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1. Vice Chancellor's Student Leader of the Year Award

As part of our strategic vision, the University strives to empower well-rounded graduates who embrace innovative and academic excellence in advancing knowledge and making a positive impact to the society. This award presents the recognition of student leaders whose leadership exhibits the vision, mission, and values of a true Witsie.

This category recognises the overall outstanding student leaders who have:

- been inspirational in promoting student leadership;
- displayed and promoted Wits values and Graduate Attributes;
- played a role in creating and advancing global knowledge; and
- provided evidence of being a change-maker.

Runner-ups:

The second runner-up, for his contributions towards addressing challenges related to student accommodation, the SRC Deputy President, **Mr Simphiwe Mtungwa**.

The first runner-up, for their contributions towards the support of the postgraduate community, **Ms Angeline Duma**.

Winner

This year's recipient is a true change-maker. The tangible outcomes of their leadership are visible in various impactful initiatives—whether through the improvement of maintenance systems in the University's residences; the enhancement of postgraduate orientation initiatives within residence to strengthen a sense of belonging; the creation of entrepreneurial opportunities through the Wits Residence Life Street Market; or the professional readiness online course accessible to all Witsies

They have consistently identified and addressed gaps in the student experience, inspiring others to step up and take action. By leveraging partnerships both within and beyond the university, they have advanced knowledge and promoted Wits' Graduate Attributes, especially in the preparation for post-University life and economic participation. Their efforts have created a ripple effect of leadership and empowerment that extends across the Wits community, embodying the values of service.

The 2024 Vice-Chancellor's Student Leader of the Year award goes to a Master of Arts in Cultural Policy and Management student and All Residence Sub-Council Postgraduate Representative in the SRC, **Mr Bukasa Dan Kabongo**.



2. Student Entrepreneur of the Year

Special recognition:

The special recognition in this category goes to mentors in the Student Entrepreneurship Education and Development (SEED) Programme. These professionals and business leaders, either students or alumni of Wits Business School, are highly knowledgeable in all aspects of business and entrepreneurship. Through their volunteer efforts, they mentor student entrepreneurs in the SEED programme, based at the newly launched Student Entrepreneurship Hub (E-Hub) at The Matrix. We are grateful for their invaluable contributions to nurturing the next generation of entrepreneurs.

This Student Entrepreneur Award recognises an individual who has demonstrated exceptional entrepreneurial skills, creativity, and innovation in solving a critical problem, while ensuring the sustainability of their solution. The criteria for this category required nominees to provide evidence of their entrepreneurial journey, showing how they have generated income and/or resources to make their initiative sustainable, while daring to challenge the status quo through their innovative, impact-driven approach.

Winner

The winner of this award has displayed remarkable innovation in the education sector, addressing a widespread issue affecting students across South Africa—access to accurate and comprehensive information about higher education institutions. Through the creation of the "University and College App," this student has developed a digital platform that centralises essential information on universities and colleges, making it easier for students to access details such as rankings, admission requirements, and links to official websites.

The app is aimed at targeting the challenges faced by students, particularly those from underprivileged backgrounds, who often struggle to find reliable information about higher education options. By simplifying the application process and bridging the information gap, this initiative seeks to empower students to make informed decisions about their futures.

Not only has the app reportedly achieved over 100 downloads and garnered more than 700 ad impressions, but the entrepreneur behind it has also implemented a sustainable monetisation strategy and is actively pursuing partnerships to expand its reach.

Additionally, this innovative project challenges traditional, often inaccessible methods of information dissemination by offering a modern, digital solution accessible to anyone with a smartphone.

The recipient of the 2024 Student Entrepreneur of the Year award is **Mr. Jordan Chongo**.



3. Social Innovator Award

This category recognises individuals who have creatively used ideas to address social challenges and have shown commitment to developing impactful projects by engaging with their target community. Nominees for this award must also provide evidence of the tangible impact their innovation has had on the community.

