganda



Maties Hockey current head coach, Lenise Marais (second from right), with players who won at AFCON in Ghana. from left, Stephanie Botha, Tarryn Glasby (alum) and Quanita Bobbs (alum)



Corin de Waal wins FASU Tennis title

## Maties Sport Awards Recipients 2021



**Team Coach Award**

Desmond Crowie



**Individual Coach Award**

Cedric Finch



**Lifetime Achievement Award**

John Abels

### Special Awards



**Hockey**

Western Province Women's Grand Challenge Winners 2021



**Canoeing**

USSA Winners 2021



**Water Polo Men**

USSA Winners 2019



**Water Polo Women**

USSA Winners 2019



**Cricket Men**

USA Winners 2019



**Tennis Women**

FASU Winners 2021



**Football Men**

SAFA Cape Winelands League Winners 2021



**Team Award**

Football

### Best Student-Athlete



**Male And Female Parasport And Mainstream**

Anika Pretorius (Para Sport)

Nichole Taljaard (Mainstream)

Kerwin Noemdo (Para Sport)

Lwazi Madi (Mainstream)



Lwazi Madi



Anika Pretorius



Nichole Taljaard



Maties FC were SAB winners



Maties Waterpolo in action at USSA



Maties Women's Hockey WP Grand Challenge winners

### Merit Award

**Chief Director Special Award**

Susan Visagie



Ilhaam Groenewald with Chief Director Special Award recipient, Susan Visagie

# INVESTING IN EXCELLENCE

## More Highs than Lows

Maties Sport remains committed to financial sustainability and the Department continues to improve its financial management with annual budgeting and quarterly reporting to identify and manage any potential risks.

Continuous collaboration with Annemi Murray, the University's Director: Financial Planning, and our full-time Accountant, Andy de Bruin, ensures that we focus on alignment and integration with our cross-subsidisation model.

Risk identification is an important part of our operations and is recorded continuously. Our annual budgets and quarterly reporting assist us to identify any potential club deficits early enough to implement mitigating measurements to avoid any possible risks that may impact the delivery of programmes. Despite the decrease in 5th stream income and the low market appetite for new sponsorships, Maties Sport ended 2021 successfully against their approved budget.

Maties Sport reports that no major risk has impacted our finances in the 2021 financial year thanks to the internal control and risks systems that were put in place to mitigate any of these factors.



### Financial Highs

- No financial deficits
- Decreased in outstanding debtors
- Human Resources support to club

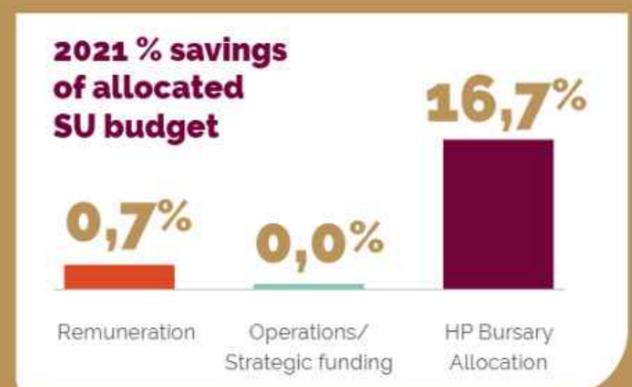


### Financial Lows

- Cannot maximise income-generating activities
- No hosting of Rugby Varsity Cup and USSA tournaments postponed
- CECO 50/50 profit share with no new initiatives, taking from existing profit in budgets

