

The University Capacity Development Programme Office

Cordially invites you to a

Grant Writing Essentials for Emerging Academics – From Research Idea to Grant Proposal



DATE

2 October 2026



TIME

09h00 – 16h00



Southern Sun,
Elangeni Hotel

Workshop Overview

Grant writing is a skill that can be developed through appropriate guidance, practical tools and continued practice. This workshop is designed for emerging academics who want to build their confidence and develop the knowledge required to pursue research funding opportunities. Participants will be guided through the grant-development process, from identifying a suitable funding call and interpreting its requirements to transforming a research idea into a clear and persuasive proposal.

The workshop will address essential proposal components, including the problem statement, objectives, methodology, work plan, budget and anticipated research contribution. The session will also highlight common reasons applications are unsuccessful and the importance of mentorship, collaboration and internal review. Participants will leave with practical tools, templates and guidance to support the development of competitive grant applications.

To register, scan the QR code or click the button below



REGISTER

Meet the facilitators



Professor Lufuno Makhado is a Full Professor in the Department of Public Health, Faculty of Health Sciences, at the University of Venda. He is an accomplished academic, researcher, mentor, and higher education leader whose work spans public health, nursing science, epidemiology, biostatistics, HIV/TB integrated care, epilepsy research, community engagement, and Ubuntu-informed scholarship. His academic formation includes postdoctoral studies at the Semel Institute, UCLA, Department of Psychiatry and Biobehavioral Sciences, as well as a PhD in Nursing completed through a joint sandwich programme between Johns Hopkins University and North-West University. He also completed international training in problem-based learning, curriculum planning and evaluation at McMaster University in Canada, strengthening his contribution to innovative teaching and learning in higher education.

Professor Makhado has extensive teaching and learning experience across undergraduate and postgraduate programmes, particularly in Community Nursing Science, Research Methodology, Health Informatics, Advanced Epidemiology and Biostatistics, and Public Health. Over the course of his academic career, he has supervised numerous master's and doctoral candidates to completion, mentored emerging and established scholars, and contributed to research capacity-building across South African and international institutions. He has also held significant academic leadership roles, including Deputy Dean for Research and Postgraduate Studies in the Faculty of Health Sciences at the University of Venda. A prolific scholar, Professor Makhado has authored and co-authored a substantial body of peer-reviewed publications across HIV care, TB/HIV integration, epilepsy, mental health, adolescent health, gender-based violence, nursing education, health systems, and the impact of COVID-19 on teaching and learning. His publications appear in leading journals such as BMC Nursing, PLOS ONE, AIDS and Behavior, Curationis, Frontiers in Neurology, Epilepsia Open, and INQUIRY: The Journal of Health Care Organization, Provision, and Financing. His scholarship demonstrates a sustained commitment to producing knowledge that is socially responsive, ethically grounded, and relevant to communities.



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