



UNIVERSITY OF
KWAZULU-NATAL™
INYUVESI
YAKWAZULU-NATALI

Handbook of Experiential Co-Curricular Education

Student Services Division



INSPIRING GREATNESS



TABLE OF CONTENTS

MESSAGE FROM THE PRO VICE-CHANCELLOR: STUDENT SERVICES DIVISION	4
MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN OF STUDENTS	5
MESSAGE FROM THE INTERIM DIRECTOR: DEPARTMENT OF STUDENT	6
RESIDENCE AFFAIRS	6
VISION, MISSION AND CORE VALUES	7
UNIVERSITY OF KWAZULU-NATAL GRADUATE ATTRIBUTES	8
PURPOSE OF THE HANDBOOK	8
CO-CURRICULUM EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING	8
CO-CURRICULUM EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING CATEGORIES	8
LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES	8
DIGITAL CAPABILITY AND ENGAGEMENT	8
STUDENT WELLBEING AND SUCCESS	9
VIBRANT AND CONNECTED COMMUNITY	9
CAREER DEVELOPMENT AND EMPLOYABILITY	9
INCLUSIVE AND DIVERSIFIED STUDENT COMMUNITY	9
STUDENT RESIDENCE AFFAIRS	10
STUDENT GOVERNANCE AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT	13
SPORT AND RECREATION	16
DISABILITY SUPPORT UNIT	19
STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES	23
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS	28

INTRODUCTION TO THE UNIVERSITY OF KWAZULU-NATAL



Professor Msizi Mkhize
Pro Vice-Chancellor
Student Services Division

Professor Msizi Mkhize, currently the Pro Vice-Chancellor: Student Services Division (SSD) at the University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN), is regarded as a transformative leader dedicated to community outreach and skill building. Mkhize's former positions at UKZN include: Dean of Teaching and Learning in the College of Law and Management Studies; Academic Leader Teaching and Learning in the School of Accounting, Economics and Finance; and Accounting Education lecturer at the School of Education.

Other posts he has held include Project Manager of Transformation and Growth at the South African Institute of Chartered Accountants; Departmental Head of Commercial Subjects at Zwelibanzi High School in Umlazi; and Accounting and

Mathematics teacher at Menzi High School, also in Umlazi, where he developed a turnaround strategy for the school. He holds a PhD and an MCom from UKZN; a BCom Hons from UNISA, a BCom from UNIZULU, and a Diploma in Education from Indumiso College of Education.

Professor Mkhize is a recipient of the 2018 UKZN Distinguished Teachers' Award which recognised his sustained contribution to teaching and learning at the University. In 2019, he received a National Excellence in Teaching Commendation from the Council on Higher Education (CHE) and from the Higher Education Learning and Teaching Association of Southern Africa (HELTASA). He is also a "Play Your Part" Brand Ambassador for South Africa.

ESTEEMED STUDENTS,

As Pro Vice-Chancellor of the Student Services Division, I extend the warmest welcome to you as you embark on your journey at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, where you can be confident in the knowledge that the Division is dedicated to your growth, well-being and success. Through our diverse services, programmes and events, we aim to enrich your university experience beyond the classroom. Our vision is to create an integrated and transformative educational journey that enhances the student experience for the betterment of Higher Education and South Africa.

Our mission is to promote a holistic, student-centred experience through our quality co-curricular programmes, services, support and spaces in preparation for students to enter the world of work as well-rounded, socially responsible global citizens and lifelong learners. Thus, the Student Services Division is seen as one that enhances student capabilities, provides a safe and secured living and learning environment and plays a key role in the positive Student Experience. In light of this, co-curricular activities are essential to a holistic university experience and student development. As Pro Vice-Chancellor: Student Services Division, I strongly believe these co-curricular activities - available through our departments - will complement your academic learning and help you

acquire a repertoire of skills and competencies to prepare you for life after graduation. These activities will also provide you with opportunities to connect with peers, explore new interests and develop a sense of community and belonging on campus. We are hence committed to creating a vibrant, inclusive and supportive environment where you feel valued and empowered.

Our dedicated staff are available to provide you with the necessary guidance, support and opportunities. We therefore encourage you to take advantage of all that the Student Services Division has to offer. Whether you are a new student or returning, we want you to know that we are here for you (Sinawe).

On behalf of the Student Services Division, WELCOME! We look forward to partnering with you on your exciting journey ahead.

Professor Msizi Mkhize

MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN OF STUDENTS



Professor Percy Sepeng
Dean of Students
Student Services Division

Professor Percy Sepeng serves as the Dean of Students at UKZN, where he puts to good use his extensive background in academic leadership, quality assurance and student advocacy. A highly accomplished scholar, Sepeng holds a PhD in Mathematics Education from the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University and has completed all modules for a Master in Business Leadership (MBL) qualification from UNISA's Graduate School of Leadership. Currently, he is furthering his expertise by pursuing a law degree.

In 2018, he delivered his Inaugural Lecture, reinforcing his commitment to advancing mathematics education in South Africa. Sepeng's professional journey includes prestigious roles at South African higher education institutions - he has held advisory and directorial positions in the Office of the Vice-Chancellor and Principal at the Central University of Technology, including roles as Head of Institutional Renewal & Transformation and a Council Member representing Senate. Additionally, he served as the Act-

ing Head of the School of Education, Head of Mathematics, Science and Business Education, and Professor of Mathematics Education at the Tshwane University of Technology, and a Director of the School for Teacher Education and Training at North-West University. His prior appointments include academic leadership roles at UNISA, Wits University, and the Nelson Mandela University, where he contributed significantly to curriculum development, quality assurance, and research in mathematics and science education. In his role at UKZN,

Professor Sepeng is instrumental in enhancing the student experience, focusing on inclusivity, wellness and addressing critical issues such as gender-based violence on campus. His strategic initiatives include integrating sports programmes and services for differently-abled students under a unified Student Affairs structure and driving the UKZN Student Experience Strategy 2023-2027.