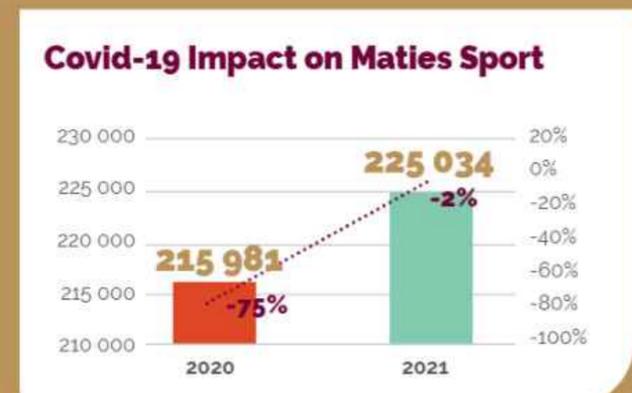
## Budget spend for 2021

Maties Sport ended 2021 with savings in our Human Resource budget because of vacancies. Our Bursary budget as well as allocation of these funds to students is managed effectively with continuous assessment of Government grants and other bursaries that are made available.



## Financial Impact Of Covid-19 On 3rd & 5th Stream Income

The Covid-19 pandemic limited some of our sporting activities which led to a negative impact on our 5th stream revenue streams. The table indicates the loss of revenue from 2019 – 2021 and additional expenditure accrued for Covid-19 purposes.



# SU Alumni and Fundraising Initiatives

The office of Development and Alumni Relations (DAR) has provided support in our financial planning and has worked with Maties Sport on numerous projects in 2021:

- In April, the Cape Town Alumni Golf Day was held at Rondebosch Golf Course and drew 70 SU Alumni, many of them Maties Sport Alumni living in Cape Town. Several current and prospect donors attended, provided sponsorships or made donations. Over R80 000 was raised for Education Bursaries for Maties Sport student-athletes.
- The Annual Maties Rugby Doc Craven Golf Day was held in October at De Zalze with a full field of 120 golfers. Maties Sport supported the day with a few fourballs. More than R170 000 was raised for Education Bursaries for Maties Rugby players.
- Several social Tennis events with Maties Sport Alumni (including several prospect donors) were arranged throughout the year at Maties

Tennis courts, at Durbanville Tennis Club and at Willem Roos Estate in Jonkershoek.

- Three very successful and enjoyable "Over 50 Maties Alumni Cricket" matches were played in February, April, and November. Maties Cricket assisted with these arrangements. Several donations were made by participating alumni which benefited Maties Sport bursaries.
- DAR supported the Maties Hockey Golf day in October at De Zalze Golf Club.
- Throughout the year Maties Sport assisted the Alumni office in their approach to tracking prospective donors. The database of Maties Sports Alumni has grown to over 5 000 names.
- Maties Rugby Club assisted the Craven Bursary Fund throughout the year which saw DAR raise more than R4.5m through the Craven Fund for Education Bursaries for Maties Rugby players.



Andy de Bruin, Maties Sport Accountant



Alumni Golf Day supported by Maties Sport



# RESEARCH, INTERNATIONALISATION AND DEVELOPMENT

## Expansion of Research Capacity

The Centre for Sport Leadership (CSL) aims to expand the academic footprint of sport at Stellenbosch University by functioning as an interface between sport and the academic community on campus. In 2021 a key focus area for the Centre was the expansion of its research capacity through the appointment of two post-doctoral researchers.

In June the Centre welcomed its first post-doctoral research fellow, Dr Nana Adom-Aboagye, into the Maties Sport family. Dr Adom-Aboagye, who received her Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Sport Management from the University of Johannesburg, is researching the broad theme of "Sport for Development", with a focus on sport for persons with disabilities.

This was followed by the appointment of a second post-doctoral fellow, Dr Josu Gomez-Ezeiza, in September. This is a co-funded initiative with the University's School for Data Science and Computational Thinking and was made to

establish a research theme exploring the role and application of data within sport. Dr Gomez-Ezeiza, who holds a PhD in Exercise Physiology (obtained from the University of the Basque Country) was also the first international researcher to join the Centre for Sport Leadership. He has brought extensive experience working with international teams and the Spanish Olympic Committee.



