

DEPARTMENT	NAME STAFF	QUALIFICATION ACHIEVED
HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT	Mr L Mthimkhulu	MCom IR (UKZN)
OFFICE MANAGEMENT & TECHNOLOGY	Mrs V Moodley	PGDipHE (Rhodes)
	Mrs Motta	PGDipHE (Rhodes)
	Mr MW Ngcobo	PGDipHE (Rhodes)
	Mr MW Ngcobo	MED (HE) (UKZN)

5.3.3. Faculty of Natural Sciences

A major highlight for the Faculty of Natural Sciences was the commencement of the offering of a Postgraduate Diploma in Nature Conservation. This is the first postgraduate programme to be offered at MUT and it articulates to a Master's degree programme. The Faculty also received the CHE's conditional accreditation to offer a Master's Degree in Nature Conservation and Bachelor of Science in Medical Laboratory Science.

Instruction

Modes of lecture delivery within the Faculty included chalkboard, PowerPoint presentations, Blackboard, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Skype and various Web 2.0 applications.

Limitation on Access to Certain Courses

Space constraints limited the number of students that could be admitted to agricultural fields. A similar constraint was experienced in the Department of Information and Communication Technology as a result of inadequate computer laboratories. Student enrolment in the Biomedical Technology programme was limited by the capacity of the pathology industry to absorb only a fixed number of Medical Technology graduates each year (e.g. the private laboratories such as Ampath and Lancet and the national health laboratory services).

Student Awards and Achievements

The 2015 student pass rate for the Faculty was above 83%, with a number of students receiving the Dean's Commendation Award by virtue of their aggregate marks being at least 75%. In particular, student L P Tshapa, who was registered for the BTech in Nature Conservation, won the 2015 Vice-Chancellor's Award for the best student in the Faculty of Natural Sciences.

A contributing factor to the high pass rate in the Faculty might be attributed to the continuation of the engagement of Tutors who assisted students by reinforcing teaching and learning, thus enhancing understanding of what was learnt during classroom and laboratory instructions. The other contributing factor to the high pass rate, in relevant

departments, was the student field trips funded through the DHET's Teaching Development Grant. Field trips are one of the most effective teaching techniques compared to pure lectures and may also be used to help students recognise problems and define problems, especially in fields of agriculture and food science, thus enhancing understanding of these instructional offerings.

Staff Appointments and Qualifications

The following appointments were made in 2015:

- Mr V N Ndou (MSc) was appointed as a Lecturer in the Department of Community Extension;
- Mr R Lentsoane (MSc) and Mrs L D Mbuyisa (MSc) were appointed in the Department of Nature Conservation;
- Mr A S Mabaso (MSc) was appointed a lecturer in the Department of Mathematical Sciences;
- Dr Z L Kwitshana (PhD) was appointed as Head of Department in Biomedical Sciences;
- Mrs V Nundkissor (B Tech) and Mrs K. Bhengu (B Tech) were appointed as Junior Lecturer and Control Laboratory Technologist respectively in the Department of Biomedical Sciences.
- Ms S Shezi (BTech Nature Conservation) was appointed in terms of the nGAP programme; and
- Mr MB Mutanga (MSc) was appointed as a Contract Lecturer in the Department of Information and Communication Technology.

Mr BMS Khawula completed the Master's Degree in Public Management at the Durban University of Technology and the graduation ceremony was held in April 2016.

5.4 Academic Progress in Different Disciplines and Levels of Study

Student Enrolments

Figure 5.7 below shows MUT's student headcount enrolments including Work Integrated Learning (WIL) over the period 2013 to 2015. Enrolment in the Faculty of Engineering grew from 41% to 44% whereas the enrolment in the Faculty of Management Sciences decreased from 41% to 38%. The Faculty of Natural Sciences' enrolment remained unchanged at 18%.