Runner-up

Mr. Jordan Chongo, who has demonstrated innovation through the creation of the *University and College App*, a digital platform designed to centralise essential information on higher education institutions, making educational opportunities more accessible to students from diverse backgrounds.

Winner

The winner of this award has exemplified social innovation through his development of the *Books and Briefs* initiative, a community outreach project that addresses two critical issues: illiteracy in underprivileged primary schools and the lack of volunteer opportunities for law students.

Through *Books and Briefs*, our awardee has organised daily group-guided reading sessions for Grades 1-3 learners at three primary schools in Johannesburg. This project directly impacts the literacy development of hundreds of learners. He has tailored the programme by collaborating with headmasters and teachers, ensuring it meets the specific needs of each school. Celebrated by beneficiary schools, children, and volunteers, this project is nothing short of remarkable.

In addition, by exclusively involving law students as volunteers, he has provided them with valuable experience that enhances their skills outside the classroom, boosting their employment prospects in a highly competitive field. With over 300 primary school children benefiting and over 100 law student volunteers participating so far, the programme has created meaningful opportunities for personal and professional growth.

This social innovator truly embodies what #WitsForGood stands for, through his extraordinary efforts in addressing both literacy challenges and the need for student volunteerism through the *Books and Briefs* project. His commitment to social change and community impact is both commendable and inspiring.

The Social Innovator Award goes to **Mr. Jonathan Casaleiro**.



4. Most Outstanding Student Leader in Promoting Thought Leadership

This category recognizes students who demonstrate agency in providing unique guidance and influence through advocacy, raising awareness, dialogue, and debate within the university context. The focus is on subjects that promote transformation and inclusivity through thought leadership. The winner in this category has been a passionate advocate for LGBTQI+ rights, making a significant impact within the Wits community through their leadership and activism.

Their journey began in 2022 when they served as the treasurer of Activate, a society dedicated to advocating for queer-related issues and promoting a safe and inclusive environment on campus. Although their role primarily focused on financial and fundraising responsibilities, their zeal for advocacy extended far beyond that. They became deeply involved in raising awareness and promoting inclusion across the university, influencing how they supported students, with a focus on gender, sexual identity, and diversity.

This student remained dedicated to the Activate Student Society and became the chairperson, where they challenged discrimination and exclusion based on gender and sexual orientation within the student community. They continued to collaborate with various University offices, learning the importance of building professional relationships and a strong work ethic. One of their major initiatives was launching a talk series in collaboration with the Gender Equity Office and Knockando Halls of Residence, addressing gender sensitivity. This initiative sparked further invitations to speak at other residences, including Barnato Hall and Sunnyside Residence, where they continued to advocate for inclusivity and social awareness.

Their advocacy extended beyond residences, with impactful engagements on platforms such as VOW FM and an article in Wits Vuvuzela, covering the Lekgotla discussion hosted by Activate, which focused on educating students about the importance of acceptance and inclusion. Earlier this year, we also saw this student moderating the Gateway to Success (GTS) panel discussions on matters related to inclusion, alongside the Transformation and Gender Equity Offices, among others. In addition, they facilitated a crucial discussion on toxic masculinity at The Wits Junction (Residence), further demonstrating their commitment to breaking down harmful stereotypes and promoting positive discourse around gender.

Beyond LGBTQI+ activism, the winner continues to contribute to vibrant student leadership on campus through their involvement in the Clinical Associates Student Council and the First Year Experience (FYE) Mentorship Programme. They were also recently inducted into the Golden Key International Honour Society, further attesting to their commitment to academics.

For the first time ever, we have a recipient of the 2024 Most Outstanding Student Leader in Promoting Thought Leadership award – **Sipho Mcani**.



5. Most Outstanding Student Leader Advocating for Students Living with Disabilities

This award recognises a student leader who has made an outstanding contribution to raising disability awareness and addressing the needs of students with disabilities at Wits University. The recipient has shown exceptional dedication in fostering an inclusive environment where students of all abilities are empowered to succeed.

