



UNIVERSITY OF
KWAZULU-NATAL[™]
INYUVESI
YAKWAZULU-NATALI

FOUNDATION

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DEVELOPMENT BRIEF

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INSPIRING GREATNESS

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Foreword

Whilst the world economy has made fundraising very challenging this year, our donors both old and new have given generously and selflessly for which we are most grateful.

As donors, you make extraordinary things happen. Thanks to your support, we're carrying out life changing research, developing world-class facilities and offering students from all backgrounds the opportunity of a University of KwaZulu-Natal education.

Of all the words I've zoomed, texted, emailed, and said this year, two words stand out: THANK YOU. And so once more this year, we at the UKZN Foundation want to thank you for all you do.

As we embrace the holidays, we have launched our annual food security campaign, "Share the Festive Cheer". This is the third year that we are running this campaign, to support students who go hungry to class due to lack of funding. Research has proven that poor nourishment leads to poor results. We appeal to you to support this initiative during this festive period and beyond.

I wish to thank our Board of Trustees for their support and guidance this year together with the staff and colleagues at the Foundation for their support and commitment to "Enabling Greatness".

I hope you will take a moment to reflect on the positive difference you have made this year as you celebrate the holiday season, regardless of how you celebrate it. We look forward – with great enthusiasm – to working with you again next year as we to continue to develop skilled students who go out into the world well prepared to contribute to a brighter future that makes UKZN locally and globally relevant.

On behalf of the UKZN Foundation Team, I wish you and your family a safe and enjoyable holiday season and a prosperous New Year.

Best wishes

Steve Camp

Executive Director: UKZN Foundation(Acting)

UKZN Hosts SA Professional Provident Society Foundation

Representatives of the Professional Provident Society (PPS) of South Africa Foundation and the UKZN Foundation gathered on the University's Howard College campus to extend their partnership and celebrate PPS postgraduate bursaries being awarded to medical students.

The PPS Foundation, established in 2016 essentially to improve access to Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) fields for students, also contributes to the sustainable development of South African communities.

PPS Group Executive Trustee and Group Executive: HR, Ms Masenyane Molefe, gave a brief presentation on her organisation which has been in existence for more than 80 years. Molefe said the Foundation's bursary and university support programme led to the collaboration with UKZN. 'The PPS bursary is a holistic bursary that covers students for tuition fees, residence accommodation, meals and laptops. The Foundation is currently funding IT and medical students.'

One of the students was Ms Fanelesibonge Mkhize, a Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBChB)

candidate.

'I didn't know much about PPS until my roommate at res, who is a recipient of one of their bursaries, suggested I approach the society,' said Mkhize. 'After having applied unsuccessfully for a bursary from several other sources I was surprised and elated when I got a response from PPS!'

Commenting on the funding, Mkhize, who holds a *cum laude* Bachelor of Pharmacy Degree, said: 'It has helped me so much because otherwise I would have been stressing about books and fees as it not easy to get a bursary when you already have a degree. I'm happy to be part of the UKZN community and grateful to my sponsors – because of them, I have no (student) debt which makes life so much easier and less stressful, allowing me to concentrate on my work.'

Professor Suvira Ramlall of UKZN's Psychiatry Discipline and President of the College of Psychiatrists (CMSA) thanked PPS on behalf of the Medical School. 'I am so glad you have shifted beyond giving hand-outs. We really appreciate these partnerships,' said Ramlall.



(l-r): Mr Pierre Pillay, Mrs Subashini Gounder, Ms Fanelesibonge Mkhize, Ms Masenyane Molefe, Ms Nondumiso Gumede, Professor Suvira Ramlall and Mr Steve Camp.

UKZN Foundation in Partnership with Transformation Advisory and Skills Development Firms

The correlation between unemployment statistics and education levels in South Africa is a clear indicator that skills development, tertiary education and training are not only critical to the transformation of our economy but also to ensure that such development results in rapid growth and future prosperity.

Transformation advisory and skills development firms are well advised to partner with accredited specialist partners such as UKZN to ensure they gain access to young bright minds in South Africa and support them so that they become active participants in the growth of the country's economy and its transformation.

