



# WILGENHOF MEN'S RESIDENCE

*WELCOMING BOOKLET 2026*

"A SPACE THAT WE CALL HOME..."

WELCOME

TO

WILGENHOF



# WELCOME TO WILGENHOF

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## Who We Are

Wilgenhof Men's Residence was established in 1903 and is located at 25 Victoria Street, in the heart of Stellenbosch. We have approximately 200 students housed in the residence, studying various degrees at the University of Stellenbosch (SU).

Throughout Wilgenhof's history, we have tried our best to challenge the norm on campus and in the greater society. From early on in Wilgenhof's existence, we saw the value of independent thinking, which led us to critically define who we are and what we stand for. The Wilgenhof environment serves as a catalyst for personal growth and leadership development for all residents, which is evident in the alumni of Wilgenhof such as Dr Danie Craven, Beyers Naude, and Justice Edwin Cameron; all of whom resided in Wilgenhof.

When you walk into Wilgenhof, you will walk into 122 years of history and legacy. At first, this might seem daunting but don't be fearful. The goal of the Welcoming Week is to assist you in finding your identity in a university setting while also building new, meaningful relationships.

Every individual – his opinion and beliefs – is respected within Wilgenhof. We hope that the coming together of such a diverse group of individuals lights the way for growth and development within our community and oneself.

# THE FOUR GROUND PRINCIPLES

## ➤ Individuality

- Being oneself in a way that displays their individual quality or character

## ➤ Respect

- Due regard

## ➤ **Sense of Community**

- **The understanding of the effect your individual has on the community at large**

## ➤ Critical Thinking

- The ability to critically evaluate your surrounding



# THE WILGENHOF MANIFESTO



- A modern and inclusive residence founded on the principles of Respect, Individuality, Sense of Community and Critical Thinking, informed by the pursuit of Excellence.
- A place of belonging, we are proud of our heritage but inspired by progress, where all are free to be themselves and where diversity of thought is championed.
- A platform to grow and excel at university and beyond, where Wilgenhoffers are empowered to become true agents of change and leaders of thought to propel South Africa forwards.
- Fully in support of the law and spirit of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa and the Bill of Rights contained therein, as well as the foundational values of freedom, equality, and human dignity.
- In support of the statutes and values of Stellenbosch University, contributing to the uniquely rich experience of student life in Stellenbosch, with specific reference to the broader community.
- A source of pride for its residents, Stellenbosch University and South Africa, broadly recognized as an institution of thought and leadership.

# Residence Head: Ashmind Daniels

Dear First-Year Student,

It is my great pleasure to welcome you to the Wilgenhof community. This is more than just a place to live, it's a space to grow, challenge yourself, and build friendships that will last a lifetime.

Embrace every opportunity, support one another, and take pride in being part of a vibrant and diverse community. Your journey starts here, make it meaningful, make it memorable, and make it yours.

The House Committee and I look forward to supporting you as you embark on this exciting next chapter of your academic journey.

Welcome to Wilgenhof, where we learn, lead, and thrive together!