DEAR STUDENTS,

Welcome to the University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN)!

As the Dean of Students, it gives me great pleasure to welcome you into our vibrant and diverse University community. Whether you are beginning your academic journey with us or returning to continue your studies, we are thrilled to have you as part of the UKZN family. At UKZN, we are committed to providing an enriching educational experience that goes beyond the classroom. Our mission is to create a holistic, student-centred environment that nurtures your academic, personal and professional growth. We strive to prepare you to become well-rounded, socially responsible global citizens and lifelong learners. Our core values - Respect, Excellence, Accountability, Client Orientation, Honesty, Trust, Wellbeing, and Ubuntu (REACHTWU) - guide everything we do. These principles foster a supportive and inclusive atmosphere where every student feels valued and empowered to reach their full potential.

The Student Services Division is dedicated to supporting you throughout your time at UKZN, offering a wide range of programmes and services designed to enhance your university experience, including:

- » **Student Residences Life:** Providing comfortable and supportive living and learning environments that promote academic success and personal development
- » **Student Governance and Leadership Development**

(SGLD): Offering opportunities to develop leadership skills and participate in meaningful governance roles

- » **Sport and Recreation:** Encouraging a healthy and active lifestyle through various sports and recreational activities
- » **Disability Support Unit:** Ensuring inclusive support and resources for students with disabilities
- » **College-Based Support Services:** Providing tailored assistance within your specific college

I encourage you to take full advantage of these resources. Get involved in student organisations, participate in workshops and events, and immerse yourself in the vibrant campus life that UKZN offers. Your active engagement will not only enrich your university experience but also help you develop valuable skills and contacts for your future. Remember, your journey at UKZN is about more than just academics; it's an opportunity to grow, explore new interests, and make lifelong friendships.

We are here to support and guide you every step of the way. Please do not hesitate to reach out to our dedicated staff if you need assistance or advice. Your success and well-being are our top priorities. Wishing you a fulfilling and successful year ahead.

Warm Regards
Professor Percy Sepeng

MESSAGE FROM THE INTERIM DIRECTOR: DEPARTMENT OF STUDENT RESIDENCES AFFAIRS



Ms Thembisile Machi
Interim Director: Department of
Student Residences Affairs

Ms Thembisile Sisana Machi is an experienced leader in higher education administration, holding a Master's Degree in Public Administration from the University of Pretoria. Machi also has a variety of undergraduate qualifications as well as Bachelor's and Honours qualifications and postgraduate diplomas.

Her career boasts various roles, including her current position since 2020 as Interim Director of Student Residence Affairs at UKZN where her responsibilities include financial and strategic oversight, policy management, and coordination across multiple campuses to ensure safe, sustainable and supportive student housing.

She also leads the implementation of Project Renewal in the DSRA space

which aims to improve and streamline student accommodation and residence management. She collaborates with external entities, such as the National Students' Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS) to address accommodation-related funding issues. Machi's prior roles include Director of Residence Affairs and Accommodation at the University of Pretoria and Deputy Director of Student Academic Administration at the university. Hence, her extensive expertise covers student support, project management, strategic planning and policy development, with a strong focus on student wellness.

She has consistently contributed to the higher education sector, incorporating initiatives to improve student experiences, reduce wasteful expenditure and build institutional frameworks.

GREETINGS STUDENTS AND WELCOME TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STUDENT RESIDENCES AFFAIRS

The Department of Student Residences Affairs (DSRA) strives to ensure listening, living and learning residence communities conducive to academic success, personal growth and development through the values of Ubuntu. Residence Life Teams create equitable, inclusive and transformative programmes that support learning environments towards student success.

Programmes are also provided where students develop their leadership skills to produce leaders grounded in ethical values, mutual respect and humility. Students are encouraged to support each other academically, socially and emotionally, and to create an inclusive environment where everyone is valued. Shared responsibility is developed to maintain a positive learning environment, peer learning and study groups to support the academic project.

Students are encouraged to participate in community engagement projects that promote social justice and equity. In residence communities, cultural exchange is also facilitated for students to interact with other students from different communities. Collaborative learning is promoted and critical thinking encouraged. Every effort is made to ensure that students' residence life experience fosters their holistic development.

Best Wishes
Ms Sisana Machi

VISION, MISSION AND CORE VALUES

VISION:

To create an integrated and transformative educational journey that enhancing the student experience for the betterment of Higher Education and South Africa.

MISSION:

To promote a holistic, student-centred experience through our quality co-curricular programmes, services, support and spaces in preparation for students to enter the world of work as well-rounded, socially responsible, global citizens and lifelong learners.

CORE VALUES:

The behaviour of everyone at UKZN is determined by the University's core values. Therefore, the experience of students and staff is founded on our core values in REACHT. The letters WU after REACHT refer to Wellbeing and Ubuntu. Every member of the SSD and students embrace the REACHTWU values.

RESPECT : Promote mutual respect, courtesy and inclusiveness.