Transformation advisory and skills development firm Synergy Transformation Solutions (STS), offer services tailored towards ensuring that the B-BBEE codes are implemented in a manner that yields maximum benefit for their clients whilst ensuring their initiatives lead to a measurable and sustainable impact for all South

Africans.

The UKZN Foundation has worked with STS for more than three years to ensure the company meets the needs of their clients for B-BEEE and skills development. The healthy partnership has seen 68 students from various study fields and race groups access funding they desperately need.

Universities not only produce leaders of the future but are also home to scores of young people who need funding that skills development firms can provide.

Synergy Transformation Solutions and other similar companies have taken advantage of this opportunity with the UKZN Foundation which also offers them a seamless administrative process.

The Foundation hopes more firms will come on board and allow the organisation to help them meet their needs.



UKZN Aims to Raise R250 000 for Festive Cheer for the Hungry

The UKZN Foundation hopes to raise at least R250 000 during its *Share the Festive Cheer* campaign to provide nutritious meals to students in need from early in 2023.

The annual food security campaign was launched in November and concludes on the last day of this year.

Since its inception in 2018, the project has raised funds to assist students get nutritious meals while they wait for their food allowances to kick in.

It is estimated that about 60% of students at tertiary institutions in South Africa are food insecure with that figure going up to approximately 75% on UKZN campuses. The majority of these students are black.

Food insecurity is a significant public health and psychosocial concern which can hinder academic performance.

Students who rely on the National Student Financial

Aid Scheme (NSFAS) for funding are most vulnerable as their allowances from the fund only start around the third or fourth month of the year. This means that for the first quarter many are left to fend for themselves and can go hungry, among other negative impacts.

The UKZN Foundation is therefore pleading for support to help raise the money which will provide students with meals from the first day of the new year.

Said a Foundation spokesperson: 'We appeal to all staff, University partners, corporates and the general public to get behind this important cause. Please support us with a donation of at least R50. This will make a major difference in the lives of our students during the first semester next year.'

Share the Festive Cheer by clicking on <https://foundation.ukzn.ac.za/> and support those less fortunate.



SHARE THE FESTIVE CHEER

At UKZN, it is estimated that up to 75% students arrive on campuses hungry.

This is a significant public health challenge and is proven that food insecurity negatively affects academic performance.

The UKZN Foundation is seeking the support of individuals to help raise at least R250 000 for this campaign which commences on the 24th November and concludes on the last day of 2022. The aim is to aid students to be able to receive nutritional meals, at the beginning to the new academic year.

We appeal to all staff, university partners, corporates and the general public to get behind this worthy cause. Please partner with us through your generous donation of at least R50. Collectively, this will make a significant difference in the lives of our students. During this festive season "Share the Festive Cheer" and support a less fortunate student.

TATA Changing Student Lives for the Better

Leading motor manufacturer TATA Africa continues to make significant financial contributions to the lives and general wellbeing of deserving achievers at UKZN.

Representatives from the UKZN Foundation recently met with the company to acknowledge the generous bursaries received from TATA since 2016, to strengthen collaboration between the two organisations, and to present awards to students in the fields of Law and Management Studies, Social Sciences, Agriculture and Earth Sciences, among others.

During his welcome address, UKZN Foundation Executive Director Mr Steve Camp thanked TATA for their assistance and the special relationship developed over the years. 'TATA bursaries are significant, they make a huge difference. A lot of our students are from impoverished backgrounds and without corporate sponsorships like those from TATA it is unlikely many would be able to attend university,' said Camp.

Bursary recipients were overjoyed and expressed their gratitude to TATA:

Ms Sinegugu Khuzwayo, a fourth year Finance student: 'We lost many family members to COVID-19 which caused financial hardships for us, leaving mum as the only bread winner. I was close to breaking point when the news about the TATA bursary came through. At first I thought it might be a scam. However, when nearly all hope was lost, TATA proved to be the light at the end of the tunnel – I'm really grateful, thank you TATA.'

Ms Nothando Ndlovu, also a Finance student: 'I'd like to thank TATA for the opportunity they have given all of us to finish our studies. After having issues with my ID documentation I wasn't optimistic about continuing with my studies but receiving the good news about the bursary gave me hope – it was like divine intervention.'

