

SIMONSBERG MEN'S RESIDENCE

NOBLESSE OBLIGE





DEAR PROSPECTIVE **SIMONSBERGER**

WELCOME!



Welkom, welcome, siyanamkela nonke and congratulations on being accepted to Simonsberg Men's Residence. It's an honour and privilege that few get to experience, and is testament to the hard work and ability you have shown throughout your high school career. We are excited to see how you contribute to our residence and the Stellenbosch community.

As your Welcoming Leaders, we are excited to introduce you to your new home and support your transition into this new chapter of your life. We have designed a Welcoming program that will facilitate relationship-building, memory-making and a smooth adjustment to your university career.

The welcoming program centers on participation, and we encourage you to fully embrace this period and the new experiences it brings. You will encounter challenges and opportunities that will foster your personal growth and development, but there is plenty of time for fun along the way.

We, as your fellow Simonsbergers, are here to make this transition as enjoyable as possible and are looking forward to sharing these experiences with you as you embark on this exciting journey.

We hope you are enthusiastic about starting this journey with us – you have every reason to be! You are about to enter some of the best years of your life, and you'll be doing so in the best residence on campus. This is something to be proud of.

We hope that you enjoy your holidays, and we wish you a blessed festive season. Stay safe – and we look forward to your arrival in January!

Kind regards,
Josh Carr, Mtha Nhuku and Peter Louw

Welcoming Leaders 2026

OUR VALUES



SIMONSBERG'S IDENTITY

Situated in the heart of campus, Simonsberg is more than just a place to stay; it is a hub for personal growth and storytelling. Here, echoes of past achievements and bonds of friendship linger, while new stories are written daily. This is a residence where shared experiences foster dreams and each individual is encouraged to reach his full potential. Simonsberg is not just a home; it's a springboard for future leaders, innovators, and storytellers.



HONOUR

We acknowledge the history of Simonsberg and honour the legacy of the Simonsbergers that came before us

ACCOUNTABILITY

We hold each other accountable for our actions and decisions as a residence

INTEGRITY

We are honest with each other and true to ourselves

RESPECT

We respect the physical building of Simonsberg, the name of Simonsberg, and our fellow Simonsbergers

A BRIEF HISTORY OF

SIMONSBERG



Fleur de Lis 1958

During a house meeting, prim Ivan Kirsten announces that the Fleur de Lis, the emblem of the French royal court, was selected as the res's badge. Braam de Vries (lyrics) and Reino Otterman (melody) compose the heralded (Reino would later become the head of the US konservatorium, and Braam a well-known Afrikaans writer).

1956 Noblesse Oblige

140 students move into Simonsberg with Prof C Gunter as the first Residence Head and Gys Steyn as the first primarius. During the first house meeting on 27 February 1956, the motto Noblesse Oblige is introduced by Jan Loubser



The Met 1963

The famous Simonsberg Met is introduced. Haas Schoeman becomes the house's second Springbok, and Marius (Mossie) Mostert becomes our first film star after his role as lead actor in "In die Lente van ons Liefde".



1966 The Kennedy Visit

Another important moment in the history of our house occurred in June 1966, when United States Senator Robert F Kennedy paid a visit to Simonsberg as part of his "Ripple of Hope" tour in South Africa. We are still honoured to have hosted him on a visit that played a pivotal role in critically engaging with apartheid politics at the time.



The American Flag 1994

It was officially decided that the American flag (inspired by the Kennedy visit in 1966) would be flown with the house flag in front of the residence.



Simon2Sea 2022

The 22km run is completed for the first time, by less than 30 Simonsbergers. By 2025 this number has risen exponentially to over 100. Simon2Sea is now run yearly for mental health.

2004 Willie-Dan Steenkamp

Willie-Dan Steenkamp passed away in his second year from leukemia. Today we celebrate his legacy through initiatives such as the Willie-Dan blood drive.



2025 70th year Reunion

In 2025, more than 400 old Simonsbergers from all over the world returned to their university home. The event was filled with memories and much joy. It truly showed how special the residence is to every Simonsberger through every generation.

LOGISTICS FOR 2026

INFORMATION WITH REGARDS TO MOVING IN

MOVE IN DAY AND REGISTRATION

We invite all first years to register at Simonsberg on **Tuesday 27 January** between **09:00 - 16:30**. A small time slot for registration will also be available on Wednesday 28 January between 08:00 and 11:00 if you're unable to register on the Tuesday. You're encouraged to sleep in residence on Tuesday night, as we're planning a casual braai that evening where you'll have the opportunity to meet your fellow first years and mentors. So do try to register on the Tuesday so that you don't miss out on this special occasion. If you find yourself unable to register within these time slots, please contact the welcoming leaders regarding an arrangement. Seeing as the Law Faculty Program already starts on the 27th January, Law Students' arrival will be accommodated on the 26 January.

STUDENT CARDS

A time slot in the welcoming program has been allocated to Simonsberg for first years to have their photos taken for their student cards. Leadership bodies will be accompanying you in this regard. Without these cards, access to the residence is not possible.