Ashmind Daniels  
Your Residence Head



# Primarius: Fynn Pollock

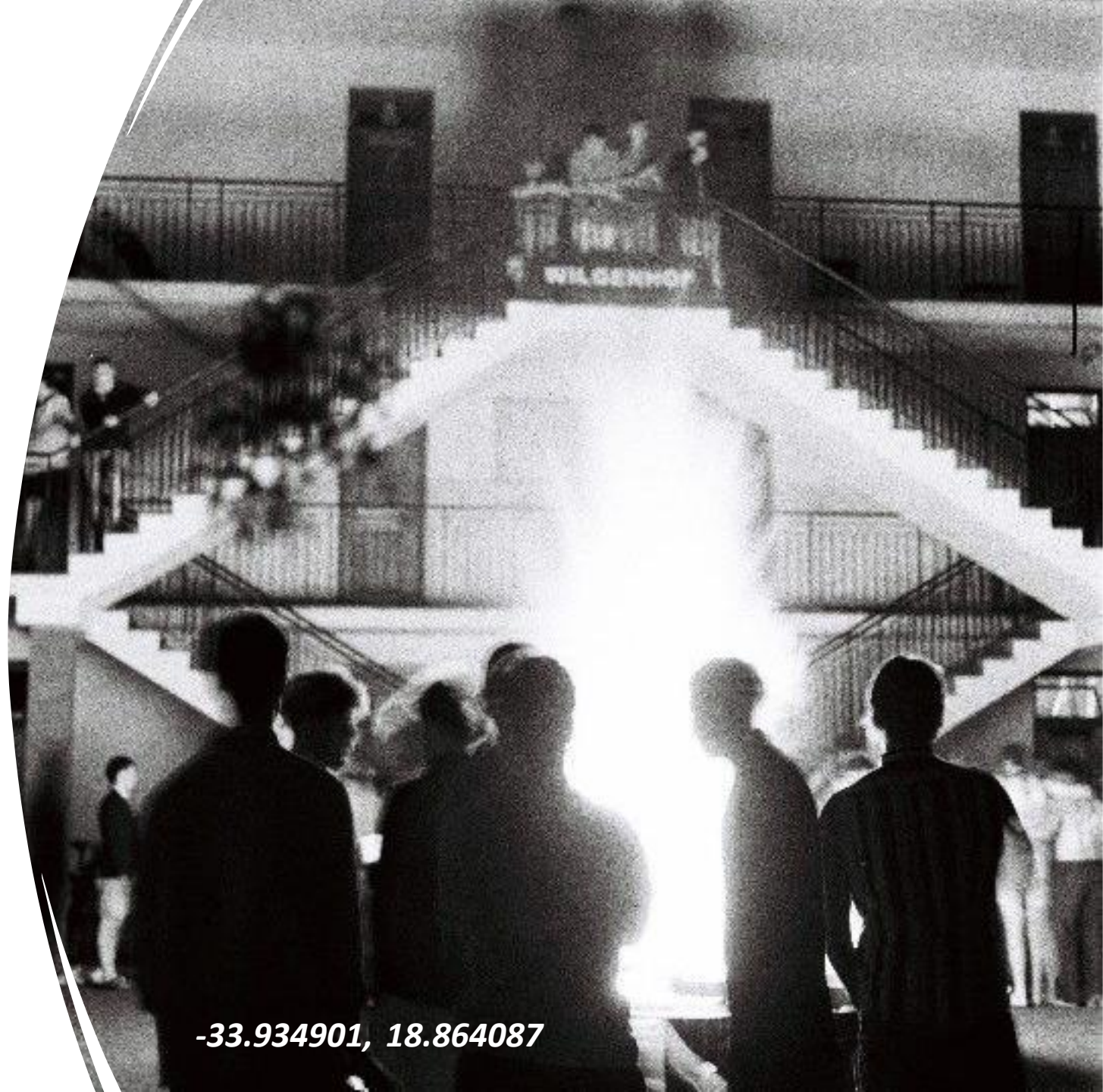
Dear Newcomers,

It is my privilege to welcome you into this institution. Wilgenhof is a residence that amplifies your individual value and purpose, and we hope you are excited to be a part of this community.

Being a part of Stellenbosch University, we wish to see you thrive in every aspect of your life as you enter a new phase. Please bring yourself, a sense of critical thinking and a willingness to engage in a community that is historic and plentiful in the learnings it provides.

Welcome to Wilgenhof, we are excited to see you enter our kwod and witness your growth from thereon.

Fynn Pollock  
Your Primarius



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# HOUSE COMMITTEE 25/26



**FYNN POLLOCK**  
**PRIMARIUS**



**ZIYAAD PATEL**  
**VICE-PRIMARIUS**



**JACOBUS BOTHA**  
**WELCOMING LEADER**

# HOUSE COMMITTEE 25/26



**JACQUES THERON**  
**HEAD MENTOR**



**VICTOR WEIMAR**  
**ARCHIVIST**



**ADIN GUSH**  
**TREASURER**

# HOUSE COMMITTEE 25/26



**COLE MACDONALD**  
**MAESTRO**



**DANIEL CONRADIE**  
**SOCIAL BOY**



**JACK KROUKAMP**  
**AMBASSADOR**

# HOUSE COMMITTEE 25/26



**KEEGAN GIERKE**  
PK



**KIAN FRANCIS**  
SECRETARY



**TERTIUS DEKKER**  
INTEGRATION OFFICER

# Wilgenhof Mentors

The Mentor program supported by Stellenbosch University is based upon John C. Crosby's definition of mentoring which is "a brain to pick, an ear to listen and a push in the right direction". The Wilgenhof Mentors are here to guide you through your first year in residence and university. They will form a key supporting role in your development at Stellenbosch and a reliable person to consult for some "tips and tricks".

