



KWAZULU-NATAL COLLEGE OF NURSING - KZNCN

NEWS

APRIL 2024 TO
MARCH 2025

MESSAGE FROM COLLEGE PRINCIPAL DR SZ MTHEMBU

LIGHTING THE SPARK OF NURSING



As the Principal of the KwaZulu-Natal College of Nursing (KZNCN), it is an opportune time to reflect on the remarkable milestones, of this college notwithstanding the challenges we've faced and the triumphs we've celebrated together, our capacity to be resilient and stay united as a College has been our strength. The KZNCN employees have worked tirelessly and demonstrated dedication in offering nursing education programmes in the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Health. This being the first newsletter of the College, it is critical for the manner in which the college functions to be portrayed.

The KZNCN is a Public Higher Education Institution which is located within the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Health (KZNDOH). The College seeks to offer critical nurse training programmes to the in-service and direct entry students to the KZNDOH and the college. The reforms in nursing education has resulted in a change to the programmes offered from 2020. The programmes currently being offered include the Diploma in Nursing (R171) and the Advanced Diploma in Midwifery (R1497).

In a bid to promote inclusivity in the education of nurses, the eleven campuses of the college are located in both urban and rural campuses which accommodate students from the entire province. Career progression of in-service nurses is also a priority to the college, and has therefore offered a Recognition or Prior Learning programme to Enrolled and Auxiliary Nurses of the KZNDOH in order for them to access the Diploma in Nursing Programme.

All programmes of the college are accredited by the South African Nursing Council and Council on Higher Education. Governance of the college is the responsibility of an appointed College Council and Senate, ensuring that the nurse training programmes are academically sound and appropriate to the communities we serve.

The KZNCN is getting ready for the implementation of Postgraduate Diploma programmes, in line with the vision of the KZNDOH to offer a sustainable quality health service. All staff of the college will strive to for the betterment of nursing education in the province, one lecturer, one pen and one book at a time.

In the words of Nelly Bly: "I've always had the feeling that nothing is impossible if one applies a certain amount of energy in the right direction. If you want to do it, you can do it".

To all KZNCN students, I am delighted of the palpable academic, ethical, professional, emotional and intellectual growth and development, let us continue "Lighting the Spark of Nursing"

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OVERVIEW OF THE KZNCN

The KwaZulu-Natal College of nursing (KZNCN) is a public nursing college that offers programmes accredited by the South African Nursing Council and Council on Higher Education. The college is administered under the Department of Health in KwaZulu-Natal and comprises of a head office and eleven (11) Campuses vastly located across the various districts of the Province. The programmes of the KZNCN specifically address the needs of the KZN province, South Africa and the World in general, with a focus on professional, legal and ethical foundations of nursing. Students are guided by passionate academic staff to become competent nurse practitioners with scientific background.

The College offers both Undergraduate and Post Graduate Programmes to bursary and in-service students. Our programs are comprised of theoretical and clinical component and students are placed in clinical facilities across KZN province for clinical learning experiences as directed by the South African Nursing Council (SANC). All programmes offered are accredited by the South African Nursing Council (SANC) and the Council on Higher Education (CHE) and registered with SAQA.

The KZNCN Head Office is located at:
1 Hyslop Road Pietermaritzburg

All campuses except for Victoria Mxenge are offering the Diploma in Nursing and Advanced Diploma in Midwifery Programmes. Victoria Mxenge is currently offering the Advanced

| CAMPUS | DISTRICT |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| Addington | Ethekweni |
| Benedictine | Zululand |
| Charles Johnson Memorial | UMzinyathi |
| Greys | Umgundlovu |
| Harry Gwala | Umgundlovu |
| Madadeni | Amajuba |
| Ngwelezane | King Cetshway |
| Prince Mshiyeni | Ethekwini |
| Port-Shepstone | Ugu |
| Rk Khan | Ethekwini |
| Victoria Mxenge | Ethekwini |

Diploma
in
Midwifery



NEW NURSING QUALIFICATIONS

A BRIEF OVERVIEW ON THE TRANSFORMATION OF NURSING EDUCATION IN SOUTH AFRICA

Nursing Education in South Africa has undergone significant changes over the decades. The changes aim to improve the quality of healthcare, adapt to evolving health needs and respond to global trends.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF NURSE TRAINING IN SOUTH AFRICA

- Before 1990s: Hospital – Based training programs dominated
- 1990s : Reforms led to transition to academic based nursing education; integration of nursing education into universities.
- Post-Apartheid Changes: Strive for equitable access and transformation in the healthcare sector.

