



Nelson Mandela Hall report 2019

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Adelaide Tambo House Warden – Thandi Dyantyi

Guy Butler House Warden – Jonathan Davy

Helen Joseph House Warden – Nomaxabiso Silo

Hall Warden and Stanley Kidd House Warden – Jonathan Hellemann

Hall Fellows

Prof Jen Snowball

Dr Alan Kirkaldy

Dr Brendan Wilhelmi

Ms Corinne Knowles

Hall Administrator – Loranda Faltain

Sub-Wardens

Adelaide Tambo House

Andiswa Mabusela, Tanaka Chikomba, Thandeka Madziwanyika

Guy Butler House

Mfundoluntu Somandi, Joseph Gasura

Helen Joseph House

Pontsho Seshoka, Sixolile Ntombana, Sisipho Sikweza

Stanley Kidd House

Khaya Ngqokoqwane, Chuma Songelwa

Hall Senior Student

Vunene Chabalala

House Senior Students

Mohau Makola (Adelaide Tambo House), Tswelopele Ramokoka (Guy Butler House), Moroesi Mbethe (Helen Joseph House), Wayne Muchadahama (Stanley Kidd House)

Hall Community Engagement Rep

Fezekile Dhlamini

Hall SRC rep

Nkateko Nkanyane

Hall Warden's report

Nelson Mandela Hall was awarded the Hall Community Engagement Award for 2019. This award is not about the award but about the beautiful partnership that has grown over the years between Nelson Mandela Hall and CM Vellem Primary School. The opportunity for all involved to grow and learn from each other. May 2020 see this partnership continue to grow and blossom into something even more.

Ms Des Wicks retired from being Hall Warden of Nelson Mandela Hall in June 2019. Her 20 years of collective wardening service (10 years at Adelaide Tambo/Nelson Mandela Hall) is not an easy position to fill over night. The collective experience and insight will be missed but not forgotten. We thank you Des Wicks for all the work you have done for the Hall over these years.

2nd semester we had mid year training which provided us with an opportunity to reflect and prepare for the remainder of the year.

We held fruitful discussions about items that concern students and their journey through Rhodes. It was great to hear from the students and their experiences. We plotted a course for the 2nd semester which gave us direction and purpose for the remainder of 2019.

The sexual offences workshop held by Dr Zethu Mkhize was highly informative and provided an opportunity for students and staff to be informed about the new sexual offences policy that was adopted by Rhodes University. The scourge of gender based violence in our communities and at Rhodes requires attention and action by all people.

Nelson Mandela Hall has had a successful year in all aspects of the University. But the challenges of fees, social issues, mental health and so forth continue to make the residence system a challenging space that works tirelessly to support and encourage our students in all aspects.

2020 won't be any different and i know with thorough planning and inclusionary discussions we can grow on the foundation of the past 20 years of Nelson Mandela Hall.

Hall Awards

The following were awarded at the Welcome dinner:

Academic awards:

The top first year students award for 2018, with a pass rate of 88.3% - Helen Joseph House

The top second year students awards for 2018, with a pass rate of 88.6% - Helen Joseph House

The top third year students award for 2018 with a pass rate of 98.2% - Stanley Kidd house

The top 4th year students award for 2018, with a pass rate of 100% - Adelaide Tambo and Guy Butler House

The top academic residence of the year for 2018, with a pass rate of 85.5% - Helen Joseph House

The Residence Merit scholarship awards:

Zuko Ntlakaza - Guy Butler House

Chuma Songelwa – Stanley Kidd House

Nkateko Nkanyane - Adelaide Tambo House

The following were awarded at the Leavers dinner:

Academic awards:

The top first year student award for 2019, with a pass rate of 79.25% was awarded to Lynn-Anne Akwa from Adelaide Tambo House

The top second year students awards for 2019, with a pass rate of 76.2% was awarded to Courtney Yip from Helen Joseph House

The top third year students award for 2019 with a pass rate of 83.2% was awarded to Omobolane Ayodele from Helen Joseph House.

The Hall awards:

SPORTS PERSON OF THE YEAR:

NOT AWARDED NO NOMINATIONS

SPORTING EXCELLENCE PERSON OF THE YEAR:

NOT AWARDED NO NOMINATIONS

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:

For a student who has participated in Residence/Hall community engagement activities & participated in other community engagement activities (outside of Residence/Hall Activities).

The following student is the recipient of this worthy award due to their active and dedicated service to literacy teaching and tutoring in the community. They have shown great reliability, punctuality and the willingness to go the extra mile in supporting various community projects across Makanda from CM Vellem (environmental clean ups) to Fikizolo English tutoring and top that off with the SRC Matric Dance Assistance. This is still further exemplified by her selfless initiative to collect clothes for the Jabez AIDS Health Centre. The worthy recipient of this award was Gwen Payi of Helen Joseph House.

RESIDENCE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AWARD:

For the House which has contributed most significantly to the community.

2019 started off like no other year for this house when it came to community engagement. With increased numbers of students involving themselves in the various projects it became a whole res responsibility. These various projects included supporting the Hall Community Partner by organising pad drives, community clean-ups, collected water bottles and assisting with the Mandela Day event. This went even further when they organised an event with the partner school to go and visit a local organisation and be shining lights in a different space. By now you would have guessed, the residence community engagement award for 2019 went to Stanley Kidd House.