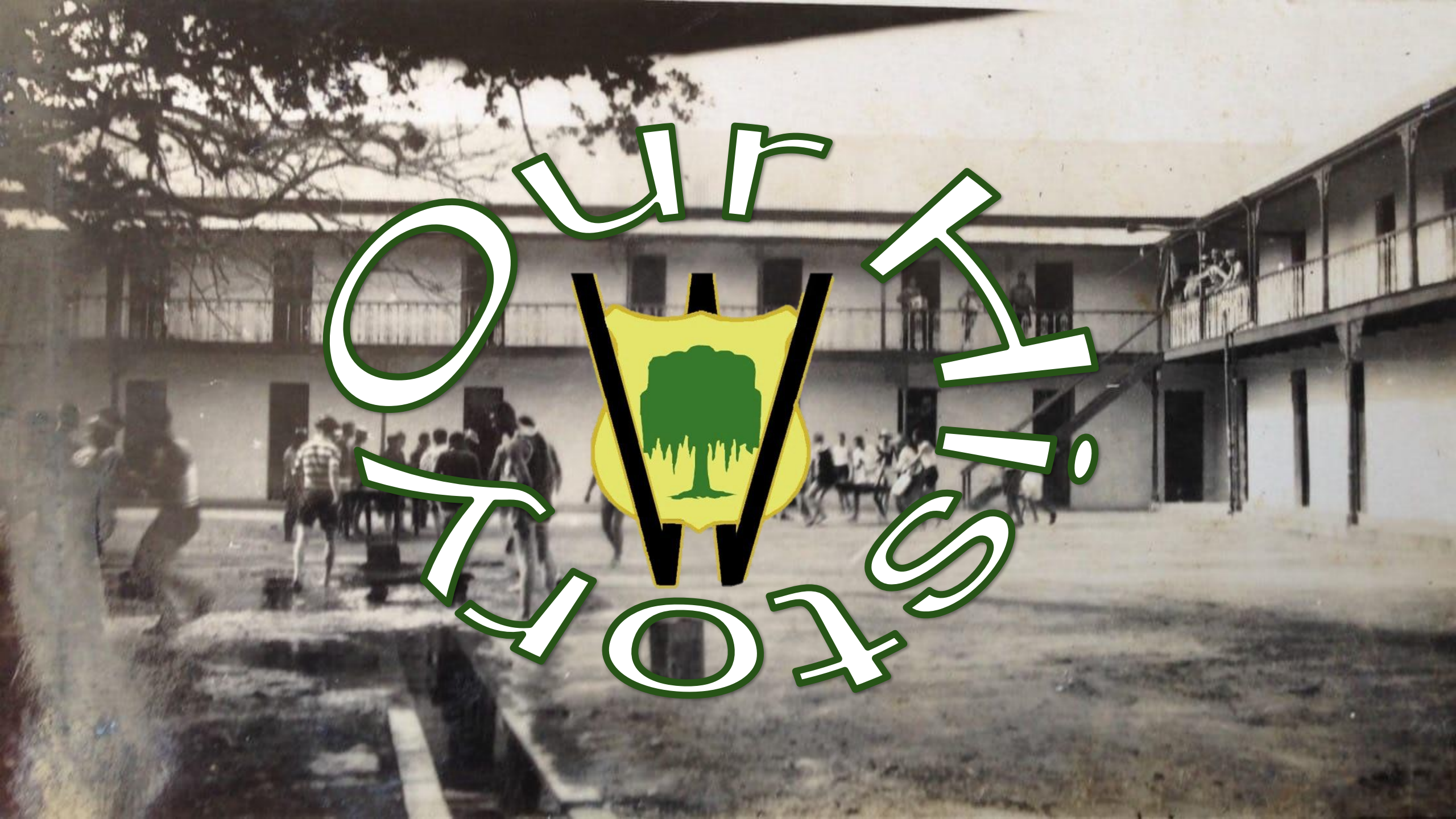


# Wilgenhof Mentors 2026

1. Ipfi Amström Ramalata
2. Ryan Jairaj
3. Divan Cloete
4. Ernest Huma
5. Nicol du Venage
6. Theodor Andrag
7. Lebo van Aswegen
8. Anru Cronje
9. Aidan Richards
10. Wehan van Wyk
11. Peter du Venage
12. LJ Schmidt
13. Kyler Tennant
14. Louvhan Moonsamy
15. Mfumbathi Mdluli
16. Matt Hartsliet
17. Caleb Brooks
18. Abram Shaun Mashile
19. Jean Hugo Botha
20. Kobus Kotze



# Our V Sports!



# WHERE IT ALL STARTED

- The story of Wilgenhof, much like the story of our country, is a chequered and complex one. However, without it we would not be where we are and, more importantly, we would not be able to go where we are going.
- It is the main objective of Wilgenhof to produce individuals of quality and excellence – individuals who embody our Ground Principles. As you will come to realize, there have been countless extraordinary Wilgenhoffers who have roamed the kwod, as you will too.
- One of our hopes is that during your time here, you will grow and shape Wilgenhof with your unique experience. However, it is our primary objective that Wilgenhof will shape you and best equip you for your life outside these four walls.
- Wilgenhof's oldest building, Old Bachelor's, was originally built as a farmhouse in 1799 and is honoured as a national heritage site. Today, it houses mostly post-graduate students and serves as a quieter sanctum for hardworking students away from the busier and more youthful lives of the under-graduates.
- After a century of changes in ownership and purpose (most notably becoming a distillery) the property, once known as Willows Grove because of its many willow trees, became 'The Willows'. However, it was in 1903 when Wilgenhof was born. A residence that was home to around 100 students studying at the then Victoria College (now Stellenbosch University.)

# WHERE IT ALL STARTED

- Wilgenhof grew slowly but surely throughout the coming decades, producing many quality sportspersons and activists – most notably theologian and anti-Apartheid activist Beyers Naudé in 1939. However, in 1949, after many years of structural decay, the University planned to demolish the residence and sell the property on which it stands to the Department of Education. Residents and old-Wilgenhoffers alike were appalled with the thought that their home would be razed. What followed remains one of the proudest moments in Wilgenhof history.