KEY CHANGES IN NURSING EDUCATION

Change from hospicentric training to comprehensive training programmes

Incorporation of evidence-based practice, critical thinking and research methodologies.

Requirements changed according to educational standards of non-nursing programmes

Emergence of Post Graduate qualifications for Specialisation

Changes to approvals, accreditation and registration

| PROGRAMME | DURATION | CREDITS | NQF LEVEL | SCOPE OF PRACTICE |
|--|----------|---------|-----------|---|
| Post Graduation Diploma: 12 Specializations | 1 year | 120 | 8 | Still awaited from SANC |
| Degree in Nursing | 4 Years | 480 | 8 | General nurse - comprehensive nurse care offering unstable and complicated patient care |
| Advanced Diploma in Midwifery | 1 Year | 120 | 7 | Basic Midwife Comprehensive midwifery practice, Independent, Registered, Accountable and Responsible |
| Diploma in Nursing General Nurse | 3 Years | 360 | 6 | Offer basic nursing care, stable and complicated care, Unit and not facility management |
| Higher Certificate in Nursing Auxiliary Nurse | 1 Year | 120 | 5 | Offer elementary nursing and |



RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING

The KwaZulu-Natal College of Nursing (KZNCN) has introduced Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) programmes to un-qualifying nurses employed within the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Health (KZNDOH) to access the Diploma in nursing programme (R171).

Recognition of Prior Learning is defined as a means for identification, assessment & acknowledgement of individual's skills, knowledge & attitudes obtained through informal and/or formal learning within the context of a specific qualification, which in this case is the (EN & ENA) qualifications, irrespective of where it has been acquired. Prior knowledge and experience is acknowledged and measured against the qualification competencies in which applicants want to be admitted for.

The RPL for access (which is offered by the KZNCN): means to provide an alternative access to the programme of learning for those who don't meet the formal entry requirements for admission. The RPL programme will offer nurses who do not meet the Diploma in nursing admission requirements, to apply for access with their matric Certificates, together with meeting the standards and requirements for the RPL for access programme.

Currently the admission requirements for 3yr Diploma in Nursing Programme is:

National Senior Certificate with a Diploma Pass

Minimum: 25 points

English L4 Home Language/First Additional Language L3

Maths L3/ Maths Literacy L5

Life Science/Physical Science L4

Life Orientation L4 and

Any other 2 subjects.

The College runs the RPL programme, which is advertised in time through the intranet.

The programme runs for 5-6 weeks. Nurses who have successfully gone through the RPL programme will then be able to apply for the 3yr Diploma in Nursing when the advert comes out. A data base of all RPL'd nurses is kept by the College for acceptance into the programme. The short course in RPL commenced in 2020, with the 1st batch of nurses accessing the Diploma in Nursing Programme, via the RPL for access route in 2021. The programme has yielded some success, although challenges are still being evaluated, for quality improvement



RESEARCH DAY KZNCN

As an education institution the KZNCN acknowledges the critical importance of research. Research is integral to the nursing profession, in enhancing both clinical practice and education, and could contribute to improved patient care and health outcomes, whilst contributing to the evolution of healthcare delivery.

In promoting sharing of research conducted by academic staff of the KZNCN as well as guest researchers throughout the country, the research day of the

KZNCN was held virtually on the 20th March 2024. The event was well attended, and guests included Dr. SC Tshabalala – HOD KZNDOH, Chairperson of the KZNCN College Council Prof. Bhengu, academic and clinical staff of the KZNDOH.