EXCELLENCE: Display quality, leadership and energy in all we do

ACCOUNTABILITY: Be responsible and accountable in our actions and behaviour towards all stakeholders

CLIENT ORIENTATION: Satisfy the needs of all UKZN's clients, stakeholders and partners on a consistent basis

HONESTY: Deliver with 100% integrity and adherence to good ethics

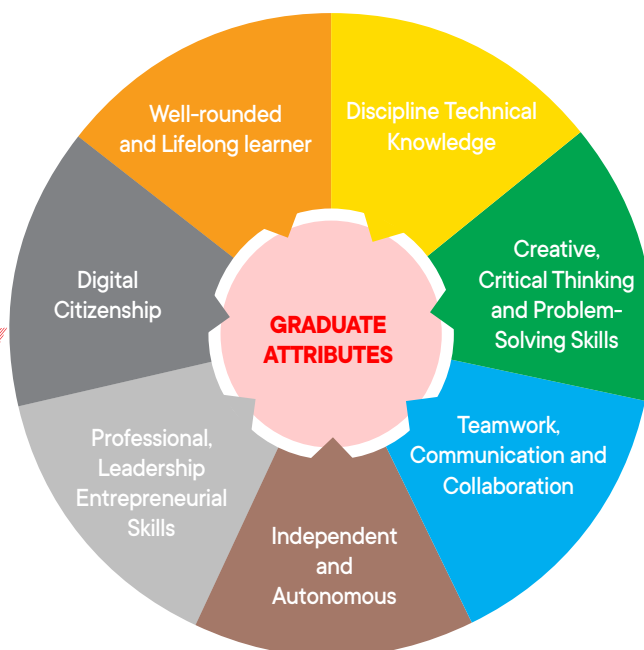
TRUST: The principle that underpins every member of UKZN

WELLBEING: Development of one's potential, having a strong work-life balance, having a sense of purpose and fostering positive relationships

UBUNTU: Humanity to others. "I am what I am because of who we all are" – umuntu ngumuntu ngabantu

UNIVERSITY OF KWAZULU-NATAL GRADUATE ATTRIBUTES

Our Student Experience Strategy promotes focused development of graduate attributes that reflect our vision, mission and values, enabling our students to have a positive impact on their own lives and those of others.



Purpose of the Handbook

The purpose of the Co-Curriculum Handbook is to inform students about available support, co-curricular opportunities, activities and programmes and create awareness of how these programmes can be accessed to enhance personal growth, academic success and career readiness. Co-curricular activities are there to foster holistic student development by integrating experiential learning with academics and preparing students for personal and professional success. The activities promote wellbeing, out-of-classroom skills development, inclusivity and the cultivation of critical graduate attributes such as leadership and lifelong learning. Across the Student Services Division, departments such as Student Residence Affairs, Student Governance and Leadership Development, Sport and Recreation, the Disability Support Unit and College Student Support Services provide various activities tailored to specific needs inclusive of sports, disability, leadership, mental health, careers and skills development and other related co-curricular activities. Through co-curricular activities, the Student Services Division ensures that every student has the opportunity to grow, connect and succeed in an environment that celebrates diversity and excellence. Therefore this handbook reflects UKZN's dedication to creating graduates who are not only academically accomplished but also socially conscious and ready to make meaningful contributions in their communities.

Co-Curriculum Experiential Learning

UKZN strives to create curricula that prepares UKZN students for the World of Work, increasing their employability. Furthermore, the University must prepare students to be global citizens and citizens who understand and live as responsible citizens. With the guidance of the professional Student Services Division UKZN students learn to understand

the local and global environments in which they exist and will continue to operate in. They acquire a repertoire of skills and competencies they need to navigate the World of Work and Innovation well into the 21st Century. This includes activities such as attuned leadership, critical and reflective thinking, management of conflicts, interpersonal relations, community engagement applying research and analysis skills acquired in the lecture theatres, and marrying theory and practice through discourse and student driven projects.

CO-CURRICULUM EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING CATEGORIES

Learning Opportunities

Opportunities need to be tailored to meet the needs of different cohorts of students at all stages of study and must focus on enhancing skill development timelines with clearly articulated UKZN graduate attributes. While many of these opportunities may sit outside of the traditional classroom, it is expected that the learning outcomes be integrated with mainstream curriculum or formally recorded and recognised in other ways.

Digital Capability and Engagement

Digital technologies have fundamentally altered the way students' study, live and work and their expectation of the impact of personalised online services on what and how students choose to learn. To help build a vibrant, practical and digitally integrated environment that supports and enhances our campus, UKZN provides students with quality "just in time" and "just for me" services. A clever integration of virtual and in-person facing resources is needed to service the complexity of students' inquiries. Digital mediums are an important avenue through which personalised and

responsive student engagement can be provided and this requires integrated student-facing systems and processes which are streamlined and enhanced.

Student Wellbeing and Success

A holistic approach is required to promote student wellbeing and enhance academic success in a manner that is understood and embraced by the whole University community. It is expected that mental health and wellbeing will be a focus of the student experience strategy and predictive modelling should be used to assist in the identification and support of students at risk. Students with concerns should be identified as early as possible through early alert initiatives and connected to supportive resources and services. Mentoring programmes are an effective way to help students manage the challenges and stresses associated with university study. There are many approaches to mentoring, such as peer mentoring, specialist career mentoring, academic mentoring, and external mentoring (community, alumni) that are currently used across the University and these will be further explored during consultation of the strategy.

Vibrant and Connected Community

This pillar strives to facilitate the creation of lifetime connections to the University and acknowledges that creating a vibrant and connected community needs to incorporate both the physical campus and online mediums. It also recognises that community can be formed on a range of characteristics, whether it's a cohort, by discipline or associated with residential living. A sense of belonging to the University can be achieved through communities that have a critical mass but are not so large that a personalised experience cannot be achieved.

Career Development and Employability

This pillar needs to focus on articulating a consistent career development process that is applied across the University and supported by the curriculum and other activities as well as one where industry engagement opportunities are provided for students across all stages of study. It will include initiatives to enhance opportunities for work integrated learning (WIL) experiences within the University and broader community. Students should be presented with multiple opportunities to undertake leadership activities, service learning, peer learning and volunteering and these activities recognised as evidence of graduate capabilities.