Dr Nana Adom-Aboagye with Ilhaam Groenewald and Dr Gustav Venter

## Short Course Development

The CSL, in partnership with Maties Sport's High Performance Unit, developed an online short course entitled "*Practitioner Insights into High Performance Training*" aimed at early-career trainers and students aspiring to work within high performance settings.

The primary aim is to introduce participants to some of the practical challenges faced within these settings, while giving them the opportunity to draw on the experience and expertise of a range of high performance practitioners across multiple sport codes. The first iteration of the course is set to be conducted in March 2022.

# Webinars with Partners

In 2021 the Centre continued its partnership with the Global Sport Institute (GSI) at Arizona State University. Maties Sport Chief Director, Ilhaam Groenewald, participated in an online conversation series hosted by the GSI in April under the title "Now and Then: How Sport has Transformed". The panel discussion considered the various dimensions of change experienced within global sport over the past two years.

In August 2021 the CSL partnered with NamScore Sport Consultancy (Namibia) to host an educational webinar on World Athletics' Testosterone Rule. The webinar hosted Professor Katrina Karkazis (world-renowned cultural anthropologist and bioethicist) and Dr Payoshni Mitra (prominent athletes' rights activist and campaigner of abolishing sex testing in women's sport) as guest speakers. The webinar was



had 80 attendees with the recording later shared online.

In the final quarter of the year Dr Gustav Venter, Head of the CSL, also presented an online lecture to a group of coaches pursuing a Master's programme at the University of Limerick in Ireland. The lecture considered the topic of change management in sport with a particular focus on the complex nature of South Africa's sporting history.

## Development of Maties Sport's Social Impact Footprint

The CSL also serves as a strategic coordinating mechanism for Maties Sport's social impact initiatives. In 2021 Maties Sport was able to continue its partnership with the Division of Occupational Therapy at Tygerberg, which commenced in 2020 and entails the delivery of sport-related life skills activities for a group of 20 primary school learners in the Bishop Lavis area.

The Maties Football Club and Impact Through Sport (a Stellenbosch-based NGO) played a leading role in the delivery of these sessions. The third wave of the Covid-19 pandemic brought a temporary halt to these activities, after which the focus shifted towards planning for 2022.

In this regard, the CSL was subsequently able to secure funding from the University's Social Impact Funding Committee towards the establishment of two new initiatives spanning Chess and Athletics.

The former sees the development of regional Chess coaches through the delivery of online coaching development sessions by the Maties Chess Club. The project began in December 2021 with an initial intake of 10 aspiring Chess coaches from the Stellenbosch area.

The Athletics initiative is planned for 2022 and will expand the University's existing footprint in the Oudtshoorn region through development clinics run by the Maties Athletics Club.

Another project conducted by the Centre in 2021 entailed hosting of a series of quarterly online workshops to a group of 20 African participants within a mentorship programme facilitated by Africa Sports Unified, a non-profit organisation based in the United Kingdom that aims to advance entrepreneurship in Africa.

The programme utilises sport as a vehicle for transferring such skills and the topics included an introduction to basic entrepreneurship, building a brand as well as the role of data within sports.

# CONTINENTAL ENGAGEMENTS

## University of Ghana

In alignment with the University's commitment to growing African partnerships, the CSL began exploratory talks in the last quarter of 2021 with representatives from the University of Ghana's Sports Directorate and Department of Physical Education and Sport Studies (PESS).

Among topics of discussion were staff exchange programmes and research collaboration between the respective offices.

An opportunity for the Centre to engage with the Ghanaian National Sports Ministry was also discussed. This was with respect to training,

capacity building, and conceptualisation in the lead-up to the 2023 African Games and its ensuing Legacy Project.

The possibility for the Centre to engage with the Ghanaian government has been further strengthened with an invitation to Dr Nana Adom-Aboagye (post-doctoral fellow) to join the Legacy Sub-Committee of the Ghana Local Organising Committee for the 13th Africa Games, as a co-opted member.

A Memorandum of Understanding has been drafted.

