PROJECT PORTRAIT

Setting up a media club to help keep students in school
#143 (2014)

UCT KNOWLEDGE CO-OP

University of Cape Town · iYunivesithi YaseKapa · Universiteit van Kaapstad

SPES BONA

What is this project about?

A non-government organization called "Youth Empowerment through School" (YES) aims to equip learners with employability skills. It offers programmes at the Lavender Hill Secondary School that encourage its over 1000 learners to complete their schooling.

In 2013 YES approached the UCT Knowledge Co-op with a project idea for students to assist in starting a media club at the school. The aim of the project was for the students to "train the trainers" who would continue running the club in the future.

In 2014, Thabang Sermula and Shabier Parker of the Honours Outreach & Community Involvement Programme (HOCIP) based in UCT's Information Systems Department carried on the project from their predecessors with great enthusiasm.

The process

The Knowledge Co-op arranged a meeting between the YES project manager, the school and the students to clarify what was to be done and how to go about it. The school selected 10 learners for the project.

The two students assisted in re-starting the Media Club and held weekly 2-hour Friday afternoon sessions teaching computer literacy skills, internet and social media skills, assisting with the maintenance of the school's website, while also acting as mentors.

Each UCT student dedicated 15 hours to the project up to **May 2014.**

2013 YES Media Club Learners

To **reference** this Project Portrait, cite UCT Knowledge Co-op as the author.

The Knowledge Co-op at the University of Cape Town

The UCT Knowledge Co-op aims to make it easier for community partners to access UCT's skills, resources and professional expertise. It helps initiate joint projects that benefit both the community partner and the university. The Co-op links community groups with appropriately qualified staff and students at UCT, and supports both partners throughout the project – from initial planning to final product.

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