Inclusive and Diversified Student Community

This pillar is focused on strategies that increase the diversity within our student population and supports students from diverse backgrounds to achieve the University goals. The campus community and its assets should be open to a diverse range of community, arts, sports, business partners and collaborators. Universities are increasingly creating new spaces which enhance community-business-industry collaboration and provide flexible spaces for project work associated with entrepreneurial and other collaborative ventures. UKZN needs to consider opportunities along similar lines.

Professor Msizi Mkhize

STUDENT RESIDENCE AFFAIRS

ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT

The University of KwaZulu-Natal offers a vibrant residence experience across five campuses, where students can live, learn and connect. Students stay in university-owned residences, leased accommodation and approved private accommodation. Students are supported by dedicated Residence Life Teams, including Residence Life Coordinators, Residence Life Officers, Residence Assistants, and Residence Academic Mentors, who are available to guide students, promote wellbeing, and support academic success. House Committees further enhance the student experience through co-curricular activities and programmes that build leadership and community.

Contact Details

Howard College/Medical School – Ms Nondumiso Funeka – ext. 2182 FunekaN1@ukzn.ac.za

Westville – Ms Thandazile Bhengu – ext. 8070 BhenguT@ukzn.ac.za

Edgewood – Ms Thandeka Hlophe – ext. 2450 Hlophet@ukzn.ac.za

Pietermaritzburg – Ms Nomzamo Mkhize – ext. 6226 MkhizeN6@ukzn.ac.za



ACTIVITY SCENES



Programme/Activity	Aims/Objectives	Outcomes
First-Year Residence Orientation	Introduce first-year students to residence life and acclimate them to the University environment	Smooth transition and integration of first-year students into residence and university life
Residence Life Staff Training	Capacitate newly-recruited students for residence assistant (RA) and residence life officer (RLO) duties and responsibilities	Competent RAs and RLOs who can effectively manage residence life and support their peers
Green Campus Initiative	Raise awareness among residence students about how to make residences sustainable and environmentally friendly spaces	Increased sustainability practices and environmental consciousness among residence students
Student Wellness	Support and encourage residence students' development through the six-dimensional approach (ie: intellectual, physical, emotional, social, spiritual and vocational)	Enhanced overall well-being and development of residence students in multiple dimensions
Academic Mentorship (Academic Development and Support)	Support residence students' educational programme outside the lecture room	Improved academic performance and retention rates among residence students
First aid, Safety, Security and Evacuation (Recruitment and Training)	Train recruited students on first aid and safety and evacuation officers on fire drills and evacuation protocols	Well-prepared safety officers and improved safety and security within residences
HIV/AIDS Programmes	Empower and increase the awareness of HIV/AIDS, its impact, management and availability of support systems	Higher awareness and knowledge about HIV/AIDS prevention and management; increased support for affected individuals
Mental Health Programme	Provide resources, support, and encourage self-care practices among the residence student community.	Improved mental health and awareness and decreased or no reported incidents of mental health crisis
House Committee Training	To induct elected house committees with their duties and responsibilities in residences	Effective and well-informed house committees that can lead and manage residence activities efficiently
Exam Preparation Programmes	Equip residence students with study and time management skills	Better prepared students with improved study habits and time management skills
First-Semester Res-Life Strategy Review	Reflect and discuss residence life operations and improve on strategies implemented in the first semester.	Insights and feedback to improve and adjust residence life programmes for the second semester
Campus-Based Sporting Events	Promote healthy lifestyles and encourage residence students to participate in sporting activities offered on campus	Increased student participation in sports and improved physical health

Programme/Activity	Aims/Objectives	Outcomes
Prevention of Gender-Based Violence Programmes	Prevent and mitigate threats and reduce vulnerability and exposure to sexual violence in residences, strengthen the resilience of survivors of sexual violence, and create a protective environment.	Decreased incidence of sexual violence and enhanced support for survivors within residences Increased awareness and reduction in GBV incidents; positive change in gender norms among participants
Financial Literacy	Teach students financial literacy, cost and revenue management, responsible lending and borrowing. To prepare students on financial management skills	Improved financial management skills and financial literacy among students
Community Outreach Programmes	Encourage students to be socially responsible and uplift and support those communities that are in need	Enhanced community engagement and social responsibility among students
Heritage-Based Programmes	Acknowledge diverse cultures within residence communities and encourage tolerance	Increased cultural awareness and tolerance among residence students
Second-Semester Residence Life Strategy Review	Evaluate implemented first-semester residence life programmes	Continued improvement and refinement of residence life programmes based on feedback and evaluations
House Committee Elections	Allow students to elect a governance structure in their residences that will be responsible for liaising with DSRA, students and other stakeholders	Democratic and representative house committees that can effectively liaise with stakeholders
Residence Life Leadership Awards	Give recognition to students who have contributed meaningfully towards achieving our goal of holistic student development	Motivation and recognition of student leaders, including Residence Assistants and Residence Life Officers, and promotion of a culture of leadership and excellence
Residence Life Staff Recruitment	Recruit senior residence students for the positions of residence assistants and residence life officers for the following academic year	Selection of qualified and capable Residence Assistants and Residence Life Officers for the upcoming academic year
Exam Preparation Programmes	Equip residence students with study and time management skills	Improved exam performance and reduced stress among residence students.

STUDENT GOVERNANCE AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT

The Student Governance and Leadership Development (SGLD) department is tasked with the management and coordination of student governance and leadership development. It is further responsible for organising co-curricular activities across UKZN's five campuses.

