

NORTH-WEST UNIVERSITY SECOND LEADERSHIP CAMP FOR STUDENT NURSES

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The School of Nursing Science (SONS) at the Mafikeng Campus of the North-West University (NWU) organised the second leadership camp for student nurses from 10 to 12 March 2017 at Nooitgedacht (Potchefstroom) in the North West province of South Africa. The camp was attended by SONS management and facilitators, facilitators from the Mmabatho College of Nursing (MMAACON), student leaders from both SONS and MMAACON, and Ms Zanele Cekiso, who was the motivational speaker. The purpose of the camp was to capacitate student nurses from both SONS and MMAACON with leadership skills in the nursing profession, so that they can assess whether they are successful as leaders, and so that they can utilise the available resources to build resilience. The camp was officially opened by the NWU Acting Faculty Coordinator, Prof. Abel Jacobus Pienaar. The leadership camp was also graced by the highly respected presenters Mr Boitumelo Joy Molato (a clinical teaching and learning coordinator), Prof. Daleen Koen and Dr Vickie Koen (experts in the field of resilience), Ms Zanele Cekiso (a community service nurse), and Mr Innocent Mvala (a community service nurse at the Witrand mental healthcare institution).

Mr Molato gave a presentation on the Clinical Teaching and Learning Recording tools. These tools include the Transport Attendance Register (TAR), a register for students' time spent off-duty, a mentoring register, a clinical teaching form, and a clinical accompaniment form. The tools are used to monitor absenteeism among student nurses and their clinical accompaniment. Prof. Koen and Dr Koen gave presentations on resilience, and covered the definition of resilience, why are student nurses at risk, how can resilience be promoted, and the identification and utilisation of the available resources to build resilience.

Ms Cekiso gave a presentation on how to change your software or mentality. She covered ten rules of success, which she summarised as what you want, put efforts on your gift, no excuses, upgrade your values, you reap what you sow, get educated because education is the greatest equaliser, always remember your "Why", have boundaries in all spheres of your life, do everything from the heart and it will be easier, and succeed as bad as you want to breathe. The last presenters were Prof. Pienaar and Mr Mvala, who talked about leadership in the nursing profession.

The student nurses evaluated the conference. They were excited about the camp and indicated that it was very incisive and informative, and that they learnt a lot, particularly about resilience because it was a new concept to them and fascinated them. Furthermore, they also liked the scale that is used to measure the success of a leader. The way forward was that student leaders from both SONS and MMAACON must implement the resolutions made at the camp. This will include utilising the resources available to build resilience. An evaluation of the implementation plan will be done in October 2017.

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