GOOGLE FORM

<https://forms.gle/yjr7bgDU3VLFiXN87>

In preparation for your arrival at Simonsberg, we kindly ask all first years to complete the following Google Form. If you experience any problems with this, please email a colour copy photo of yourself to Josh Carr (28221001@sun.ac.za)

PARENTS LUNCH

A lunch for first years and their parents or guardians will be held in our Chief Molefe dining hall on **Wednesday 28 January** from **12:30 - 13:45** and we invite you to join us for this special lunch, after which a short tour will be presented to parents and guardians. Due to catering and size constraints, we can unfortunately not accommodate other family members or friends. The Official Welcoming by the Rectorate will also be taking place at the Danie Craven Stadium later that evening and parents are invited to participate in this event as well.

REGISTRATION AND CLOTHING FEE

Furthermore, we kindly request an amount of **R1170** to be paid on the day of registration at Simonsberg, as this will cover registration fees, residence clothing and all other activities during the welcoming period. Please note, that we strongly encourage you to download and make use of the **Snapscan** app as the university has moved away from cash-based transactions. If this does prove to be impossible, cash on arrival will suffice. If you are unable to bear the costs, please feel free to notify any of the three welcoming leaders beforehand and alternative arrangements will be made to assist you. All financial matters will be handled with the utmost discretion.



Snapscan QR code if you wish to pay Registration and Clothing fee before the 27th of January.

Please send proof of payment to Josh Carr (details below).

LOGISTICS FOR 2026

INFORMATION WITH REGARDS TO MOVING IN

ROOMS

Before you arrive at Simonsberg, you will already have been allocated a double (two-person) room. Rooms are shared for at least the first two years that you reside in Simonsberg. Please take into consideration that during the welcoming period you will have randomized room swaps in order to give you the opportunity to meet your fellow Simonsbergers and get comfortable living with a diverse group of people. After the welcoming period, before classes start you will be assigned to a final room and roommate.

WHAT'S IN MY ROOM?

All rooms are double rooms and contain the following:

- Bed and mattress
- Curtains
- Desk
- Three plugs
- Access to WiFi and Internet
- Bookshelf
- Double cupboard with hanging and packing space
- Additional storage cupboard

Every room also has network points and Wi-Fi for access to the Internet. Please note that computers and printers are also available in the residence and on campus for all to use and that it's therefore not necessary to own a computer, although it is convenient.

ZOOM MEETING

This is your chance to meet your welcoming leaders and ask any burning questions.

The zoom meeting will take place on **20 January at 17:30**

An email will be sent out with further details.

PARKING FOR FIRST YEARS

Parking around Simonsberg – and Stellenbosch as a whole – is very limited. Luckily Stellenbosch is pedestrian and cycling friendly and most places are within walking distance. Therefore, we would like to discourage all first years from bringing cars to Simonsberg. If you do however have to bring your car, please apply with the university for parking in the registration period.

SIMONSBERG WELCOMING VIDEO

The link below, will take you to a YouTube video. This video will showcase some of the facilities in Simonsberg, as well as a glimpse of the Simonsberg experience. Follow the link or find the video on our website.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=CCk8Ot5dpjA>



START PACKING!

BRING ALONG ANYTHING YOU MIGHT NEED. WE RECOMMEND THE FOLLOWING:



FOR YOUR LIVING SPACE

- Bedding, clothing, toiletries etc.
- 2-3 Locks, preferably non-combination, for your room and cupboard.
- A sturdy computer lock for your laptop for extra security.
- A desk lamp or bedside lamp.



CLOTHING (OTHER THAN NORMAL EVERYDAY CLOTHING)

- Formal clothing and a tie, for example a pair of chino pants and a white button-up shirt.
- A pair of trainers.
 - We'd like to stress that this is essential, seeing as the welcoming program includes activities wherein you will be familiarised with the Campus and Town, and this requires a lot of walking.
 - Various newcomer sport tournaments will also take place early on during the first term, so, if you'd like to take part in these prestigious events, we encourage you to keep fit during the holidays.



EATING

- Your own cutlery and crockery if you'd prefer to eat in your room. Cutlery from the dining hall may, under no circumstances, be taken out.
- Any other electrical appliances that can make your stay more convenient are also welcome, except for heaters or stoves. (There are water boilers and microwaves on each floor, so we urge residents to use those instead of buying kettles and microwaves.)
- We encourage you not to bring your own fridge, since it will crowd your rooms.



WELCOMING LEADERS



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MECHATRONIC ENGINEERING III



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B ACC III

IF YOU HAVE ANY FURTHER QUESTIONS DO NOT HESITATE TO REACH OUT AND SEND ONE OF US A MESSAGE OR AN EMAIL



SEE MORE OF US



Simonsberg Manskoshuis/ Men's Residence



@simonsbergresidence

WWW.SIMONSBERG.ORG



Welcome to Validus Cluster

Friendship Camaraderie Innovation

Hey Matie!

Congratulations on your conditional acceptance to Stellenbosch University, we are delighted to extend a warm welcome to the Validus Cluster.



What's a Cluster?

Clusters are student communities designed to support your academic and personal growth. Clusters are friendly, engaging, and inclusive spaces full of opportunities to connect and network. Each of these factors will make your university experience truly exceptional.

About Validus Cluster

Our Cluster includes Khayalethu, Goldfields, Simonsberg, Academia, Olympus, Huis Marais, ISA and Huis Visser, bringing our diverse communities together into one Validus Family.

Meet the team



**Cluster Education
Coordinator**
Spurgeon-Haddon Wilson
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Cluster Convenor
Que Dunsdon
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Cluster Convenor
Kea Ndhlovu
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You will be familiarised with our Social Media Manager and Relationships & Admin Liaison during welcoming.

We look forward to meeting you!!