

## NWU – enabling entrepreneurs to flourish



The North-West University (NWU) is known for the way in which it unlocks the future for students, and by doing so enabling them to make their dreams come true. During the recent national Student Entrepreneurship Week – or #SEW2017 – this empowering spirit paved the way for the composition of the first-ever youth chamber of commerce in Vanderbijlpark.

The Student Entrepreneurship Week, an initiative by the Department of Higher Education and Training, saw several institutions of higher learning committing themselves to a weeklong entrepreneurship focus. Within the Gauteng province, the NWU's campus in Vanderbijlpark was identified as a key role-player and an Entrepreneurship Bootcamp was hosted by the bhive Enterprise Development Centre (EDC) from 1-7 August.

Apart from students being afforded the opportunity to learn more about entrepreneurship, they also enjoyed the privilege to rub shoulders with vested entrepreneurs and business leaders from the Vaal Triangle region. The latter allowed them to not only build professional networks but also to gain firsthand knowledge from entrepreneurs who have made their mark within the local economy.

With collaboration being one of the cornerstones of entrepreneurship, the Golden Triangle Chamber of Commerce (which incorporates Vanderbijlpark, Vereeniging,

Sasolburg and Meyerton), stepped up and pledged their support to the development of youth entrepreneurship by announcing the Golden Triangle Youth Chamber of Commerce. The chairperson of the Golden Triangle Chamber of Commerce, Stefan Olivier, made the announcement on the last day of the initiative. Prof Danie Meyer and Ms Natanya Meyer – both from the Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences – will act as guardians to the group of young entrepreneurs.

Stefan Olivier, Natanya Meyer and Klippies Kritzinger.