Ms Thobeka Mbambo, a Finance Honours student: 'I recently lost my mum to cancer and was very down. When the call about the bursary came through hope was restored – it was like a gift from my mom. I want to show my younger siblings that education can have a positive impact on your life. I'm so grateful to TATA for the opportunity.'

Other TATA scholarship recipients were: Ms Phelokazi Magaqa, a Supply Chain and Marketing honours degree candidate, and Mr Philani Nxele, a finance honours student.

TATA's Executive Director, Mr Harneet Luther spoke about the partnership with UKZN and the philosophy of the company. 'It's a pleasure for us to be here and to be partners with UKZN. Partnerships exists when there are common values, excellence and trust. TATA believes a sponsored student can get a first class education and then contribute to society. We work towards uplifting communities without necessarily looking for gains for the company.' Luther thanked students, encouraging them to give back and contribute to their communities and society generally.



Recipients of TATA bursaries celebrates with Mr Monde Mjebeza and Mr Steve Camp – UKZN Foundation (left) and Mr Harneet Luther – Executive Director and Ms Thandeka Hlatshayo – Corporate Communication Coordinator of TATA Automobile Corporate SA (right).

Supporting Medical Students with Historical Debt

Dean and Head of UKZN's School of Clinical Medicine Professor Ncoza Dlova has launched a fund to support Medical students with historic debt.

The fund will help to ensure that education is a reality for those who are struggling financially, with the investment in future medical doctors potentially injecting much needed human resources in an overburdened healthcare system.

Dlova said: 'At UKZN, the majority of our Medical students come from previously disadvantaged communities. This is reflected in our transformation agenda – 70% of our students are African and recruited from Quintile 1 and 2 schools. In order to assist them to focus on their studies without having financial worries, we appeal to donors, non-governmental organisations, the corporate sector, alumni of UKZN's Nelson R Mandela School of Medicine as well as alumni of the former Alan Taylor residence to assist with donations.'

At a recent function at the Nelson R Mandela School of Medicine, UKZN alumnus and co-founder of the Gift of the Givers organisation Dr Imtiaz Sooliman pledged R3 million towards the fund allowing a number of medical students with historical debt to register for their studies this year.

Current Medical students at the School pledged their support for the fund with some committing to donate R100 a month. Said fifth-year Medical student Mr Tyrell Pillay: 'The Professor Ncoza Dlova Medical Student Fund will go a long way in helping to create leaders in healthcare for the near future and beyond. The funds will be used to ensure that underprivileged students are not denied access to education and have a good chance

of realising their goals and aspirations.'

Fourth-year Medical student Ms Zinhle Mzobe commented: 'The Professor Ncoza Dlova Medical Student Fund will ensure that that disadvantaged students are not left behind. The funds will be used to allow students to study without having a financial burden hanging over them.'

Donor contributions will be received by the UKZN Foundation qualifying donors for a tax benefit for their pledge. For more information on the fund visit: <https://youtu.be/Y8ePQVACgmo>.

Support Doctors in the Making (uMuntu nguMuntu ngaBantu). Fund the future – Fund a Student and Be part of the Solution!



Professor Ncoza Dlova launched a historic debt relief funding for medical students.

Silibona Education Trust

Making a Difference at UKZN

Launched in 2016, the Silibona Education Trust – with whom UKZN enjoys a highly valuable association – makes significant contributions towards changing the lives of deserving students by providing them with financial assistance and mentoring support at university level.

The brainchild of University of Cape Town alumni Mr Clinton Martin and Mr Yaw Peprah, the Trust reaches out through social media to donors for support to cover the undergraduate tuition fees of selected students, prioritising first generation female candidates as well as those in study streams which do not usually attract a large number of donors.

The Trust comprises three trustees, 5 EXCO members and several mentors, all of whom are volunteers.

Trust mentors – Ms Eldinah Hwengwere, Mr Sisipo Ndzamela and Ms Mandy Cobbing - provide support and guidance, maintaining a connection with beneficiaries.

The Fund looks for donations which are used to finance university students, including deserving individuals at UKZN.