- After some negotiation, an opportunity for survival arose. Wilgenhof would be saved if it could somehow amass £15,000 (approximately R7 million today) within ten years and pay it to the University. Despite the seemingly insurmountable sum, on 10th December 1959 Wilgenhoffers achieved their goal in the proverbial injury time as Dr Danie Craven handed over the £15,000 cheque that still stands in our Archive today. The cheque formed one half of the price for building a new Plek, with the University contributing the other half.
- The achievement of this task was thanks in large part to many reunions, fundraisers, and records and performances by the Kraaie.
- This is a cornerstone of our history and a paradigm of the Sense of Community that we strive for.



# WHERE WE ARE NOW

- The new Plek was built in 1963 and has remained in its current form ever since – producing excellent individuals along the way. Wilgenhof has undergone various trials and tribulations in the past few decades and in recent years as our wonderful country too has evolved into the nation it is today.
- Our history is incredibly important to us because it serves as a reminder to us of where we have come from. It remains the greatest educator – teaching us to learn from the successes and failures of our institution and our predecessors in order to become an ever-better establishment with each passing day.

# A STAALTJIE (STORY) FOR THE ROAD

## 2010: Ben Johnson Provides

One sunny weekend in 2010, having completed their last first--year Engineering exam, Chris Arderne, Andre O’Kennedy, Frederick Eigelaar and Braden Van Breda (all 2010 first years) went for a relaxing hike near Grabouw. The hike was uneventful, and the freed first--years expressed their joy by frolicking with the baboons and leaping naked into icy pools. But when they got to the Franschoek Pass not a single car stopped to give them a lift. Their high--pitched curses echoed up the valley. The intrepid four continued their hike up the pass, putting on their best smiles for passing cars and even showing some leg, but to no avail. It seemed the passing tourists were put off by their unshaven faces and intimidating Willows cricket caps. Until, in a flash of black, they spotted a black jaguar rounding a bend behind them and noticed its mark--‘WILLOWS WP’.