The 2024 recipient has gone above and beyond in her role as the SRC Disability Representative. Throughout her tenure, she has contributed to numerous initiatives aimed at improving accessibility and inclusivity for students living with disabilities. Along with other student leadership structures such as the All-Residence Sub-Council (ARSC), this student leader has played a role in advocating for accessibility audits within Wits residences, ensuring that students with disabilities were exempt from reductions in essential services like cleaning.

Her activism has extended beyond residences, as she actively participated in the Gateway to Success (GTS) orientation programme, participating in panel discussions on disability rights and promoting awareness among first-year students. Her efforts to educate new students about the Disability Rights Unit services available on campus have been pivotal in raising awareness and providing much-needed support to incoming students with disabilities.

In addition to her advocacy on campus, she has been a member of the Disability Rights Interest Group chaired by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor for People Development and Culture, contributing to important discussions on structural improvements aimed at removing mobility barriers across the university. Her participation in this group highlights her strategic leadership and commitment to long-term change.

One of her most impactful contributions was assisting visually impaired students to apply for the SRC Fund, with successful outcomes that ensured access to education. Beyond campus, she has initiated disability advocacy through external engagements, such as her upcoming Varsity Talk school visit, aimed at inspiring and supporting learners with disabilities.

Her leadership, marked by empathy, resilience, and unwavering commitment, has left an indelible mark on the Wits community.

The 2024 Most Outstanding Student Leader Advocating for Students Living with Disabilities award goes to **Ms Ijeoma Lesedi Matsepe**.



6. Sports Student Leader of the Year

This category acknowledges students who have made significant contributions to the sports community at Wits, demonstrating leadership, commitment, and a lasting impact. The criteria for this category required nominees to show evidence of their leadership in sports clubs or councils, their efforts in organizing sports events, and the positive influence they have had on the sports culture within the university.

The winner in this category has been a dedicated student leader in Wits sports since 2018. In 2023/2024, he served as the Chairperson of the Wits Sports Council (WSC), which also made him a member of the Student Representative Council (SRC). Under his chairmanship, the WSC successfully launched the inaugural WSC Games—an Olympic-style event that brought together sports clubs from across the university. He also played a pivotal role in reviving the Faculty League, a project that reunited students from various faculties through sport and contributed to rebuilding the camaraderie lost during the COVID-19 pandemic.

In addition to these large-scale initiatives, the winner has worked closely with various sports committees, supporting their fundraising efforts and event management. He has also represented Wits at national USSA meetings and colloquiums, demonstrating his commitment to elevating Wits sports both on campus and at the national level. His dedication to inclusivity and collaboration has played a central role in revitalizing the sports culture at Wits, cementing his status as a true champion of sports leadership.

Mr. Tristan Wilkinson is the recipient of the 2024 Sports Student Leader of the Year award.



7. Most Outstanding Student Leader at a Postgraduate Level

This category recognizes postgraduate students who have gone above and beyond to create a vibrant and supportive experience for their peers. Nominees are evaluated based on their outstanding leadership within their faculty and their contributions to promoting growth opportunities for their fellow students.

Runner-up

Mr. Tristan Wilkinson, for his significant contributions to postgraduate student governance in the School of Physics and his leadership in student outreach initiatives, such as the Yebo Gogga convention.

The winner in this category has demonstrated exceptional leadership, characterized by her commitment to supporting fellow students through academic, financial, and emotional guidance. As a PhD candidate, she has demonstrated dedication and remarkable leadership in initiatives like the Postgraduate Authentic Research Conversations (PRAC), enhancing collaboration and providing much-needed support for Honors, Masters, and PhD students. Furthermore, she has also established the NRF WhatsApp group which has played a role in connecting over 60 students with scholarship applications. On the other hand, she continues to mentor Honours students within the School of Education.

Beyond academia, the winner's leadership extends into the community through their non-profit organization, Rills of Hope, which provides career guidance to learners from disadvantaged backgrounds.

The recipient of the 2024 Most Outstanding Student Leader at a Postgraduate Level award is **Ms. Angeline Duma**.