Student Governance and Leadership Development Officers are responsible for:

- » Mentoring and Advising Student Leadership
- » Implementation of Educational and Training Programmes
- » Management of Student Leadership Development
- » Networking and collaborations

Together with Student Governance and Leadership Development Administrators they serve the:

- » Student Representative Council Executive (formerly Central SRC)
- » Five Local Campus Representative Councils
- » More than 200 student clubs and societies
- » Entire student body

This involves, among other things, supporting the SRC Executive operations, facilitating extra-curricular activities and student life (clubs, societies, and projects), University-wide leadership and management of the induction and training of student leaders, research and development of student governance and leadership policies, and training programmes and services.

The SGLD is located on all five campuses:



Westville – D Block, first floor; Phone: 031 260-7263/7804/8061/8396/8605

Howard College – Shepstone Building, Level 4; Phone: 031 260-2443/2970

Edgewood – Student Union, First floor; Phone: 031-2603896

Medical School – Main Medical School Building, Ground floor; Phone: 031-2604300

PMB – Student Union Building, first floor; Phone: 033-260-5496/5864

Website: <https://sgld.ukzn.ac.za/>



ACTIVITIES

The co-curricular activities below are offered throughout the year in the form of workshops and seminars. Calls for applications are published on University notices and the SGLD Website.

Focus Area	Objectives	Programme/activity
Key Leadership Competencies in Student Governance	Leading the organisation, leading the self and leading others	Three-day workshop with clubs/societies
Clubs/Societies Induction and Training	» Induct and orientate recognised clubs/societies » Ensure vital information regarding operating on campus is shared	One-day workshop with recognised clubs/societies
Leadership for Social Change Workshop	» Explore SA's constitutional democracy 30 years since the dawn of democracy » Active citizenship » Controversy with civility	Seminar / panel discussion
Masterclasses	» Mental Health » Financial literacy » Entrepreneurship development	Two-hour masterclasses for each topic
<i>Isibaya Samadoda</i>	» Engage on men's issues » Bond fire outdoor session	One-day bond fire session
Women in Leadership Annual Conference	» Empower female student leaders » Discourse on gender transformation and the inclusion of young women leaders » Women's contribution on important societal matters (social, political, economic and in work spaces, especially those dominated by men)	One-day conference for female student leaders.
Critical Discourse Seminar Series	» African leadership philosophy and its implications in shaping communities » Africanisation and decolonisation project. How far have we come? » Gender inequalities in SA, role of young leaders in dismantling the status quo » Ethics challenges for leaders and institutions » How Leaders confront the new challenges in reference to a growing number of ethical scandals » Student Activism and the culture of violent protest in Higher Education institutions. Where to from here?	Three-hour seminars held on each campus on a variety of topic

Others soft skills activities offered to general students, clubs/societies and student governance structures.

Programme	Soft Skills Set
Leadership, Influence and Persuasion Skill	Delegation, Influence, Leadership, Leadership Agility, Persuasion Selling and Talent Management
Teamwork and Collaboration Skills	Collaboration, Cooperation, Dependability, Diversity and Teamwork
Decision Making and Problem Solving Skills	Conflict Management / Conflict Resolution, Creativity, Critical Thinking, Decision Making, Innovation, Problem Solving and Resourcefulness
Communication Skills	Active Listening, Communication (Verbal , Nonverbal and Written), Negotiation, Public Speaking, Rapport and Storytelling

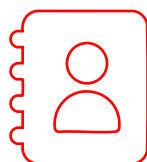
SPORTS AND RECREATION

ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT

The UKZN Sports Department provides the opportunity for students to participate in sport at both the competitive and recreational level. UKZN sport clubs affiliate to the sports federations in the province and some at a national level which provides the students the opportunity to participate in leagues and tournaments across the province and nationally. This also gives students the opportunity to be selected to represent the province or the country at national or international events.

Currently the UKZN Sports Department caters for the following codes of sport at the various campuses: aerobics, athletics, badminton, basketball, bodybuilding, chess, cricket, dance, hockey, indoor, karate, netball, rugby, football, squash, swimming, table tennis, tennis, volleyball and yachting.

Within these codes of sport, the following, have been, identified, as priority codes: rugby, football, netball, volleyball, cricket, hockey, and basketball.



Contact Details

Howard College - Ms Leigh Ann Lupke - x 2281 - lupkel@ukzn.ac.za

Westville - Ms Okuhle Ngubane - x 7362 - ngubane0@ukzn.ac.za

Edgewood - Ms Bulelwa Zuma - x 1760 - zumab@ukzn.ac.za

Pietermaritzburg - Ms Philisiwe Dlomo - x 5189 - dlomoP@ukzn.ac.za



Activity name	Purpose	Frequency
Sports Club Membership	Students are encouraged to register with the sports codes offered at UKZN as it enables them to be involved in a structured sports programme	Students may register for clubs throughout the year
Provincial Leagues KZN Hockey KZN Rugby KZN Cricket KZN Volleyball SAFA Football – SAB men SAFA Football – SASOL Women KZN Netball eThekweni Basketball KZN Badminton Karate Sailing	To provide students the opportunity to participate in federation leagues where they can compete to be selected to represent KwaZulu-Natal in national tournaments. There is also the opportunity to be chosen to represent South Africa at international events	Training sessions at least twice a week. League fixtures every week when the code of sport is in season. Seasons generally last between seven to nine months
Internal Leagues Internal Football Internal Netball Champions League	Opportunity for students to participate in sporting activities in a structured but social setting within each campus Opportunity for the internal league winners on each campus to play against each other which helps foster relationships and camaraderie among UKZN students	Matches are played three to four times a week including weekends Once a year when internal leagues have been concluded
USSA Tournaments 18 Codes of sports	UKZN is registered with University Sport South Africa (USSA) which allows students to participate in tournaments against fellow students from institutions in South Africa. USSA selects the SA student teams across different sports codes to participate in international student tournaments	Each tournament takes place once a year based on the USSA tournament roster. Tournaments are usually held in April, July, September and December, with the majority in July and December
Learn to Swim Programmes	Promote water safety among students	Summer season February to April September to December
Referee/Umpire Courses Football	Provide facilities for training students to be proficient in officiating matches	Courses are held on dates announced by the Federation
First Aid Course	Students completing the course get a First Aid certificate	Once a year
Club Executive Induction	The programme is designed to provide those who have been elected to the executive committee of a club - ie chairperson, secretary, treasurer - an opportunity to understand the roles and responsibilities involved	Once a year when executive committees are elected