The four leapt and screamed, but it seemed the driver hadn’t noticed them (malice wasn’t even considered), but then, 100 metres further up the road, The Black Jag executed a graceful U--turn and came back to rescue the lost mountaineers. The mysterious driver never revealed himself, and to this day it is maintained by Wilgenhof scholars that the spirit of Ben Johnson had returned to keep watch over The Plek.

*By Chris Arderne*



# Stellenbosch Eco-Friendly Living

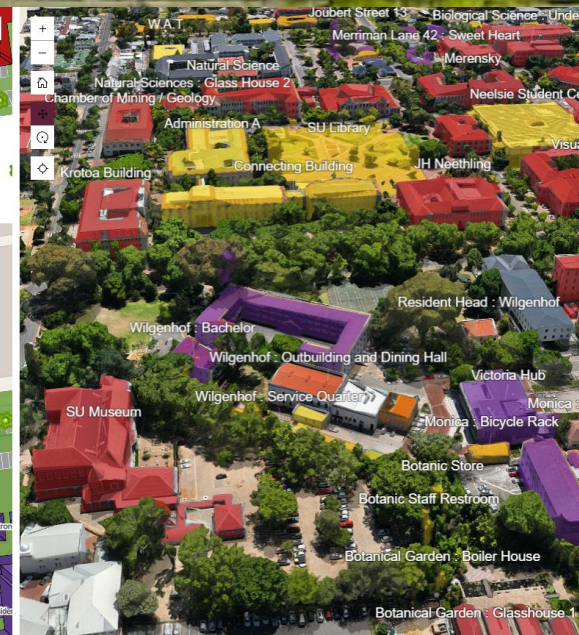
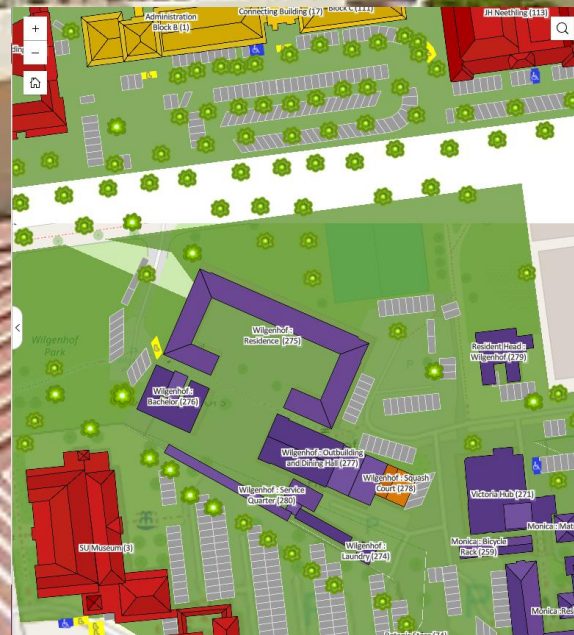
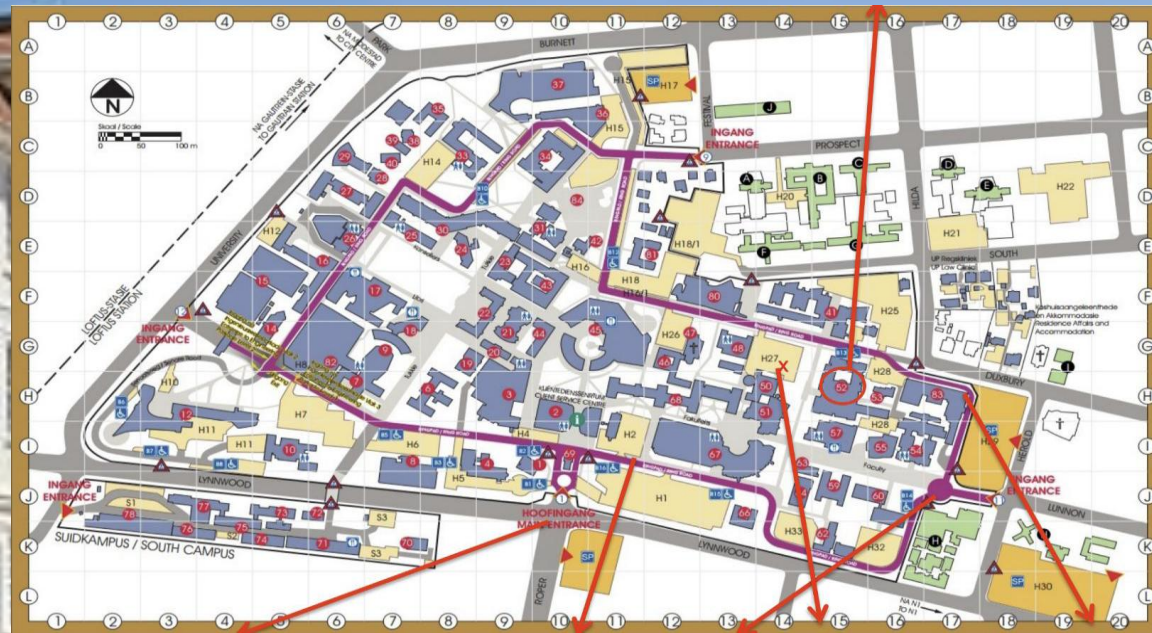
## How to reduce your carbon footprint and join the Net Zero Carbon Journey