8. Most Outstanding Contribution Made by SRC Members

This award recognises Student Representative Council (SRC) members who have made a significant impact through exceptional contributions to the success of the SRC, in the form of projects, events, or other initiatives. The recipients must also have played an important role in promoting and inspiring leadership among their peers.

The winners of this award have shown exceptional leadership within the SRC. They played a key role in a project aimed at bridging the gap between academic learning and life after university. This student-led initiative tackles one of the biggest challenges facing young people in South Africa today: youth unemployment. It equips students with essential soft skills and prepares them for successful transitions into the professional world for economic participation. Led by two SRC members from the Student Development and Support, and All Residence Postgraduates Representation portfolios, this project has already achieved great success. Over 7,300 students have enrolled in its online course, accessible through Ulwazi, the Wits Learning Management System (LMS).

These student leaders effectively collaborated with key stakeholders, including the African Leadership Academy, Africa Careers Network, and the Wits Centre for Teaching and Learning Development (CTLTD), with the Counselling and Careers Development Unit as the main partner. Their dedication to peer leadership and service to the Wits community has set a new standard for SRC-led projects.

The Most Outstanding Contribution Made by SRC Members is presented award to **Bukasa Dan Kabongo** and **Siyamthanda Mashicila**, for their inspiring leadership, innovative thinking, and dedication to student success through the **WorkReady Gen-Z initiative**.



9. Most Outstanding Student in Peer Mentorship

This category recognises students who excel in peer mentorship, demonstrating a commitment to uplifting fellow students through guidance and support. Nominees for this award must showcase how their mentorship positively impacts the university community.

Special recognition

First Year Experience (FYE) Mentorship Programme, our University's largest official peer mentorship initiative, pairing senior students with first-year students to support and guide them during their transition.

Runner-up

Zukisa Bangela who has dedicated himself to the Gateway to Success (GTS) as an ambassador ushering new students to campus life. He has also shown dedication to the FYE Programme, first as a peer mentor, then as a lead mentor, guiding other mentors in his faculty.

Winner

This winner in this category has consistently demonstrated exceptional dedication to developing the skills and well-being of their peers at Wits University. Their impactful mentorship spans multiple roles, notably as a Writing Mentor at the School of Law Writing Centre, where they have significantly contributed to the academic journeys of numerous first-year law students. Their ability to help peers identify ways to simplify complex legal concepts has greatly enhanced the legal writing skills of mentees, allowing them to navigate their studies with greater confidence, as reflected in feedback from both mentees and lecturers.

As an advocate for academic excellence, this student not only directs their mentees to relevant resources but also exemplifies true academic success – showing that Wits student leaders can maintain academic excellence. Recently graduating with distinction in their first degree, they have been recognized for initiatives that extend beyond their immediate mentees. With a passion for peer mentorship, they created “Study Tips with Sibusiso for the Upcoming EDGE Season,” which equips peers with essential skills to manage exam anxiety and prepare for assessments, sharing from their own experience. This initiative has reportedly drawn participation from students across multiple faculties, fostering a sense of community and peer support.

Additionally, they serve as a Residence Student Assistant in the Living and Learning Communities Programme, leading initiatives that promote leadership development and inclusivity within Wits residences, particularly for the LGBTQIA+ community. Their commitment to creating welcoming spaces further exemplifies their holistic approach to mentorship, and inspiring others to strive for excellence while fostering an inclusive and supportive environment at Wits.

The 2024 Most Outstanding Student in Peer Mentorship award goes to **Sibusiso Msibi**.



10. Most Outstanding House Committee in a University Residence

This award recognizes the exceptional leadership, unity, and commitment of a House Committee that has gone above and beyond in fostering a supportive and thriving community within their residence. Their efforts have had a tangible impact on students' academic and personal lives, creating a sense of belonging, and demonstrating a deep commitment to the values of the University.