There were a variety of presenters who were able to contribute considerably and share valuable and current knowledge on this day. A total of 12 academic presentations which were made on the day as follows:

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Prof ZPB Luvuno (Guest) | Bridging the gap: Strengthening healthcare access for key and priority populations, towards UNAIDS 95-95-95, the role of the nurse |
| Prof VE Matahela (UNISA) | Fostering excellence and empowering nurse educators through personal mastery and decolonization. |
| Dr CLM Mabena (SANC) | Experiences of primary health care nurses regarding the promotion of SRH communication with grandparents in Tswane District, Gauteng Province. |
| Ms BQ Mncube (KZNCN): | Exploring the views of nursing students regarding their clinical accompaniment at a selected nursing campus in KwaZulu-Natal |
| Ms N Mazibuko (KZNCN): | Developing, implementing and evaluating recommendations for undergraduate student nurses to manage burnout, compassion fatigue and promote compassion satisfaction at a nursing college in semi-rural and mid-lands, KwaZulu-Natal. |
| Ms H Ngcobo (KZNCN): | Exploring nurse educator' perceptions towards the utilization of a blended learning approach during the coronavirus pandemic in a nursing education institution in KwaZulu-Natal. |
| Mr V Sibiya (KZNCN): | Factors influencing collaborative referral systems between traditional health practitioners and nurses in Nongoma sub district, KwaZulu-Natal Province, South Africa. |
| Ms SNP Mazeka (KZNCN): | Knowledge, Attitude and practices of caregivers regarding vitamin A supplementation in children below five years old in Ugu District. |
| Mrs V Nagura (KZNCN): | The knowledge, attitude, and perceptions of people with T2DM as related to self-management practices in the Ugu District of KwaZulu-Natal |
| Mrs K Rajbally (KZNCN): | The knowledge, attitudes and perceptions of newly qualified professional nurses towards health research in uMgungundlovu District, KZN South Africa. |
| Mrs N Ngwenya (KZNCN): | Experiences of newly qualified professional nurses in a regional hospital in the Gauteng Province. |
| Mrs S Pillay (KZNCN): | The use of traditional medicine by caregivers for children under the age of five years as health seeking behavior. |

The efforts of all participants, attendees and co-ordinators from the KZNCN are acknowledged in making this Research Day successful.

There was very robust discussions on all of the presentations.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

Kwazulu-Natal College of Nursing is an Institution of Higher learning and we abide by the prescripts of such an institution.

Students are a very crucial component of the existence of the College. The College has a student Representative Council in each campus, and each campus is represented by one student in the Provincial Student Representative council (PLRC).

The PLRC is one of the Committees of the College Council and it consists of eleven portfolios, four of which form the Executive Structure of the PSRC

The PSRC works with Mrs B.G. Mhlongo, who has been allocated to liaise with them on behalf of the College Management.

We are delighted that Mr. Siphelele Ndebele, a final year student from Charles Johnson Memorial Campus has been steering this ship as a President of the PSRC for the last two years.

Together with his team they managed to get the PSRC to transition in order to fit into the new governance structure for the College.

The PSRC will be vacating the office at the end of 2024, officially making way for a new PSRC under a new President.

We congratulate the outgoing PSRC for the work well done.



ANNUAL GRADUATION CEREMONY

THE KWAZULU-NATAL COLLEGE OF NURSING (KZNCN) CELEBRATES THE ACHIEVEMENT OF GRADUANDS AT A PRESTIGIOUS CEREMONY

On the 19th of September 2024 the KZNCN celebrated the achievements of students at a prestigious graduation ceremony which took place at the Olive Convention Centre in Durban. Graduands were reminded that the road to success was long and winding, but with their hard work and persistence had driven them to accomplish their goals.

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Diploma in Nursing (Community Psychiatric) and Midwifery R425

| Campus | Names |
|--------------|---------------------------|
| Harry Gwala: | Mdladla Londiwe |
| Madadeni: | Mdlolo Lungisi Kwandisile |
| Ngwelezana: | Zulu Ngobile Nolwazi |
| RK Khan: | Nkaninde Siobuhle |

Diploma in Nursing R171

| | |
|--------------|---------------------|
| Greys: | Manyathi Z. Ntobeko |
| Harry Gwala: | Singh C. Savannah |
| Madadeni: | Ncanana P. Busiswe |
| Ngwelezana: | Nkainde Sinobuhle |

Overall Top Achiever R425

| | |
|----------|-----------------|
| RK Khan: | Pillay R. Kelly |
|----------|-----------------|

