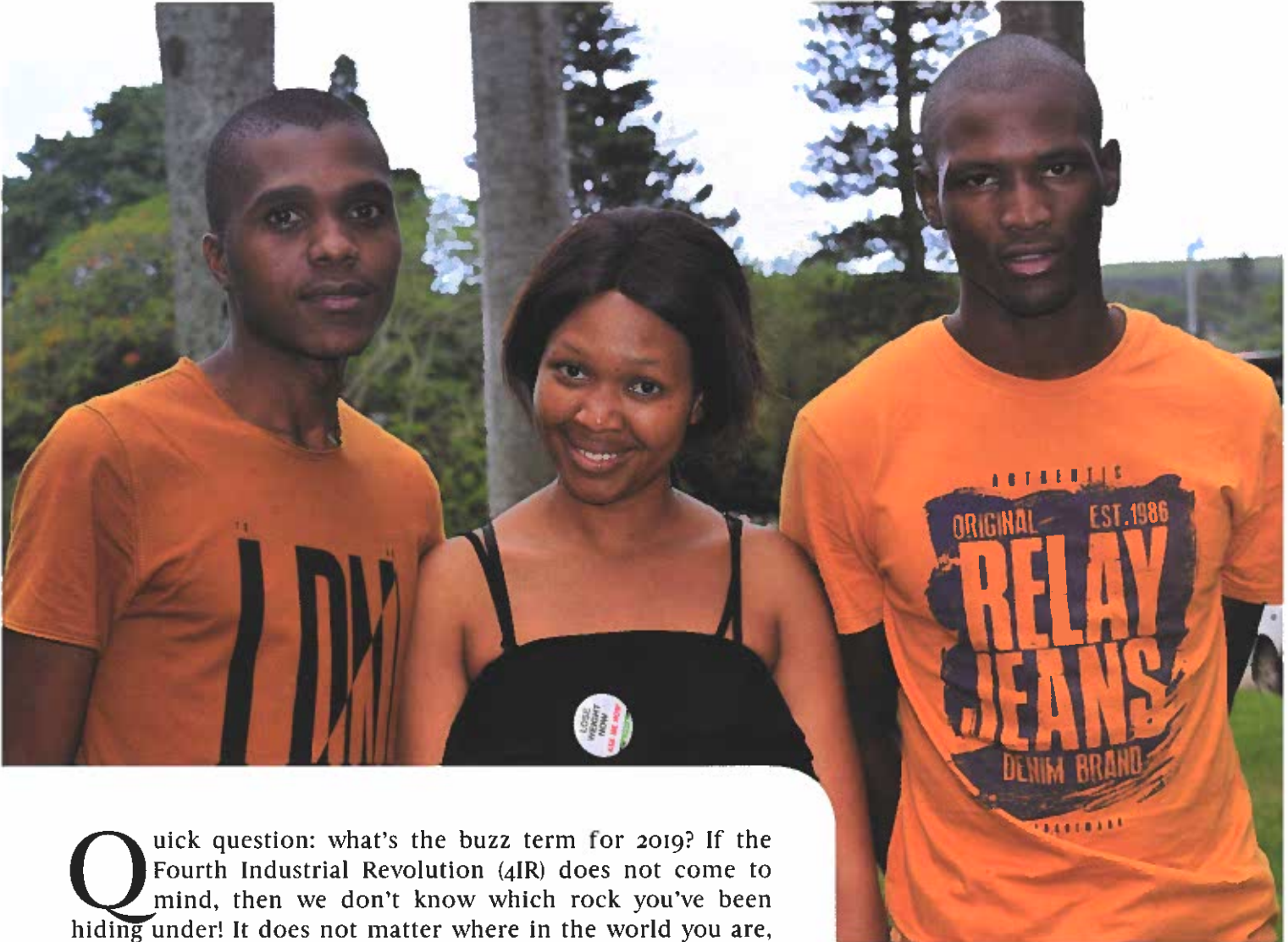


# #MEET UNIZULU'S VERY OWN YOUNG INVENTORS



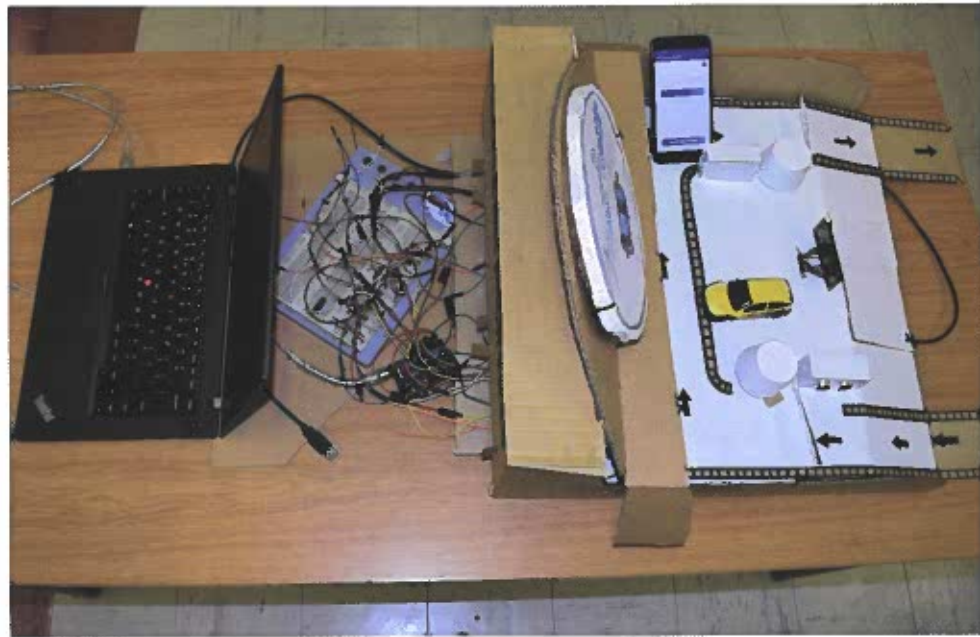
Caption: Computer Science students (L-R): Sandile Nkosi, Nothile Masango and Minenhle Nkosi.

**Q**uick question: what's the buzz term for 2019? If the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR) does not come to mind, then we don't know which rock you've been hiding under! It does not matter where in the world you are, the term has undoubtedly featured in many conversations. So you really don't know what 4IR is about? Let us fill you in. 4IR is regarded as a new technological era rather than a continuation of the third industrial revolution due to the explosiveness of its development and the disruptiveness of its technologies. This is said to be a revolution which is anticipated to cause a major increase in productivity and efficiency.

We sent Samkele Sokhela on a short expedition recently, where he was tasked with searching for the best 4IR-ready student innovations in the Department of Computer Science. We can confidently report that UNIZULU students are thinking years ahead in terms of their innovations. Here's why...

## Smart Parking by Minenhle Nkosi

According to Nkosi, Smart Parking (SP) is inspired by the global issue of unsafe and dangerous motorcycle parking that takes place in environments such as malls. This device is a combination of Internet of Things (IoT) and latest technology, that is going to assist in reserving and providing improved and safer parking for motorcycle drivers. SP is a mobile device application on which drivers can fill in vehicle information and receive updates regarding available parking spaces and whether the requested parking is safe, in case of unfortunate circumstances such as fire or closed roads. The device is user-friendly; it can even be used before getting on the road. It will also aid in saving petrol as it will reduce the time drivers spend on searching for available parking.



## Trash Management System by Nothile Masango



This system utilises a device called the Ultra sonic sensor, which provides information to a mobile device application when a waste bin is full or empty. According to Masango, this invention will contribute towards alleviating the litter crisis. It will also have environmental benefits as well as timeous collection of litter will reduce the number of germs that permeate the atmosphere as a result of unattended litter. Cleaners and cleaning companies that use this system receive a notification that informs them when a dustbin is full or empty.

## Improved Attendance Management System by Sandile Nkosi

Nkosi's system is geared towards improving the level of student attendance in schools. High schools interested in this system would need to install a scanning device by the doors of its classrooms for learners to swipe their student cards when entering classes. Upon swiping, the device would collect the learner's personal data and transfers it to the database to mark the student present. This is a motion to do away with paper.