This year's winning House Committee demonstrated outstanding leadership through a series of impactful initiatives aimed at fostering unity and well-being within the residence. They held Gender, Consent and Intersectionality Talks, which educated first-year students on important topics like respect and consent, helping to create a positive residential environment. Moreover, this Committee also strengthened brotherhood by organizing initiatives such as Circle of Truth and Brotherhood Talks, as well as alumni interactions, enhancing unity among residents.

In addition to their academic and community work, the committee prioritized holistic wellness and development with wellness talks, financial literacy workshops in partnership with PPS, and mental health initiatives. Their community engagement included leading 67 Minutes of Service in the Dining Hall, supporting the #InHerShoes campaign with sanitary products donations, and organizing a stationery drive for high school students. They also promoted environmental responsibility through recycling initiatives; and took a proactive and collaborative approach to maintenance issues. These initiatives have undeniably contributed towards enhancing student life, fostering inclusivity, and impacting to the overall well-being of their residents.

For their unwavering commitment to excellence, unity, and community; and for the lasting impact they have made by blending academic support, personal development, and social responsibility, the **Ernest Oppenheimer Hall of Residence 2023/24 House Committee** is the Most Outstanding House Committee.



11. Most Outstanding Student Leader in a University Residence House Committee

This award honours a student leader who has played an exemplary role in their residence committee, showing exceptional leadership and commitment to fostering community spirit. The winner has excelled in creating a sense of belonging and initiating impactful projects that have significantly enhanced student life.

Runner-up

Tshwarelo Mafuyeka, for their dedication to leadership in the Braamfontein Centre Residence and the All Residence Sub-Council,.

Winner

Among the winner's notable achievements is her leadership in the All Res Sports Day, where she introduced E-Sports for the first time, including a highly anticipated FIFA tournament that was met with great enthusiasm. She also secured partnerships with Aquelle for hydration and Wits Sport for professional sports management, elevating the event's quality and setting a new standard for future sports days.

The winner also contributed towards the Face of Reith event, focused on women's empowerment and environmental awareness through giving the participants to design outfits from waste materials as part of the "*Trash to Treasure*" challenge, supporting the Green Campus Initiative. This event showcased creativity and raised R3 600 through ticket sales, now funding a women's self-defence campaign in collaboration with the Wits Boxing Club, equipping women students with essential safety skills.

Additionally, she led the "*Dress a Sister*" project, a winter clothing exchange that began in at her residence, Reith Hall of Residence, and soon expanded to include residents' families, fostering a spirit of generosity and community. This initiative has made a lasting impact, providing stylish clothing while promoting shared responsibility and care, reflecting the university's values.

This award is presented to **Mihla Mabono** the **Vice-Chairperson of Reith Hall of Ladies' Residence** and **Sports Officer of the All Residence Sub-Council**, as the recipient of the Most Outstanding Student Leader in a University Residence House Committee.



12. Most Outstanding Student Clubs, Societies, and Organizations (CSO)

This award recognizes student clubs, societies, and organizations that have demonstrated exceptional service and dedication to their members through the delivery of their 2024 Programme of Action, while adhering to essential University procedures.

Runner-up (tie)

The **Black Lawyers Association Wits Chapter** and the **South African Institute of Black Property Practitioners Wits Chapter**, for their dedication to the career development of their members.

Winner

The winners of this award have significantly contributed to both cultural preservation and student well-being. They have taken an innovative approach to recruitment drives, leading to a substantial increase in membership. Their cultural events, such as #IngomaTuesdays, have not only enriched the student experience but have also gained national recognition through social media, where they have amassed over one hundred and seventy followers. Through these platforms, they showcased their cultural pride, educated people about their African traditions, and expanded their influence by covering sporting events and other campus activities, further enhancing the vibrant campus atmosphere.

In addition, this society has implemented impactful outreach programmes, including a Sanitary Pads Drive and an Academic Help Desk, addressing important student needs and creating lasting positive change within the university community. Their leadership and dedication have fostered inclusivity, unity, and cultural pride, ensuring the meaningful preservation and promotion of African heritage in modern society.