The collaboration between the Silibona Educational Trust and UKZN began in 2018 with Cobbing - then a student mentor at UKZN – working with management at the University to select beneficiaries.

The decision to prioritise female first generation university students was taken because of the relatively small number of candidates in that category being awarded bursaries. To date Silibona has donated R507 749 to eight UKZN students, including Ms Lindelwe Gebashe, who recently graduated with a Bachelor of Social Work degree.

Third-year UKZN students who are recipients of bursaries from the Trust were all grateful for the support: **Ms Ntando Mbele**, a Bachelor of Pharmacy student, said: 'Silibona provides emotional and academic support. Previously I would struggle with academic support and

anxiety but now I am able to share my struggles with my mentor and get through my studies. With my fees paid, I have peace of mind and can focus on my work.'

Ms Sharon Ramaoke, a Physiotherapy student, said the Trust had paid for her registration fees at UKZN. 'They provide extensive mentorship support in all aspects of life, which I like and appreciate so much.'

Ms Onelisiwe Mhlaba, an Education student, hopes to study for her honours degree next year. 'Silibona provides hope and light in the darkest days. I have never had a mentor before – now the mentorship I get helps me make informed decisions and inspires me to be the best I can be. It has also made me realise the importance of hard work in realising one's dreams.'

- The UKZN Foundation is very grateful to the Silibona Educational Trust for its highly valued contributions in investing in the upliftment of students at the University.



Ms Lindelwe Gebashe – Silibona Education Trust recipient on her graduation this year.

Providing Bursaries to Help Increase Skills in Insurance Sector

The Insurance Sector Education and Training Authority (INSETA) is an organisation helping many of those in need at UKZN by providing bursaries which can be a game changer for struggling students.

UKZN has enjoyed a partnership with INSETA since 2019, with the Authority's motivation being to help increase the quality of critical and scarce skills in the insurance sector thus supporting South Africa's transformation.

INSETA's contribution, which began with a donation to assist unemployed UKZN students who met necessary requirements, has now progressed to providing financial support through bursaries for students studying towards qualifications considered critical and scarce in the insurance sector.

The organisation donates millions of rands to various support programmes for UKZN students mainly in the School of Accounting, Economics and Finance, and the School of Management, Information Technology and Governance.

Two students expressed their joy – and relief – about being INSETA bursary recipients:

Ms Khethelo Nxumalo, a Postgraduate Diploma in Finance, Banking and Investment Management (PGDip FBIM) candidate, said she had been unable to afford residence fees. 'Then I had network problems at my home at eSikhawini which is in a rural area and there was also endless load shedding which led to problems such as late submissions and poor attendance as everything was done online. Then I was constantly stressing about paying for tuition fees and study materials. INSETA funding assisted me a lot and with that support I was

able to move near campus which solved all my problems. I would like to thank INSETA for funding my studies, I would never have had a smooth academic year without their great support.'

Mr Fanelesibonge Ncalane, also a PGDip FBIM student, thanked INSETA for giving him the opportunity to complete his studies. 'There were times I felt like giving up, the pressure of studying at home and being troubled by load shedding was such a problem. I am grateful to INSETA for funding my studies as it not easy to secure sponsorship at a postgraduate level.'

UKZN is grateful to INSETA for its generous contributions which enable University candidates to focus on their academic work and develop into leaders who will bring about change.



Ms Khethelo Nxumalo – Postgraduate Diploma in Finance, Banking and Investment Management student.

Philips SA Gives Bursaries worth R3m to UKZN Medical Students

Bursaries totalling R3 million have been awarded to Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBChB) students at UKZN by Philips SA.

The sponsors were thanked for their generous contribution at a function at the Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela Medical School hosted by the University's College of Health Sciences (CHS).

The process was initiated by CHS Director of Professional Services Professor Fanie Botha and overseen by the UKZN Foundation's Donor Relationship Manager, Mr Tebelo Kokoropo.

Health technology company Philips SA is on board for a second time at UKZN, awarding bursaries to MBChB students at different levels of study.

Managing Director of Philips SA Mr Romulen Pillay said he admired doctors, technicians and nurses for their career choice, recalling what South Africa went through during Covid-19 and his personal experience with public hospital care.

