



Harnessing the university structures to design a systemic and integrated approach to student success

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# National and institutional alignment

## **National**

- White Paper on Post-School Education and Training (2013).
- the National Development Plan 2030 (2012).
- Policy on Articulation into and within Higher Education.

## **CPUT**

- Aligned with CPUT 3.0 Vision 2030 strategic goal of “providing equitable resources to all students on all campuses” (The Student Experience, p. 12) and focus areas 2 and 7.
- The programme further aligns with CPUT graduate attributes.

**A high graduation rate, low dropout rate, and positive student experiences reflect well on the institution and indicate that it is fulfilling its purpose.**



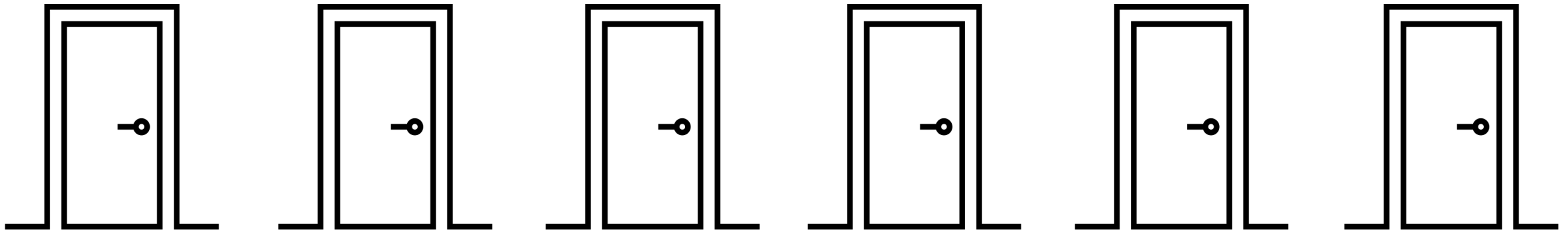
# Student Success at CPUT: The ideal

**CPUT places student success at the forefront, highlighting its importance as a primary goal:**

- fostering a comprehensive and inclusive approach to student success.
- Student success is a collective responsibility
- Everyone in the institution plays a role in supporting student success.
- Collaborative development of policies, procedures, systems, and resources that support student success.
- Encourage cross-departmental projects and collaborations to promote a cohesive and integrated approach to student success.
- Students as partners



# Student Success at CPUT: The reality



Pre-Entry Student Data

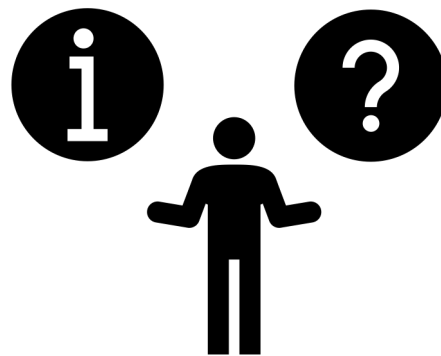
First Year Experience

Student Affairs

Student Support/  
Surveys

Academic Advising

Student Data



**Disconnected and misaligned**  
**Little to no collaboration**  
**Disparate**  
**No integration**

# Institutional support

The reputation of an institution influences its ability to attract students

- Who are our students?
- What kind of support do our students require?
- What kind of support do we provide?
- How do we incorporate students' lived experiences?

**Use data to provide holistic student support for a positive student experience and learning journey.**





# Setting up Student Success structures

## Enablers

- Management Support - Senate Committee
- Student Success - Risk Register
- Quality Assurance Framework
- SLTC – STARS sub-committee
- Establishment of the STARS Unit
  - Functional IFYE committee
  - Faculty FYE committees
  - Students support drivers
  - Student support champions in faculties
- Effective working relations with Support Services
- Reports to the SLTC



# Process and Governance Structures

- Submission the terms of reference – SLTC – Senate – Approval
- Constitution of the committee – all relevant stakeholders
- Engaging with the stakeholders to get a buy-in
- Discussions to take place in faculties - context
- Creation of a centralized hub
- Employ data analyst - incorporate student voice - working in partnership with students to interpret and analyze data - a new data analytic lens

# STARS (Student Transition, Access, Retention and Success) Committee

## Aim

- To provide strategic leadership and oversight of student success in an integrated manner
- Engaging all CPUT stakeholders in designing and developing interventions and supporting student success.
- Provide support to students from registration to graduation
- Bring together faculty and staff from different departments to discuss best practices, share insights, and develop joint initiatives.