<b>Water</b>	<b>Energy</b>
Water Restrictions may apply	Replace lamps with LEDs
Ensure you only use 80L / day	Limit fridge use to one bar fridge per room (single person room)
Shower up to 3-5 mins	Airdry clothing in summer months
Turn off running taps	Turn off lights and unplug devices when not in use
<b>Transport</b>	Use Ai energy efficient appliances (low wattage)
Don't drive your car	<b>Waste</b>
Walk or cycle everywhere	SU has a zero waste to landfill goal
Hire a Matie Bike from US <small>Terms and Conditions Apply</small>	Buy less items that must be thrown away
Share your rides	Reuse items
<b>Get Involved</b>	Compost food scraps and sort recycling correctly
Join your community Green/Sustainability Com	No wet items in recycling bins
Follow: @su.environmental.sust	

# Map of Campus

Consult the interactive campus map at:

<https://campusmap.sun.ac.za/>





## Few Places In Our Vicinity

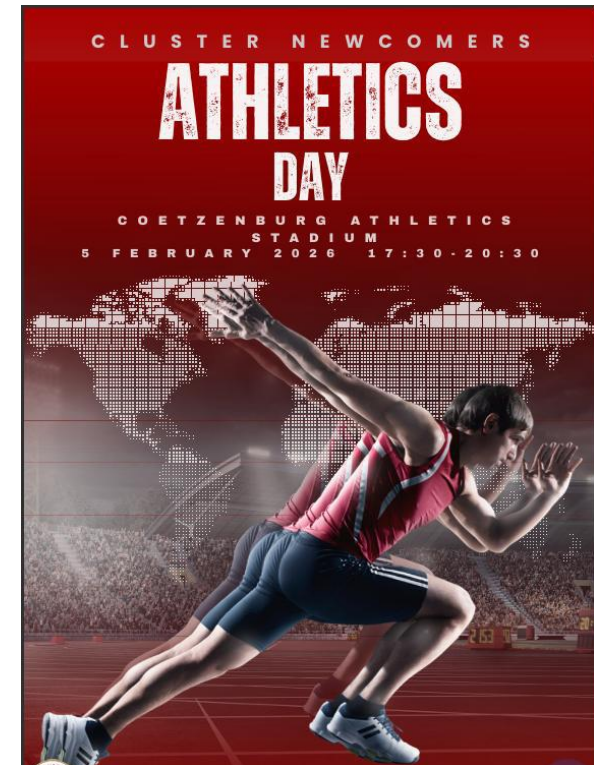
- SU Library
- SU Neelsie
- SU Botanical Gardens
- Eikestad Mall
- Danie Craven Stadium
- Eersterivier
- SU Campus Health Services

# OUR CLUSTER



@VICTORIACLUSTER

- What is a Cluster?
  - A community outside of your residence. This community is formed by various other CSC's and Residences.
- Who/What is our Cluster?
  - We are part of Victoria Cluster. This Cluster consists of us, Monica Residence, Harmonie Residence, Silene CSC and Oude Molen CSC.