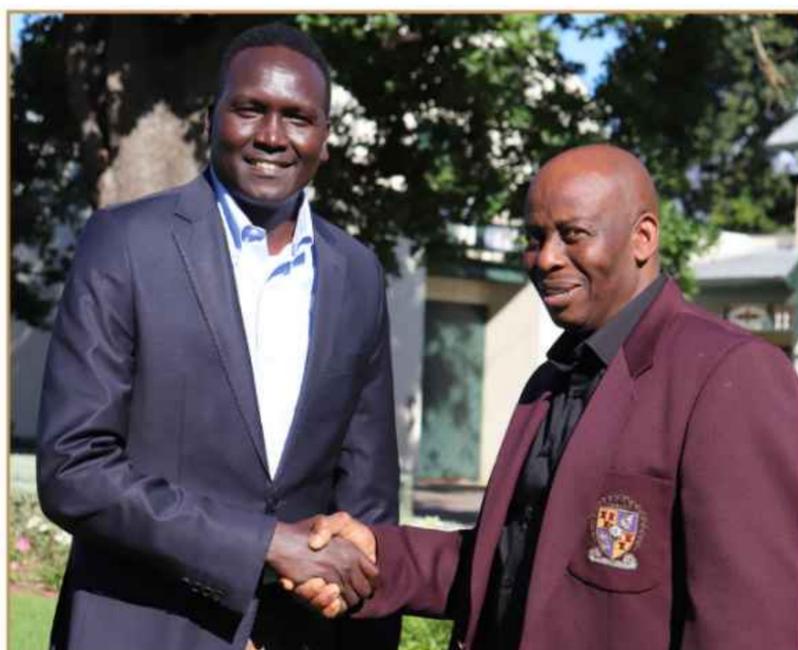
## Kenya Academy of Sports

The legendary Paul Tergat, one of the greatest long-distance runners, made a return to Stellenbosch in December 2021 – 25 years after winning his second men's World Cross-Country Championship held in the town in 1996.

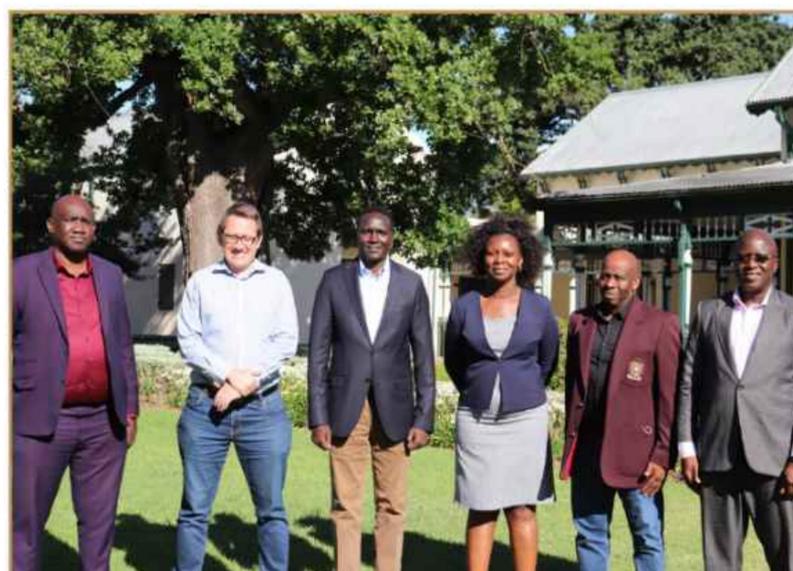
Tergat, who won five consecutive world cross-country titles during the period 1995–1999 and who also broke the men's marathon world record in 2003, formed part of a four-person delegation representing the Kenya Academy of Sports which visited Maties Sport.

The goal of the visit was to investigate opportunities for future collaboration with regard to knowledge exchange and capacity building towards the development of talented sportspersons.

The Kenya Academy of Sports is funded by the Kenyan government, with Tergat serving as Chairperson of the Council under whose auspices the academy operates.