# STARS COMMITTEE

Approved at  
Senate in November 2023

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## TERMS OF REFERENCE

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### 1. INTRODUCTION

Student Transition, Access, Retention and Success (STARS) is an institution-wide educational practice designed to address student transitions, retention, and transition into post school education and training. The STARS Committee is a sub-committee of the Senate Teaching and Learning Committee. It advises the Senate Teaching and Learning Committee and recommends student learning and teaching matters contributing to student success.

### 2. AIM OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE

- Establish a student-centred culture at CPUT to improve completion rates.
- Improve institutional capacity to collect and use student data to improve student success throughout the student journey from application to graduation and beyond.
- Expand evidence-based student success efforts nationally, using a networked approach that builds on existing strengths, shares capacity throughout the sector, and serves institution based on current needs and abilities.
- Contribute to regional, national, and international networks on student success.

### 3. PURPOSE:

The subcommittee is responsible for the strategic leadership and oversight of student success. It engages students, academic, support, administrative staff and leadership in developing agreed-upon interventions and strategies aimed at promoting student success. The overall purpose of the STAR Committee is to promote, support and develop activities for the scholarship of learning and teaching at CPUT within the framework of the institution's strategies and policies.

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# STARS

1

Monitor interventions -  
data

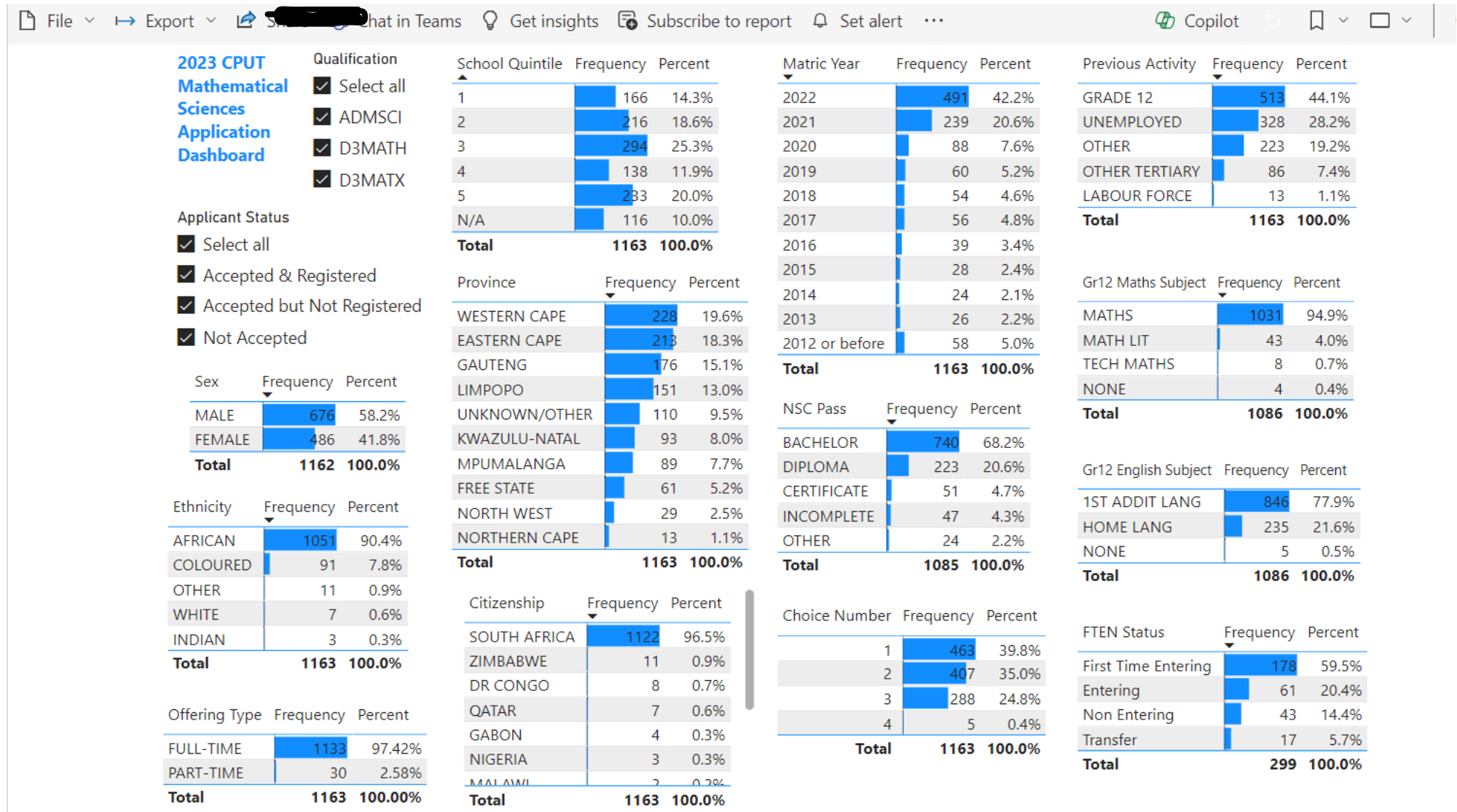
2

Establish impact indicators -  
faculty-based

3

Measure effectiveness of  
interventions

# Data Projects - Demographic Dashboard



# Data Projects – Student Progress Dashboard

Faculty

APPLIED SCIENCES

Department

MATHEMATICS AND PHYSICS

Student Number

[REDACTED]