Overall Top Achiever R171

| | |
|--------|---------------------|
| Greys: | Manyathi Z. Ntobeko |
|--------|---------------------|

Summa Cum Laude R171

| | |
|--------------|-------------------|
| Harry Gwala: | Singh C. Savannah |
|--------------|-------------------|

The ceremony was well attended and included dignitaries internal and external to the KZN Department of Health i.e. the Honourable Mec for Health Ms N Simelane, Head of Department Dr Tshabalala Senior Manco members, the College Council Chairperson Prof. Bhengu and members, as well as the Chief Nursing Officer, Graduands were reminded that they need to work conscientiously and serve their patients with the respect and care they were grounded with during their training.



COUNCIL ON HIGHER EDUCATION ACCREDITATION VISITS

COUNCIL ON HIGHER EDUCATION (CHE) ACCREDITATION VISIT

Council on Higher Education (CHE) conducted two accreditation visits to KwaZulu Natal College of Nursing and its campuses. These visits were conducted for the following two programmes:

Diploma in Nursing: on the 7th of October 2024 and
Advanced Diploma in Midwifery: on the 16th of October 2024

The purpose of the visits was to quality assure CHE-accredited programmes offered by the College and to verify compliance with the Criteria for Programme Accreditation. The first visit for the Diploma in Nursing Programme was conducted in Addington Campus. A hybrid approach for this visit was adopted in which the Chairperson was physically onsite. A panel of peer reviewers from CHE joined virtually. KZN CN Management staff, Campus Principals, academic staff, support staff, and Diploma in Nursing students attended virtually, and others attended in person. The second visit for the Advanced Diploma in Midwifery Programme was conducted in Office Park Townhill Hospital. The visit was conducted virtually by the CHE panel members. KZN CN Management staff, Campus Principals, academic staff, support staff, and Advanced Diploma Nursing students attended the visit in person. All KZN CN campuses participated in the accreditation visits.

Videos of supporting evidences and Campus infrastructure were submitted via online links to CHE as per their directive.

KZN CN was commended by CHE panel members for the academic achievements/qualifications (NQF LEVEL 9 & 10), of academic staff members and the staff was encouraged to publish research papers/ articles as a higher education institution.



NURSE EDUCATORS EXCELLENCE AWARDS

KWAZULU-NATAL COLLEGE OF NURSING NURSE EDUCATOR EXCELLENCE AWARDS INTRODUCTION

The Nurse Educator Excellence initiative was conducted as part of the Annual Graduation Ceremony for the first time in the history of KZN CN to acknowledge and honor all academic staff who have excelled in their duties, thus contributing to the development of nursing education in the Province of KwaZulu-Natal. The main goal of the Nurse Educator Excellence Awards is to acknowledge the contributions and accomplishments of individual nurse educators to the realization of the College mission and to promote and disseminate good practices in nursing education.

The

The objectives of the Nurse Educator Excellence Awards are to:

- Recognize and promote excellence in learning and teaching performance.
- Honor dedicated creative and effective Nurse Educators.
- Encourage best practice in Campuses.
- Improve the well-being of nursing students, highlight the initiatives that promote professionalism, remove barriers, and build resilience.
- Create an environment that will encourage and sustain investments in learning and teaching
- Actively promote the growth of nursing students and/ or other nurse educators.
- Positively influence the professional practice of nursing and the public's image of nursing through excellence in teaching.

Nomination Process

A call was sent out to all Academic Staff in the Campuses of KwaZulu-Natal College of Nursing to take part in the Nurse Excellence Awards.

An online submission form had to be filled in with supporting evidences in the form of photos, testimonials, student feedback reports, letters of appreciation, etc.

A central Awards Committee blinded and reviewed all nominations that met the stipulated criteria .