The award is presented to the **Zulu Students Cultural Society** for their outstanding contributions to the Wits community.

13. Most Outstanding School Student Council

This award recognises a School Student Council that has demonstrated exceptional dedication to serving their constituents by effectively representing their interests, resolving critical issues, and promoting academic excellence. Nominees were evaluated based on their ability to advocate for their peers, manage resources efficiently, and create impactful opportunities that foster academic achievement within their schools.

The winners of this category have consistently demonstrated outstanding leadership, with a deep commitment to both student well-being and academic growth. This was especially evident through the organisation of a prestigious event that brought together key industry bodies, offering students the invaluable opportunity to engage with professionals, gain industry insights, and explore various career pathways in their chosen fields.

Additionally, this School Student Council prioritised the mental health and well-being of their peers by partnering with their faculty's Road to Success (RSP) Student Support Office and CCDU to facilitate sessions focused on managing academic stress and addressing related challenges. This proactive initiative, widely appreciated by the student body, provided participants with practical tools and resources essential for thriving in a demanding academic environment.

Furthermore, recognising the risk of academic exclusion faced by many students, this body of student leaders organised a series of talks, including one focused on providing critical guidance on avoiding exclusion and accessing available support services, in collaboration with the SRC Academic Officer. Their unwavering efforts to bridge the gap between students and the University's administration, coupled with their advocacy for both academic and personal development, underscore their profound commitment to the student community.

The winner of this category is the **School of Accountancy Student Council**.



14. Most Outstanding Student Leader in a School Student Council

This award honours student leaders who have demonstrated outstanding service and dedication within their school student council. These are leaders who have led strong advocate for student needs, facilitated collaboration across governance structures, and acted as an effective liaison between their Student Council and the student body.

Runner-up

Nokulunga Guliwe for their dedication and excellent service to their constituency, addressing both academic and personal needs. From the Department of Pharmacy Student Council.

The winner has exhibited exceptional leadership in notable areas as such co-hosting a praiseworthy Career Fair, bringing together over 30 firms and organizations, thereby broadening students' career perspectives by engaging a diverse range of legal professionals. As per students' reflections, this event has expanded understanding of the legal profession beyond traditional roles. The winner's dedication to their role was further exemplified by the launch of the '*Day in the Life Of...*' Legal Series, which provided students with valuable insights into the realities of various legal professions.

In response to the Braamfontein outages, the winner also took swift action to secure financial support from firms, organizing a Food Drive that distributed 75 food parcels to students in need. Through their proactive leadership and unwavering commitment to addressing both academic and personal concerns, the winner has fostered a strong sense of community and growth within Wits University's Law School. This winner did all this while maintaining an average above 80% per academic year, since their first year at Wits.

For their exceptional contributions and dedication to their constituents, the award for the Most Outstanding Student Leader in a School Student Council goes to the School of Law Student Council's Careers Officer, **Milkias Gebremichael**.

15. Most Outstanding Class Representative (Postgraduate)

This category recognises a class representative who has excelled in representing their peers, establishing open channels of communication, and serving as a key link between students, lecturers, and other stakeholders. As we have two winners in this category, I will be announcing the postgraduate winner.

The winner in this category has demonstrated exemplary leadership as the Information Systems Honours class representative. By implementing an open-door policy, they encouraged classmates to voice concerns and seek assistance, ensuring both academic and administrative needs were met. Their leadership fostered a respectful, collaborative environment that promoted academic excellence.

This student also leveraged their position within the Postgraduate Subcommittee of the School of Business Sciences Student Council to create meaningful opportunities for their peers, such as organising a networking masterclass that offered valuable insights into professional conduct and CV writing.

Ms Senamile Gwala is the recipient of the 2024 Most Outstanding Class Representative award (Postgraduate level).



16. Most Outstanding Class Representative (Undergraduate)

This category recognises a class representative who has demonstrated exceptional dedication in advocating for their peers, fostering open communication, and serving as a vital link between students and faculty.