'I grew up in KwaZulu-Natal where the imbalance in access to health care is common knowledge. You can't grow up in the province and not use the organisation you work for to address some of the socio-economic

difficulties involved, which is the reason we are part of this programme,' said Pillay.

Remarking on his continuing close relationship with UKZN – his alma mater – he said: 'My job as the CEO of Philips SA is to make sure we play a significant role in helping people gain access to quality health care. Our sponsorship of bursaries for medical students at the University is an opportunity for us to fund future doctors and increase their numbers.'

Botha thanked Philips SA on behalf of UKZN and the CHS for their assistance. 'Within the University there is always a struggle to get funding to support our students so you are helping alleviate a lot of hardships and challenges.' Botha said he hoped the relationship with Philips SA would be an extended one.

Philips SA bursary holder, first-year MBChB student Ms Sthokozile Shangase, said she was thankful for the opportunity. 'I could stand here the whole day explaining how grateful I am – it has been a hard year.'

Second-year student Ms Sandiswa Ncube extended thanks on behalf of all Philips SA bursary beneficiaries at UKZN.



The recipient students are seen with, on the left Mr Romulen Pillay, Managing Director, Philips Southern Africa and Ms Dolly Khuzwayo, BBBEE Transformation Officer Philips Southern Africa, and on the right, Mr Ronald Krishna, Regional Manager Phillips Southern Africa KZN; and Professor Fanie Botha, Director Professional Services, College of Health Sciences, UKZN.

Optometry Kits Donated to UKZN

The Gift of the Givers Foundation and the Caring Sisters Network (CSN) donated 25 optometry kits worth R30 000 each to UKZN's Optometry Discipline to loan to students unable to afford their own.

Initiated by the University's Academic Leader in Optometry, Dr Naimah Ebrahim Khan, the donation was made to help relieve a shortage of equipment due to the growing number of Optometry students. 'The Discipline asked for assistance after it became clear that students who had equipment to practise on fared better than those without,' said Khan.

'Gift of the Givers and CSN were very aware of the type of equipment we needed which included eye charts, trial cases and frames, diagnostic sets, occluders, pupillary distance rulers, prism bars and hard contact lenses. They also helped us source the best equipment and delivered it to us – so we are beyond grateful,' said Khan.

Gift of the Givers Operations Director Mr Muhammad Rayhaan Sooliman said: 'We are very excited to be involved because apart from taking care of immediate needs we also aim to ensure there's a plan going forward.' Sooliman added that the donation marked the beginning of an exciting partnership between CSN and the Discipline.

Islamic Medical Association (IMA) Durban Chairperson Dr Yasiera Suliman said she was aware of the students' needs as she assists UKZN by making IMA clinics available for the training of students. 'Being in the field I am very aware it is impossible for students to train without this equipment.'

Gift of the Givers Co-Founder Dr Imtiaz Sooliman said he and members of his family had a special attachment to UKZN having studied and graduated there. 'We need to give back to where we come from because to build South Africa we have to help youngsters who aren't progressing due to a lack of opportunities. There's only one way to fix this country and that's to work together to make it better.'

Sooliman said contributions from his Foundation included a R3 million donation to UKZN's Medical Student Fund which supports young doctors with historical debt – a project founded by the Dean and Head of the School of Clinical Medicine, Professor Ncoza Dlova.

Dean and Head of School of Health Sciences Professor Khathutshelo Mashige commented on how students in the Discipline struggled to get the basic equipment required to do their training. 'I'm over the moon that the Gift of the Givers and CSN have been able to assist so quickly.'



(l-r): Dr Imtiaz Sooliman – Gift of the Givers Founder, Mr Muhammad Rayhaan Sooliman – Gift of the Givers Operations Director, Dr Yasiera Mahomed Suliman – Caring Sister Network (CSN) and Islamic Medical Association Durban Chairperson, Prof Khathutshelo Percy Mashige – Dean and Head of School of Health Science, Mahomed Essack and Khatija Essack – CSN executive committee, Dr Naimah Ebrahim Khan – Academic Leader in Optometry UKZN and optometry students.