# What to...

## Expect:

Upon arrival at Wilgenhof prepare to be embraced by a culture that has celebrated all who have lived here in the past 121 years. Wilgenhof's legacy has been built by the thousands of diverse and different students who have gone through it before, and now is your chance to add to the history that Wilgenhof holds, a place in which you can grow yourself and shape the space in which you live. Expect to be part of a community in which all are welcome, and where fellow Wilgenhoffers walk side by side as friends who form special relationships together.

Wilgenhof is a place of great opportunity and through our various clubs, sports teams and committees, there is always a chance to "Kom By" and get involved in some form of Res activity. You can look forward to what will be some of the best years of your life in the oldest and one of the most special university residences in South Africa. Wilgenhof's success stems from our four Ground Principles of Respect, Individuality, Sense of Community and Critical Thinking, and you now can embrace those ground principles for yourself. We look forward to welcoming you!

## Bring:

- Necktie
- Collared Shirt
- Toothbrush
- Pillowcase
- Flashlight
- Running Shoes
- One Black or Yellow T-shirt
- Fan
- Pencil
- Swimming Trunks
- Towel
- Notepad
- Eraser
- Water Bottle
- Pineapple

# SU Registration Guide

SU will receive the official final NSC, IEB and SACAI results from the Department of Basic Education (DBE). [S[5.1]Applicants in this category are not required to submit their final matric results.

Please note that you will have a two-day window to accept the offer before it expires. Keep a close eye on your email for updates and be sure to check your online status using the [Applicant Portal](#).

First-time-entering undergraduate students are advised to follow the registration timeframes carefully. Some programmes may close once the target number of students has been reached, and registration will therefore take place on a first-come, first-served basis. Late registration for first-time-entering undergraduate students, beyond the scheduled programme-specific registration dates, will not be accommodated where available space has reached its limits.

Students are encouraged to make use of online registration. Students with online registration problems will be assisted in the Coetzenburg Centre during the assigned timeslot in Welcoming.

We are excited to make your registration experience not only smooth but also enjoyable, with fun and engaging activities planned. Please note, however, that due to the change in venue to the Coetzenburg Centre, there may be some minor teething challenges as we settle into the new space. We kindly ask for your patience and understanding as we work to ensure everything runs as smoothly as possible

## Online registration:

- 12 January 2026: Online registration opens for senior undergraduate (excluding transferring students) and postgraduate students.
- 22 January 2026: Online registration opens for first-time-entering students[L[12.1].

## On-campus assisted registration:

- 26 – 30 January 2026: Assisted registration for senior students, including transferring students, as per the registration schedule.
- 3 February 2026: Assisted registration for first-time-entering students (excluding transferring students), as per the registration schedule.
- 3 – 5 February 2026: Extended assisted registration for senior students (including transferring students), as per the registration schedule.

# SU Registration Guide

Schedule for assisted registration of undergraduate first-time-entering [\[L1\]](#) (excluding transferring students) on Stellenbosch campus at the Coetzenburg Centre:

Faculty	Programme	Date	Time
Science	All programmes	2 February	08:00 – 10:00
AgriSciences	All programmes	2 February	10:00 – 12:00
Education	All programmes	2 February	10:30 – 12:00
Theology	All programmes	2 February	10:30 – 12:00
Arts and Social Sciences	All programmes	2 February	12:30 – 16:00
Economic and Management Sciences	BAcc, BCom (all programmes, including ECP)	3 February	08:00 – 11:00
Law	LLB, BCom (Law), BAccLLB, BA (Law)	3 February	08:00 – 10:00
Engineering	All programmes	3 February	10:30 – 12:00

# We look forward to meeting you!

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If you have any further questions, please reach out to our Welcoming Leader, Jacobus Botha.

○Tel: 060 677 3969

○Email: [27225038@sun.ac.za](mailto:27225038@sun.ac.za)

