



THE MERCURY

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National accolades for UNIZULU Campus Health Clinic Head

THE Head of the Campus Health Clinic at the University of Zululand (UNIZULU), Sister Hlengiwe Mkhwanazi, has recently been appointed as Deputy Chairperson of the esteemed South African Association of Campus Health Services (SAACHS). SAACHS was formed in 1978 with the aim of making a significant contribution to medical and paramedical fields at tertiary education institutions. Among the body's objectives is striving to initiate, promote, encourage, organise and foster a liaison between members for campus health care – in effect to promote and facilitate comprehensive primary health care using patient-centred, multi-disciplinary approach and making academic contribution using

research findings.

The body's national executive committee is elected at its annual general meeting which takes place at the annual congress of the association every January.

Sister Mkhwanazi will be the Deputy Chairperson for two years. "I feel honoured to be appointed to this position. I hope to serve the association with merit and I hope to use this opportunity to learn various methods that could further improve our health services offered at the university," she said.

Her appointment comes after the success of the Universal Test and Treatment programme campaign, which the Campus Health Clinic launched to promote the use of antiretroviral medication in 2017. The clinic broke new ground as the

first tertiary clinic in KwaZulu-Natal to offer ART medication following a memorandum of understanding signed with the Department of Health.

Sister Mkhwanazi joined the UNIZULU Campus Health Clinic as Acting Head in 2013 and became its Head in 2017. She began her career as an assistant nurse in 1984. In 1995 she worked as a staff nurse at Montebello Hospital, but it was at Ngwelezane Hospital where her passion for working with schools and young adults developed. The same passion motivated her to continue with her studies in the early 2000s, seeing her conferred with a BCur degree in Nursing in 2005. She is now studying towards her Master's degree.

"I've always known that I wanted to be a medical practi-

tioner. Even my family knew that I had the necessary qualities to become one. This field is not suited for everyone; it requires someone with a calling for it. It needs a person who has empathy, compassion and a burning desire to improve the lives of others," she said.

Sister Mkhwanazi's excellent work performance did not go unnoticed, especially within the institution. In December 2017, she was awarded the Vice-Chancellor's Appreciation Award for her continued commitment in improving health services.

Sister Makhwanazi strongly believes that the only way to make an impactful contribution to society's health issues is with compassion and a consistent dedicated mind set for improving health services.



Sister Hlengiwe Mkhwanazi, the UNIZULU Campus Health Clinic Head, was recently appointed as Deputy Chairperson of the South African Association of Campus Health Services. Mkhwanazi is pictured with a certificate of appreciation which she received during the UNIZULU Vice-Chancellor's Appreciation Award.

AGSA Grant a shot in the arm of academics' publication project

FOUR University of Zululand (UNIZULU) academics co-writing a first-of-its-kind book on editing text written in IsiZulu are elated after recently being named one of 15 recipients of a grant from the Academic and Non-Fiction Authors' Association of South Africa (ANFASA) Grant Scheme for Authors (AGSA) for 2017.

ANFASA aims to give a voice to the interests and concerns of all academic and non-fiction authors, whether or not their works have appeared in print. The organisation is a member-driven association that aims to uphold and enhance the profile and status of academic and non-fiction authors in South Africa.

Titled: *Izisekelo Zokulungiswa Kokubhaliweyo*, the book is an IsiZulu adaptation of Text Editing, written in English by Wannie Carstens, and the Sesotho translated version *Me-theo ya ditokiso tsa sengolwa* by Nyefolo Maleti.

Izisekelo Zokulungiswa Kokubhaliweyo is written by UNIZULU academics Dr Zanele Buthelezi, Dr Zebulon Mthembu and Samkelisiwe Mbokazi, lecturers in the Department of African Languages, as well as Dr Nonhle Mthembu-Ngema, a senior lecturer in the Department of Arts and Languages Education.

According to Dr Buthelezi, the grant has come at an opportune time when the team requires funds to conduct rigorous research for the remaining chapters of the book.