Select or drag fields to populate this visual



Qualification Name

Qual Code

DIPLOMA IN MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES D3MATH

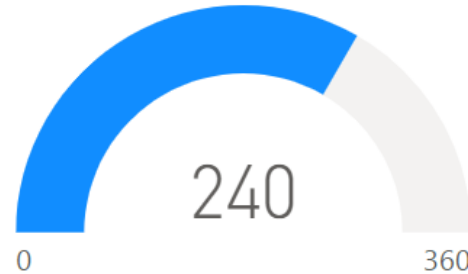
61,4

Avg (Passed Subjects)

61

Avg (Exit Level)

SAQA Credits Completed



Subjects Registered in Current Academic Year

Subj Code	Subject Name	Period	Block	SAQA
BMS360S	BIOMATHEMATICS 3	3	1	10
BTS360S	BIOSTATISTICS 3	3	1	12
MTM360S	MATHEMATICS 3A: PARTIAL DIFF EQUATIONS	3	1	14
MTM361S	MATHEMATICS 3B: DISCRETE MATHEMATICS	3	1	14
PRJ360S	INTRODUCTION TO PROJECTS	3	1	12
MSP360S	MATHEMATICAL SCIENCE PROJECT 3	3	2	30
OPR360S	OPERATIONS RESEARCH 3	3	2	14

## Student Progress Dashboard



This page includes only HEQSF-aligned, active qualifications at NQF level 8 and below.

Academic Record (Current Qualification Only)

Subj Code	Subject Name	Period	Block	SAQA	AY	Result	Final Mark
BMS260S	BIOMATHEMATICS 2	2	2	10	2023	PASS	50
CHE250S	CHEMISTRY 2	2	1	10	2023	PASS	58
ETR260S	ENTREPRENEURSHIP	2	1	10	2023	PASS	84
MTM260S	MATHEMATICS 2A: MULTIVARIABLE CALCULUS I	2	1	14	2023	PASS	62
MTM261S	MATHEMATICS 2B: MULTIVARIABLE CALCULUS II	2	2	14	2023	PASS	65
NUM260S	NUMERICAL METHODS 2	2	2	12	2023	PASS	50

Other Outstanding Compulsory Subjects

Subj Code	Subject Name	Period	Block	SAQA
MSP360S	MATHEMATICAL SCIENCE PROJECT 3	3	2	30
MTM360S	MATHEMATICS 3A: PARTIAL DIFF EQUATIONS	3	1	14
MTM361S	MATHEMATICS 3B: DISCRETE MATHEMATICS	3	1	14
OPR360S	OPERATIONS RESEARCH 3	3	2	14
PRJ360S	INTRODUCTION TO PROJECTS	3	1	12

Outstanding Elective Subjects (some may be unnecessary!)

Subj Code	Subject Name	Period	Block	SAQA
ECO150S	ECONOMICS 1: MICROECONOMICS	1	2	10
FIN150S	FINANCE 1	1	1	10
ECO250S	ECONOMICS 2	2	1	10
FMS260S	FINANCIAL MATHEMATICS 2	2	2	10
BMS360S	BIOMATHEMATICS 3	3	1	10

# Data Projects - Graduation List Dashboard

- Faculty
- ENGINEERING AND BUILT ENVIRON
  - HEALTH AND WELLNESS SCIENCES
  - INFORMATICS AND DESIGN

- Qualification Name
- ADVANCED DIPLOMA IN FILM PRODUCTION
  - DIPLOMA IN FILM PRODUCTION

Total SAQA Credits for Qualification

120

Total Compulsory Subjects in Qualification (Active Only)

5

Total Elective Subjects in Qualification (Active Only)