DISABILITY SUPPORT UNIT

ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT

The Disability Support Unit (DSU) acts as an advocate, educator and facilitator for ensuring access and participation for students with disabilities to the academic and non-academic services.

The DSU works closely with persons with the following disabilities:

- » Visual impairments
- » Hearing impairments
- » Chronic illness (eg epilepsy, diabetes)
- » Learning disabilities
- » Physical disabilities
- » Psychiatric disabilities
- » Other disabilities

The DSU seeks to:

- » Safeguard the rights of students with disabilities
- » Educate the campus community regarding disability related issues
- » Facilitate the elimination of barriers with regard to time concessions, physical structures, programmes and attitudes
- » Assist with access to academic material in various accessible formats
- » Liaise with non-academic departments, and external agencies
- » Ensure accessibility
- » Assist with orientation and admission
- » Assist with accessing funding
- » Provide Orientation and Mobility and Training (O&M) and Skills of Daily Living
- » Provide Low Vision Support and Training
- » Facilitate access to SASL interpreting services.
- » Provide training in the use of specialised computer software (JAWS, Zoomtext, etc) and various assistive technology

Contact Details



Howard College Campus: Mr Ephraim Shabane: -ShabaneE@ukzn.ac.za Disability Support Officer

Pietermaritzburg Campus: Mr Mbhazima Derrick Munyai: - MunyaiM@ukzn.ac.za - Independence Trainer

Durban Reformatting Office: Mr Allen Mandlenkosi Dlamini - DlaminiA4@ukzn.ac.za - Reformatting Officer

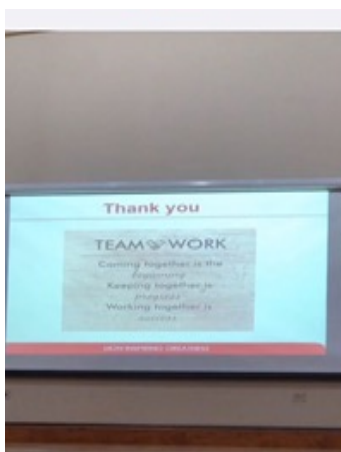
Pietermaritzburg Campus: Mr Mongezi Mngqobi Zondo: - Zondom@ukzn.ac.za - Disability Coordinator

Pietermaritzburg Reformatting Office: Mrs Tahitha Davinia Pillay -PillayT7@ukzn.ac.za - Reformatting Officer

Westville Campus: Mr Nevil Balakrishna: Balakrishna@ukzn.ac.za - Disability Coordinator

Edgewood Campus: Ms Roshanthni Subrayen: - Subrayen@ukzn.ac.za - Disability Coordinator

Westville Campus: Mr Amith Ramballie: - ramballiea@ukzn.ac.za - Senior Student Development Specialist



DISABILITY SUPPORT UNIT

INITIATIVE	TARGET GROUP	DESCRIPTION	CONTACT PERSON	FREQUENCY
Disability Equality Training Programmes	» All students » Student leadership	Empower the student population to recognise their rights to access, inclusion and participation	Mr Dhirshan Gobind	Ongoing
Self-Representation Training	Students with disabilities	Empower students to engage with academic and support structures to advocate for their rights	» Mr Nevil Balakrishna » Mr Mongezi Zondo » Dr Roshanthni Subrayen » Mr Ephraim Shabane	Ongoing
Goalball Activities	All students	Facilitate the development of sport for students with disabilities	Mr Derrick Munyai	January-December
Blind Cricket Activities	All students	Facilitate the development of sport for students with disabilities.	Mr Derrick Munyai	January-December
Seated Volley Ball Activities	All students	Facilitate the development of sport for students with disabilities	Mr Derrick Munyai	January-December
Bridging Abilities and Inspiring Wellness programme	All students	Promote inclusion, social integration, and well-being among students with disabilities at UKZN. Motivated by addressing disparities in higher education and recognising the impact of mental health on academic success, the initiative has clear objectives: to foster an inclusive atmosphere, enhance disability awareness, and support mental health and academic outcomes	Mr Dhirshan Gobind	February-October
Campus Outreach and Community Engagement Programme	» All students » Prospective students » External, Governmental and non-Governmental stakeholders	Various programmes as per year planner: Some conducted in the past included: » Presented at the Liberation Movement programme in Ashdown » Collaborated with HIV/AIDS programme for Maud residence engagement on mental health and wellness » School information session: Arthur Blaxall School, Mason Special School » Civil Society Forum » Engagement with various NGOs for development of the service	Ms Consolatrix Mungwe Mr Mongezi Zondo	January-December
LGBTQ+ Rights Awareness Programme	» All Students » External, governmental and non-governmental stakeholders	Programmes for students with disabilities in collaboration with internal and external stakeholders. Various activities for the year. » Several engagements with various stakeholders are held yearly » Gender and sexuality workshop » LGBTQ+ Pride Walk 2	Ms Londeka Msimang	June-October