Pictured from left: Samkelisiwe Mbokazi, Dr Zanele Buthelezi, Dr Zebulon Mthembu and Dr Nonhle Mthembu-Ngema, authors of *Izisekelo Zokulungiswa Kokubhaliweyo*, an isiZulu academic book which received the Academic and Non-Fiction Authors' Association of South Africa (ANFASA) Grant Scheme for Authors (AGSA) for 2017.

The grant will also allow the authors to acquire the services of a professional IsiZulu copy editor to ensure cohesion, coherence and consistency of content in the final draft.

She confidently admits to having expected this victory as she "trusts and believes that this book is contributing to knowledge development and intellectualisation of an academically disadvantaged language".

Being her brainchild, Dr Buthelezi explained that the idea of the book stemmed from

her love and pride of her mother tongue.

"Many academics are not enthusiastic about writing books in their indigenous languages because of the dominance of English and an unprecedented devaluation and marginalisation of African languages. I believed that a book of this nature will be a contribution towards the intellectualisation of an African language, IsiZulu," she said.

The writing began at the beginning of 2017. Completion is projected to be in July 2018.

Topics include "Text as a Domain of Text Editing", "The Principles of Textuality" and "Ethics in Text Editing".

Dr Buthelezi hopes that the book will reach and have the desired impact on the targeted audience, namely academics, teachers, authors, students writing their dissertations, copy editors, sub-editors; proof-readers and language practitioners in general.

The award ceremony for 2017 grant winners will be held on 13 March 2018 in Pretoria.

UNIZULU embarks on a year of high expectations

THE full implementation of the university's transformation plan, recommencement of infrastructure projects and the review of academic programmes will top this year's strategic agenda for the University of Zululand (UNIZULU).

Speaking at the recent UNIZULU Official Opening event, Prof Xoliswa Mtose, UNIZULU Vice-Chancellor, said the University was embarking on a year of "great expectations".

"The university is now back on track with infrastructure projects that were aborted in 2012 and 2013. This year, we hope to see dust through new buildings and infrastructure that meet the needs of our students and lead the university into the future. The existing buildings, particularly our student residences, need to be refurbished to acceptable standards," she said.

Prof Mtose added that a concept had been proposed to convert the Vice-Chancellor's old house on the main KwaDlangezwa Campus into a new facility that will house several centres such as Teaching and Learning, Research and Development, Diversity and Social Cohesion, Community Engagement, Graduate Training and Entrepreneurship, Work-Integrated Learning, as well as Advancement and Grants Management.

"We also look forward to the full implementation of the (university's) transformation plan. It's on our cards this year. We must look into transformation.

"We are also on a journey towards accreditation. We are working with our LLB pro-



Professor Xoliswa Mtose, UNIZULU Vice-Chancellor, during the UNIZULU Official Opening.

gramme so that it is fully accredited. You will remember that we received a notice of withdrawal, not a withdrawal. We are working on an improvement plan as advised by the Council on Higher Education. This year, students in our LLB programme, therefore, continued to be registered because we have not been withdrawn from accreditation," said Prof Mtose.

This year, 3 879 first-time students enrolled. To ensure that the registration process is more efficient, all postgraduate and first-year students, as well as those in

the Faculty of Science and Agriculture registered online.

Some second and third-year students also registered via this platform. "I'm glad to announce that the progress to full online registrations will continue as set out in phase three of online registrations. The 2018 registration plan required significant planning to address deficiencies identified in the past. I want to thank the Registrar and his team for the excellent work that they have done in this area. The university is on a positive trajectory and everything should be done to remain steadfast in com-

pliance and implementation of the rules," she added.

Prof Mtose urged staff and students to always remember that teaching and learning – which includes research – remains at the centre of the university's activities. "Teaching and learning can never be shifted to any agenda; it is our agenda as a university. I cannot overemphasise how important your (staff) role is in ensuring that our students succeed. UNIZULU's goals and aspirations can and will be achieved if we approach them in a positive spirit," said Prof Mtose.

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