0

- Department
- ARCHITECTURAL TECHNOLOGY
  - FASHION AND SURFACE DESIGN
  - FILM AND VIDEO
  - GRAPHIC DESIGN

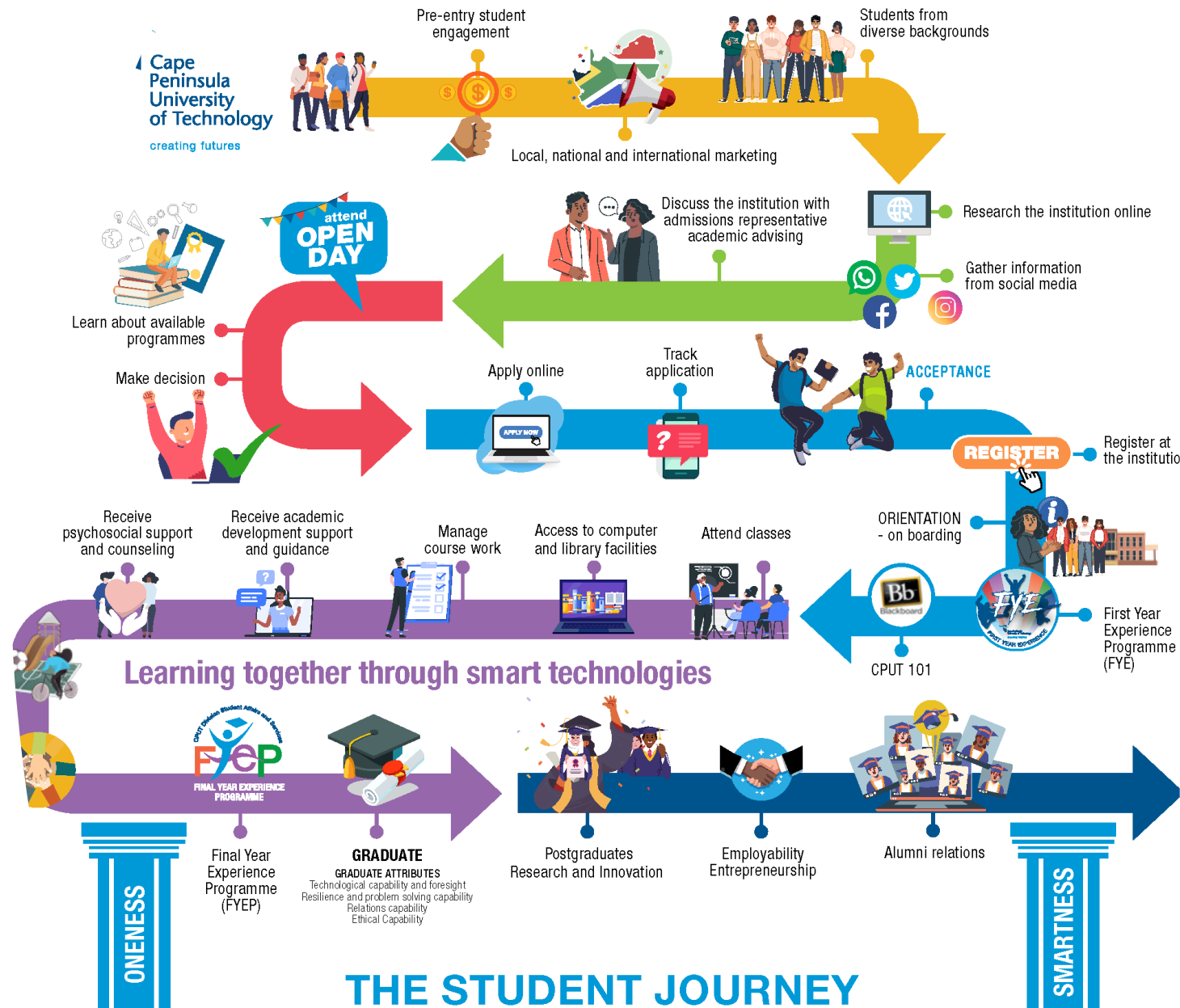


STUDENT NO	QUAL CODE	EFFECTIVE DATE	SAQA CREDITS	CUM LAUDE	SUMMA CUM LAUDE	%	Compulsory Subjects Passed	Elective Subjects Passed	Lowest Mark	Passed All First Time	Still within Minimum Time
[REDACTED]	ADFMPD		100	NO	NO	55.6	4	0	33	NO	YES
[REDACTED]	ADFMPD		100	NO	NO	62.8	4	0	46	NO	YES
[REDACTED]	ADFMPD		100	NO	NO	58.0	4	0	23	NO	YES

99 means could not be computed from data

# Next Steps

- Developing a contextualized student success framework linked to the Student Journey:





Thank you