The winner in this category has been an exemplary Class Representative for the Bachelor of Dental Sciences (BDS) programme since 2021, continuing this commitment into the BDS IV year in 2024. They have consistently faced challenges with resilience and responsibility, emphasising the importance of time management and accessibility for fellow students. This representative encourages inclusivity and diversity, promoting collaboration among peers and ensuring that no task is too big or too small.

They take student concerns seriously, addressing them promptly and motivating classmates to unite even in difficult situations. Their leadership style reflects a deep commitment to their peers and the dental community, striving to perform duties diligently and transparently.

In recognition of these outstanding contributions and dedication, **Shaun du Plessis** is the recipient of the 2024 Most Outstanding Class Representative award (Undergraduate level).



17. Special Recognitions

The special recognitions honour student leaders who have excelled beyond the award categories, making a significant impact and proudly flying the University flag high. This evening, we pay homage to three categories of students.

1. Abe Bailey Travel Bursary Recipient

The Abe Bailey Travel Bursary is awarded to full-time students and junior academic staff who demonstrate exceptional academic performance, leadership, and service. The 2024 recipient, **Kamogelo Mabe**, an Honours student in Critical Diversity Studies, has excelled in both academics and leadership. After serving on the Student Representative Council (SRC) and earning his Bachelor of Education degree, Kamogelo dedicated his postgraduate studies to reflect his deep insights into diversity and complex societal issues. His articulate and poised approach to leadership, combined with his commitment to South Africa's future, aligns with the bursary's values, making him a deserving recipient.

2. Emerging Leaders Programme

The Emerging Leaders Programme (ELP) is a prestigious initiative that identifies and nurtures young leaders with the potential to drive transformative change in their communities and beyond. Through this programme, students are equipped with essential leadership skills and empowered to design and implement projects that meaningfully contribute to Africa's development. As part of their experiential learning, this year's ELP delegates were challenged to bring the African Union's Agenda 2063 to life through micro-level projects within their communities. These students embraced the challenge, demonstrating exceptional commitment and vision in advancing Agenda'63 Aspirations.

The overall winning group focused on economic self-sufficiency, one of Agenda 2063's key Aspiration. These students organised a Financial Literacy Workshop for local entrepreneurs in the Bram Fischerville township of Soweto, equipping them with valuable skills to manage and grow their businesses. Praiseworthy, these students mobilised resources and purchase card payment machines for these local entrepreneurs, providing them with the tools needed to thrive in an increasingly digital economy. This project not only addressed a critical need but also demonstrated a deep understanding of how financial independence drives sustainable development within communities.



The runner-up group focused on economic integration, contributing to the vision of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). Their awareness drive, featured on VOW FM, sought to promote understanding of intra-Africa trade. To further their efforts, the group is currently developing a digital platform called “Market Mingle,” which mirrors intra-Africa trade among Wits student entrepreneurs, inspiring intra-campus trade. Other notable projects include empowering youth to participate in governance matters. Through workshops in Roodepoort townships, educating the youth about participating in law-making processes and holding the government accountable; and promoting STEM education in underprivileged schools, introducing learners to coding and robotics.

This unwavering dedication to making a positive impact across various spheres of society highlights the students' commitment to leadership, truly embodying the spirit of #WitsForGood. This evening, we give special recognition to the 2024 cohort of ELP.

3. Golden Key International Honour Society, Wits Chapter

Golden Key members are inducted into the Golden Key Honors Society to unite students with university, corporate, and community leaders. Selected for their dedication to academic excellence, leadership, and community service, Chapter Committee members represent each university's Golden Key affiliation. These individuals exemplify the pursuit of personal growth and a commitment to positively impacting society while maintaining academic excellence. This evening, we proudly recognize the 2024 committee members of the Golden Key International Honour Society at Wits University. Their unwavering dedication, teamwork, and efforts have sustained the university a **Gold Chapter status**, representing both the society and Wits at an international level. Their service and commitment are truly commendable.