Dr Paul Tergat with Jerry Laka



Kenyan Delegation comprising of Dr Paul Tergat, Dr. Walter Ongeti, Dr. Doreen Odhiambo and John Okwemba with SMT members Dr Gustav Venter and Jerry Laka

# PURPOSEFUL PARTNERSHIPS AND INCLUSIVE NETWORKS

## MoU Signing with SFC/SAS

The University and the Stellenbosch Academy of Sport (SAS) signed a Memorandum of Understanding that sees the two entities collaborate until 2024. The MoU which was signed in Stellenbosch, endeavours to develop quality footballers for Stellenbosch and the greater Winelands community while forging a holistic pathway for the players, support staff and administrators. Signing the MOU were, from left: University Rector, Prof Wim de Villiers, and Remgro CEO, Jannie Durand, with MS Chief Director, Ilhaam Groenewald, SAS CEO, Rob Benadie, and University COO, Prof Stan du Plessis.



## Hi-Tech

Hi-Tech, which has partnered with Maties Rugby since 2018, sponsors the Maroon Machine with off-field sportswear and outdoor clothing. This long-standing relationship continues to go from strength to strength as Maties Rugby players proudly parade their gear from city to the sports field!

## Launch of world-class Indoor Cricket Facility

The University, Paul Roos Gymnasium (PRG) and Remgro have developed a R15-million self-sustaining indoor cricket facility on the school's property facing the main cricket oval. The facility has six cricket nets: one net being spinner-specific, three nets for seam bowlers and two bowling-machine nets. There is also a conference room, kitchen and

a locker room. Seen at the opening were, from left: From left: SAS CEO, Rob Benadie, MS Director: Support Services, Jerry Laka, Paul Roos Rector, André van Staden, Guest Speaker and former South African cricketer, Gary Kirsten, MS Chief Director, Ilhaam Groenewald, Remgro CEO, Jannie Durand and University COO, Prof Stan du Plessis.



## Maties Sport driven by Hyundai

Maties Sport signed a sponsorship agreement with Hyundai Stellenbosch where Hyundai will provide Maties Sport with three cars annually over a period of 3 years. Seen with the Maties Hyundai "fleet" are, from left: MS Accountant, Andy de Bruin, MS Director: Support Services, Jerry Laka, Dealer Principal Hyundai Stellenbosch, Elric Everson and MS Chief Director Ilhaam Groenewald.

# SHARING OUR STORIES

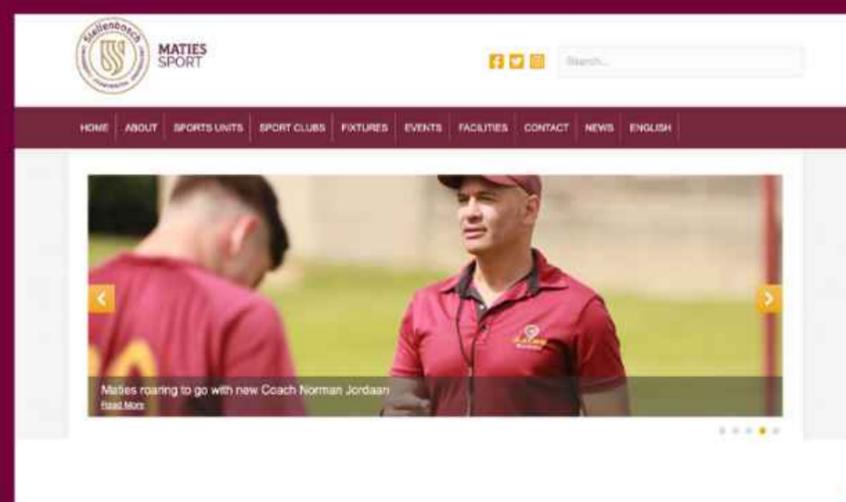
The Media and Communications Unit continues to underscore all Maties Sport events and processes through communications planning, coverage in real-time on social media and the website; devising branding opportunities; and informing activations to maximise the student experience and SU Brand advancement.