HALL SHEILD

The hall shield is comprised of academics and sports results. This award for the year 2019 was a joint award amongst 3 reses. The hall shield went to Adelaide Tambo, Stanley Kidd and Helen Joseph House.

LEADERSHIP TROPHY:

This trophy may be presented to a student in Nelson Mandela Hall who, although not necessarily in a formal position of leadership, sets an example in their House by demonstrating exceptional leadership qualities throughout the year.

The award is given to active and supportive leaders of the residence and hall activities. Their commitment and dedication are shown by their selfless attitude in leading. This is exemplified by them working and supporting initiatives that seek to create a positive change within the residence and hall that leads to unity. This is all done with a positive, outgoing, participatory, approachable attitude. An overwhelming characteristic is their approach of treating all with courtesy, respect and consideration in all interactions. Fezekile Dhlamini and Nkateko Nkanyane were joint winners of the Leadership trophy in 2019

UBUNTU AWARD:

Donated by the Hall Senior Student Samkelo Mngadi in 2017. This award may be presented to a house committee member of a residence within the Nelson Mandela Hall. Their events must be geared to uniting either the house or Nelson Mandela Hall. These events must organically be geared towards the human spirit, uniting the house/hall for the sole purpose of breaking divisions within the hall. However, they must be exceptional in performing their roles within the hall.

This is the 1st time that this award is been awarded. Their unwavering passion and commitment for their fellow human being and social issues in the community goes beyond just money collection. Their approach and dedication have brought a renewed awareness and passion for helping those around them. Their support often bordering on fanatical for HALL community engagements events is a true testament to breaking divisions in society.

The worthy recipient of this award was Oscar Vilanculos of Stanley Kidd House.



Leadership training

We started the year off with Leadership training. On the 25th to the 27th of January it was strictly hall com, where we had Professor Noel Pearse, from the Rhodes Business school, address the leadership team during the training and gave them insight into what it means to be a leader. We also watched a documentary called “ready or not! Black Students’ experiences of south African universities” which was discussed into much details and students sharing their personal experiences. On Sunday the 27th we went to Fish River Sun where we had breakfast and spent half of the day there. Whilst at Fish River Sun, goals and expectations were set for the year, students gave wardens 5 expectations they expect from them and wardens also gave students 5 expectations they expect from students. These will be discussed during refresher training to see if goals were reached, and if there is room for improvement.



Sports Day

Nelson Mandela sports day is a day where all four residences come together and play sports and compete against each other for points and for fun and get to meet the different people in the hall. On the 16th of February we had the hall sports day. The residences competed against each other in sports like basketball, netball and soccer. These points count towards the Hall shield that is awarded to a residence at the Leavers dinner each year.



Welcome dinner

A Welcome dinner is an Evening to welcome first years and to welcome back people from vacation. An evening where everyone in the hall comes together and have good food and good company. Our Welcome dinner Theme was 'Casino night'. The students together with com from Helen Joseph House and Stanely Kidd spent a lot of time making décor for the event, and it ended in another successful event where everyone enjoyed themselves. The event was full of laughter and tears as we bid farewell to Thato Tantsi former warden of Helen Joseph house and welcomed Nomaxabiso Silo to the family.



Desiree Wick's tree planting

This was an event organized with the help of wardens where a tree was planted in memory of Mrs Wicks and in celebration of the service and dedication she served Nelson Mandela hall with. It was with great sadness that we said goodbye to Mrs Wicks and we wish her all the best in all her future endeavors.

Community Engagement



Throughout the years in second semester Rhodes University has a week known as Trading Lives Week. This is a week where we celebrate the ubuntu that Nelson Mandela stood for. Together with the Hall Community Engagement Rep, Fezekile Dlamini, we had a Fun day on the Saturday of the 27th of July with the children of our community engagement partner CM Vellem. We played soccer, and many indigenous games. We made packed meals for the children which they were given after the long morning of running around. The children held a mini concert for us as they beautifully sang and danced for us, we sang to them as well and after a long, fun morning the children left very happy.

The team also raised funds with the help of the Wardens and the Hall Fellows for a school shoe project. The funds were raised through donations as well as a Hot Dog sale around campus. In total R2 200 was raised and 21 pair of school shoes were donated to CM Vellem primary school.



Mandela 67 minutes

On the 18th of July which is Nelson Mandela's birthday the hall committee and house committee members together with the students in the hall came together during lunch to help the dining hall staff. This was not only a matter of giving back to them but also getting to experience and learn what happens beyond the tray, plate of food and cutlery we get at the dining hall, it was about the experience and getting to understand the magic that happens in the kitchen which result in us getting the food we get. It was a great experience and afterwards there was cake and juice for the staff to say thank you for their hard work.



Leavers dinner

On the 2nd of October there was the Hall's leaver's dinner. Preparations for this dinner were done by Adelaide Tambo house students and Guy Butler house students. It was a beautiful night filled with lots of food, drink, good company and laughter and the night ended with everyone happy.