INITIATIVE	TARGET GROUP	DESCRIPTION	CONTACT PERSON	FREQUENCY
Postgraduate programmes	» Postgraduate students with disabilities » Prospective postgraduate students with disabilities	A programme focusing on honing academic writing, publication skills and research proficiency, while also prioritising the mental health and wellness of students for a holistic academic experience	Dr Roshanthni Subrayen	January–December (as requested through Research Office)
SASL and Deaf culture awareness programmes	» All students » All UKZN staff	To honour Deaf Culture and raise awareness about social inclusion and communication barriers, Deaf students hosted an annual performing arts presentation to the University community	Ms Perunah Pillay	September–October
Academic terminology sign bank project	» Deaf students at UKZN » Deaf students registered at tertiary institutes nationally	Development of academic terminology for use in the SASLI service. Done in conjunction with students. Verified at a national level	Ms Nokuthula Khumalo	Ongoing
Transition to the Professional Workplace	Students with disabilities	Workshops aimed at development of soft skills in students for a successful transition to the working environment	Mr Ephraim Shabane	September–October
Navigating sexual health and reproductive rights	All Students	This campaign aims to build resilience among young women with disabilities, empowering them to make independent decisions about their lives and futures. By promoting entrepreneurship, the campaign also encourages women to become financially independent, reducing their vulnerability to exploitative practices.	Ms Liako Makhaola	April–September

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

Vision

To empower every student across all four Colleges at UKZN to achieve personal and professional success through accessible, innovative, and integrated support services, fostering a transformative university experience aligned with the Institution's strategic focus on an excellent student experience, commitment to academic excellence and holistic development.

Objectives

The primary objectives of Student Support Services are to:

1. Promote holistic student development
2. Enhance student well-being and mental health
3. Foster academic success, retention and throughput
4. Promote diversity and inclusivity in the University environment
5. Foster career readiness and employability
6. Promote a sense of belonging and community
7. Support the development of student leaders in alignment with institutional values
8. Partner with academic staff, student organisations, and industry stakeholders to deliver integrated and relevant services

Student Support Services SSS
is all about YOU - We are here
to help you thrive, not just
survive?

Services

The Student Support Services (SSS) at UKZN provide key services across four broad areas involving:



Services are free, confidential and available to all registered students through in-person and virtual methods.

Feeling overwhelmed? Do you know SSS offers free and confidential counselling? What's stopping you from checking us out?

CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

Student Support Services offers a range of activities throughout the year. Below is a snapshot of the activities we have on offer.

There's so much happening this semester! Which event or activity sounds like something you would love to attend?

Semester 1 (January – June)

MONTH	THEME	ACTIVITIES
January	Kick-off and Orientation	» Welcome and Orientation Workshops: Introducing Counselling and Career Services. » Academic Risk/Wellness Assessment and Support
February	Self-Discovery and Awareness	» Adjustment and Transition » Building healthy relationships » Academic Skills Development » Academic Risk/Wellness Assessment and Support » Unplanned Pregnancy
March	Professional Development Month	» Academic Skills Development » Career Professions' Events » Mock Interviews » Work Readiness Programmes » Self-Awareness and Discovery
April	Wellness and Reflection	» Stress Management » Support Groups » Academic Skills Development » Substance Abuse
May	Action for Success	» Test and Exam preparation » Stress Management and Anxiety » Study Groups
June	End-of-Semester Support	» Work Readiness

Semester 2: July – December

MONTH	THEME	ACTIVITIES
July	Reorientation and Winter Recap	» Reorientation Workshops: Reintroducing services and activities for the semester » Personal Reflection: Reset and Re-focus » Academic Risk Assessment and Support
August	Building Resilience	» Career Fair: Connect with recruiters and learn about career opportunities. » Support Groups » Sexual and Gender-Based Violence » Academic Risk Assessment and Support » Stress and Care
September	Self-Awareness and Development	» Skill-Based Workshops » Celebrating Diversity » Suicide Prevention » Interpersonal Skills
October	Mental Health Awareness Month	» Mental Health Awareness » Self-Care Workshop » Test and Exam Preparation
November	November for Men's Mental Health	» Men's' Mental Health » Exam Support » Work Readiness
December	Wrap-Up	» Reflections

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES CONTACT DETAILS

COLLEGE OF LAW AND MANAGEMENT STUDIES

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES SHARE POINT - OUR LINK TO COLLEGE OF LAW AND MANAGEMENT STUDIES STUDENTS

We use our Sharepoint platform- <https://stuukznac.sharepoint.com/sites/clmsstudentsupport> to keep connected and engaged with students.

MAKING AN APPOINTMENT

All our services are free and strictly by appointment; hence booking is essential through our online booking system: <https://clmsstudentsupport.ukzn.ac.za/book-online>

NEED TO TALK

We also have a counselling services toll-free line: 0800 800 017 for registered UKZN students to access free, confidential counselling (Monday – Friday between 08h00 to 16h30)

CONTACT US

If you need to get in touch with us, contact our friendly Administrator on: 031 260 7337 or email Ms Nomathemba Makhathini on MakhathiniN@ukzn.ac.za

Where to find us:

PIETERMARITZBURG CAMPUS:

College Administration Office, 1 Golf Road

WESTVILLE CAMPUS:

Level 3, L Block

HOWARD COLLEGE CAMPUS:

Level 5, Dennis Shepstone Building, Rooms C504 and C507

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE

For more information contact:

Help Desk - 033 260 5090 (PMB) / 031 260 7572 (DBN)

Toll-free number: 0800 800 017

Email: aessupport@ukzn.ac.za

You can also visit our website where these student development programmes and other resources are posted: <https://aessupport.ukzn.ac.za/>