The Unit was boosted by the appointment of a full-time Manager for Media and Communications, Kimara Singh, in June 2021. She has since been joined by intern, Jamie Wyngaardt, in a female-driven unit that intends to relay the strategic objectives of Maties Sport and the greater Stellenbosch University.

The Unit yet again proved invaluable in 2021 by keeping not only the Maties Sport team connected and informed but also the wider public through a variety of posts in assorted media on multiple

channels at events such as Varsity Cup, Varsity Netball, and USSA competitions. The unit further provided production support at our second successful virtual Annual Awards event. We have also launched our new website where staff and students can stay updated with all our news, tournaments, and events.

Visit: <https://sport.sun.ac.za> to explore our world.

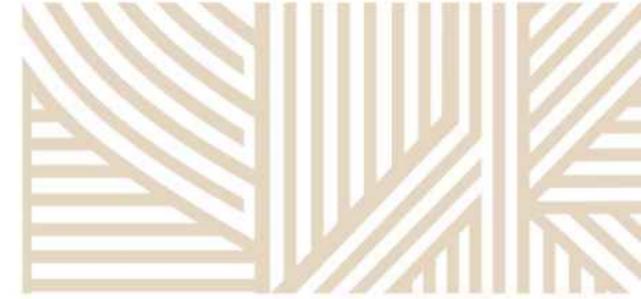


\*Engagement the number of times users reacted to, commented on, shared, or clicked on your post.  
\*Impressions are the total number of times a post is seen across users on a platform.



Media and Communications Manager, Kimara Singh, and intern, Jamie Wyngaardt

# LOOKING AHEAD TO 2022



We recognise the value of university sport, including our opportunities to advance its brand, to student-athletes, schools, clubs, sports organisations and our communities. I do, however, believe that a renewed commitment for a sustainable delivery model is required to ensure a more innovative and entrepreneurial model that will sustain participation at all levels. And to achieve this, a more sustained financial reform is necessary.

Three years ago, Maties Sport embarked on a re-alignment process that included:

- Extensive reviews of identified sport codes;
- The University's five-year external review process;
- Being an Employer of Choice with the focus on job evaluations for the purpose of promotion;
- Re-categorisation of sport codes including re-allocation of sport code management;
- Revisiting parts of our High Performance sport programme to focus on our PACER programme, coaching and our recruitment

and retention plan that includes the bursary allocations;

- Development of our new 5-year Human Resource Strategy; and
- Establishment of our Centre for Sport Leadership to focus on sport and development, data science, short course development and advancing internationalisation.

The re-alignment areas form part of our strategy renewal, moving from eight to five strategic objectives that are aligned to the Stellenbosch University Vision 2040.

We understand that the COVID-19 pandemic has had and will continue to have considerable effects on the sporting world - especially mental well-being, limited income, no physical activity - and with our socio-economic circumstance becoming worse because of South Africa's high unemployment rate, the role of sport requires considerable review and change.

**Chief Director: Maties Sport**  
**Ilhaam Groenewald**



# TOP STRATEGIC PRIORITIES FOR **MATIES SPORT**

## **Maties Sport Vision:**

To be the leading university, contributing towards a holistic and diverse experience through sport.

## **Maties Sport Mission:**

To foster excellence in both the academic and sport performances of talented student-athletes, and to promote social cohesion and engagement for an active lifestyle amongst all staff and students.

## **Strategic Objectives:**



1. Support student-athletes with the delivery of a world-class, holistic high-performance programme.



2. Provide access to a diverse recreation and active lifestyle programme.



3. Foster a diverse environment aligned to institutional priorities.



4. Strive towards a sustainable delivery model, supported by our various professional support services.



5. Deliver sport-related research, teaching & learning, and social impact initiatives through the Centre for Sport Leadership.



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