East Coast Radio – a Ray of Sunshine for UKZN Amid Covid-19

When COVID-19 struck in 2020 the financial impact on companies and businesses was felt throughout the world with many having to shut down while others struggled to survive.

Among them were donors who provide UKZN with financial assistance – including bursaries. This resulted in huge anxiety for students and others in the University community who feared it would cause a drop off in support.

One of the companies which stood firm that year in its contribution was East Coast Radio (ECR) – the popular KwaZulu-Natal-based station awarded 10 Media Studies bursaries and to date has supported a total of 30 students.

ECR and the UKZN Foundation got together in October this year for a celebration of the awards as well as for the University to acknowledge the radio station's generous financial assistance.

ECR Managing Director Ms Boni Mchunu, who is very passionate about education, expressed her excitement at meeting the recipients and emphasised the station's commitment to contribute to a better future for its bursary

achievers. 'An individual is liberated through education – you become a different person with a qualification. I also think it is important to have connections with a brand and management team such as ECR,' said Mchunu.

Bursary winner Mr Nduduzo Nkomo said he felt so relieved after receiving the ECR bursary. 'This year I had no funding and thus faced a lot of challenges. I depended on family support which was also a problem as my sister is the sole bread winner for the six people in our home,' said Nkomo. 'Another thing I was constantly worried about was getting my certificate after finishing this degree so I could use it in my hunt for a job. After receiving the ECR award, I was over the moon! I could focus on my studies and I was relieved that I will get my certificate when I finish studying this year.'

Said Nkomo: 'When I received the news about the bursary a huge burden was lifted off my shoulders. Thank you East Coast Radio and may you continue to help others.'

The UKZN Foundation echoes Nkomo's words: Thank you East Coast Radio for bringing relief to our financially distressed students. Siyabonga!



East Coast Radio bursary awarded to media students with ECR's Styles Mbatha and Yvette Pillay.

BANKSETA Promoting Transformation in SA

The Bank Sector Education and Training Authority (BANKSETA) has awarded bursaries worth millions of rands to deserving UKZN students since 2019.

Students who benefitted are in the School of Accounting, Economics and Finance (SAEF) at the College of Law and Management Studies under the Dean and Head of School, Professor Mabutho Sibanda.

BANKSETA promotes transformation and skills development for individuals in the banking sector which is essential for the creation of prosperity generally.

The Authority donated R8, 4 million towards the development of 111 SAEF postgraduate students in 2019 while this year it has awarded bursaries worth more than R3 million to SAEF and School of Education candidates.

The awards make a significant difference to the life of each recipient while also helping to uplift their families and communities.

BANKSETA bursary holders thanked the Authority for its support:

Ms Juhi Bhaan, a fourth-year Finance student, said



Ms Juhi Bhaan – fourth year finance student.

initially she had to depend financially on her single mother and that proved to be very stressful. 'BANKSETA funding was such a relief for me and my mum – it lifted a weight off our shoulders. I am very thankful and will forever remember this support and contribution towards my education and personal development,' said Bhaan.

Mr Okuhle Dlame, a Postgraduate Diploma in Accounting candidate, said high travel costs had been among several challenges he faced. 'Another huge concern for me was whether my mum would be able to pay my tuition fees in time for me to receive my final results. BANKSETA has covered all my expenses including tuition fees, transport and even data enabling me to attend online lectures. Thank you BANKSETA for improving my financial knowledge through informative webinars and also for making my dream of being a Chartered Accountant a step closer to coming true.'

The cooperation and generous support provided to UKZN and its students by BANKSETA are highly appreciated.



Mr Okuhle Dlame – postgraduate diploma in accounting student.

CAN YOU SHARE THE FESTIVE CHEER?

Support the UKZN – Student Food Security Programme

DONATE NOW

Scan this code and make a difference.



- It is estimated that 37000 students at UKZN arrive on our campuses hungry.
- Research has proven that food insecurity negatively affects academic performance.
- The UKZN Student Food Security Programme requires generous support from students, staff, alumni, businesses and members of the public.



Partner with us through your generous donation of at least R50. This will make a major difference in the lives of our students. Scan the QR code or visit the link provided to make your donation.



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