The following nominees per campus were awarded:

| Campus | Awardee |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| Addington | Dr S. Moodley |
| Benedictine | Mr DT Mhlungu |
| CJM | Ms BF Sikhakhane |
| Greys | Dr S. Chandramohan |
| Harry Gwala | Mrs N Jacpasad |
| Madadeni | Mrs HN Mthembu |
| Ngwelezane | Mrs DF Xaba |
| Prince Mshiyeni | Ms P. Naidoo |
| Port Shepstone | Ms L. Subramoney |
| RK Khan | Ms R. Naidoo |
| Victoria Mxenge | Mrs BV Myeni |



NEW APPOINTMENTS

1. New Appointments
2. Announcements of achievements

KwaZulu-Natal College of Nursing (KZNCN) welcomed the following newly appointed staff to the College in 2024:-

- Mrs CR Fynn (Promoted to Examination Officer at KZNCN)
- Mrs A Ngcobo (Promoted to Examination Officer at KZNCN)
- Ms NP Ndaba (Newly appointed Examination Officer at KZNCN)

Congratulations and on behalf of all the staff at KZNCN ,

a warm welcome and lots of good wishes on becoming part of our growing team..



Congratulations to KZNCN staff on your achievements in 2024:

- Dr S Maharaj: Doctorate Degree
- Ms HF Ngcoo: Masters Nursing Degree
- Mr MN Ngubane- ND: Public Management
- Mrs ZN Phakathi- ND: Public Management
- Ms SR Chamane -ND: Public Management.

Congratulations to KZNCN staff on your achievements in 2024:



Congratulations! We're so very proud of you! Your hard work and perseverance have paid off

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KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE
HEALTH
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



KwaZulu-Natal Department of Health



KZN Department of Health



kznhealth



@kznhealth

**GROWING
KWAZULU-NATAL
TOGETHER**

FAREWELLS

Farewell to the following KZN College of Nursing colleagues-

- Dr NC Shangase
- Mrs K Govender
- Dr BM Dube
- Dr EN Hlongwa

The KZN College of Nursing bid farewell to the following staff in 2024:-

Dr NC Shangase

Dr NC Shangase, was appointed in the Department in 2012 as the Examination Officer in the Examination and Curriculum section of the College and retired on the **30 June 2024**. Dr Shangase obtained her doctoral degree in 2022 whilst working in the Department and had many academic research articles published. A farewell lunch was held to bid farewell to Dr Shangase at the College on the 21st June 2024. In attendance was her family which was enjoyed by all.



Mrs K Govender

Mrs Govender, Administrative Clerk, joined the College in 2007 in the Human

Resource component. She attained her National Diploma in HRM through the HRD in-service bursary in 2014. Mrs Govender on the **31 July 2024**. The College said their goodbyes at a luncheon on the 26th July 2024.



resigned

Farewell to all these awesome ladies

Who were an integral part of our team. Their departures were truly bittersweet

Dr BM Dube

Dr Dube was appointed as the College Project Manager on the 1 December 2018 to manage the processes of accreditation to offer higher education programmes by the College. Dr Dube resigned on the 31.08.2024.



Dr EN Hlongwa

Dr Hlongwa, Vice Principal at KZNCN, retired on the 31 October 2024.

Dr Hlongwa served the Department of Health for 35 years and was promoted to various Senior levels within Nursing Education.

A retirement function was held on the 15 November 2025. In attendance was Dr Hlongwa's family and Representatives from all Nursing Campuses.



UPCOMING POST GRADUATE DIPLOMA PROGRAMMES



GROWING KWAZULU-NATAL TOGETHER

Milestones with PG Diploma Curriculum Development

PROVISIONAL ACCREDITATION BY CHE

Mental Health Nursing

Nephrology Nursing

Midwifery

Critical Care (Adult)

Perioperative Care Nursing

Orthopaedic Nursing

Ophthalmology Nursing

Emergency Nursing

Child Nursing

Primary Care Nursing

AWAITING CHE ACCREDITATION

Oncology and Palliative Care Nursing.

Child Nursing

PHOTO GALLERY



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PHOTO GALLERY



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KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE
HEALTH
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



KwaZulu-Natal Department of Health

KZN Department of Health



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**GROWING
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Nurse Educator Awards



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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Acknowledgements and thanks go out to all who contributed content to this newsletter. Thanks go out to Mrs ZN Phakathi who co-ordinated all inputs into this newsletter. To Management of the KwaZulu-Natal College of Nursing under the Leadership of Dr. SZ Mthembu and all staff , the inputs, and editorial checks are appreciated.