Bookings:

<https://caes-ukzn.bookem.com>

Location:

Westville (OR Tambo Building, 4th floor),
Howard College (Desmond Clarence Building, 3rd floor)
PMB (Frank Bush Annex, Main campus)

CONNECT WITH US VIA SOCIAL MEDIA



https://www.instagram.com/caes_studentsupportservices/



<https://www.facebook.com/UKZNCAES.SSS/>

COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES

For information on counselling services and securing an appointment with a counsellor/psychologist, contact: *chum.studentsupport@ukzn.ac.za*

Toll-free number: 0800 800 017 (business hours, 08:00-16:30)

Landlines: Howard College and Edgewood: 031 260 2668 PMB: 033 260 5233

Location:

Career Development Office:

Room E413, L4, Shepstone building, Howard College Campus

Howard College:

Brown house in between Francis Stock and Centre for Creative Arts, Gate 1

Edgewood Campus:

Dulcie September Building, next to Campus Health Services and DSU

Pietermaritzburg Campus:

House 6, Milner Road, Main Campus

Connect with us:

<https://learn2026.ukzn.ac.za/course/view.php?id=329>

Self-enrol by clicking on the Humanities tab and then on Humanities Student Support Services

For support outside of office hours, contact:

SADAG: 0800 36 36 36 (Free online counselling for university students)/ 0800 567 567 (suicidal emergency)

Lifeline: 0861 322 322 (24-hour counselling line).

Other useful contacts: SAPS: 10111
OR 112 from a cell phone; GBV
0800 428 428 | Please Call Me
*120*7867#

COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES

To secure an appointment, College of Health Sciences students may:

Email appointment requests to *chs.sss@ukzn.ac.za* **or call during office hours on the Toll-Free line:** 080 080 0017

Contact your campus specific SSS or DCTP site SSS :

- » Howard College: 1st Floor, Desmond Clarence Building ~ 031 260 8060
- » Medical School: 4th Floor, Main Building, Room 420 ~ 031 260 4795
- » Westville: Block E3, CHS Professional Services ~ 031 260 7087

DCTP Sites

- » Empangeni: Ngwelezane Park Home AO/ADO ~ 031 260 2690
- » Madadeni: AO/ADO ~ 031 260 1978/2563
- » Newcastle: AO/ADO ~ 031 260 3764/2108
- » Pietermaritzburg: Ground Floor, Denison Building ~ 033 260 5087
- » Port Shepstone: AO/ADO ~ 031 260 3041/1705
- » Stanger: AO/ADO ~ 031 260 2692



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

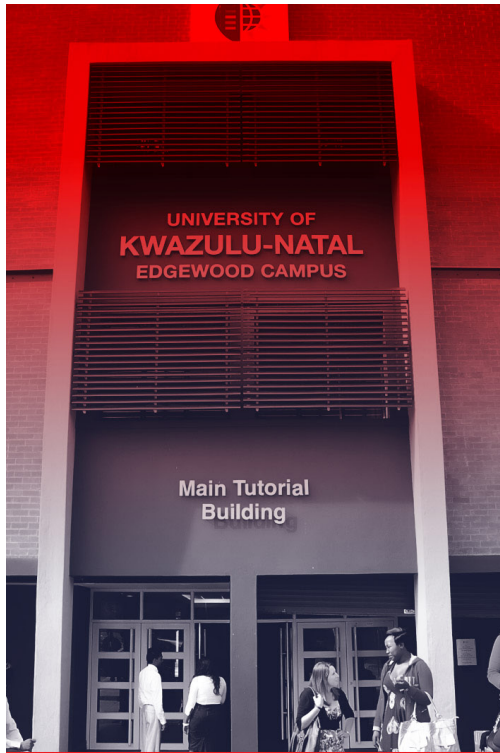
The Student Services Division would like to acknowledge and express their sincere appreciation to the following individuals who meticulously contributed to the contents and success of the Handbook.

- » Prof. Msizi Mkhizet (Pro-Vice Chancellor: Student Services Division)
(Initial conceptualisation of the Co-Curricular Handbook)
- » Prof Johannes Percy Sepeng (Dean of Students: Student Services Division)
- » Prof Ntombifikile Mazibuko (Interim Senior Director: Student Services Division)
- » Ms. Sisana Machi (Interim Director: Department of Student Residence Affairs)
- » Mr. Muzomuhle Mhlongo (Manager: Student Governance and Leadership Development)
- » Mr. Amith Ramballie (Manager: Disability Support Unit)
- » Mr. Zwelithethindaba Sapula (Acting Manager: Sports and Recreation)
- » Ms Shelley Barnsley (Manager: Student Support Services – College of Agriculture, Engineering and Science)
- » Dr. Ayanda Zondo (Acting Manager: Student Support Services- College of Humanities)
- » Ms. Ishara Maharaj (Acting Manager: Student Support Services- College of Law and Management Studies)
- » Dr. Saloschini Pillay (Manager: Student Support Services: College of Health Sciences)

A further acknowledgement and thank you to Dr. Sachin Suknunan (Central Coordinator: Office of Pro-Vice Chancellor: Student Services Division) for the coordination and compilation of the Handbook.

A special thank you to Mr. Bhekani Dlamini (Director: UKZN Corporate Relations) and his team for their efforts in the editing and graphical layout of the Handbook.

Appreciation to All Staff of the Student Services Division who provided their valuable inputs to the Handbook.



EDGEWOOD CAMPUS



HOWARD CAMPUS



NELSON R MANDELA SCHOOL OF MEDICINE



PIETERMARITZBURG CAMPUS



WESTVILLE CAMPUS

