

Study for a doctorate at a UK university

9 November 2015 - The University Branch of the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET) has embarked on a Teaching Development Grant Collaborative Programmes project, in collaboration with the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University (NMMU).

There is about R40 million available for university staff and DHET staff who are actively involved in the work of universities who aspire to enrol for a Doctorate in Business Administration (in Higher Education Management) with the University of Bath, in the United Kingdom (UK).

The Project will also lead to the development of a Postgraduate Diploma in Higher Education for professional staff in higher education, with courses in such areas as maximising the use of technology in administrative/governance processes, financial management and accountability issues in higher education, high level project management and the provision of demand-driven specialist workshops and seminars to address specific needs.

The grant caters for all public universities in South Africa. The programme aims to capacitate Senior Professionals, Administrative, Management and support staff. The project will provide high level development opportunities for all the personnel involved in leading and managing sections, and divisions linked to the academic project in universities that contribute to supporting and enhancing the general quality of teaching, student learning and success.

The target group from the universities includes Deans of Student Affairs, Financial Aid, Student Housing, Student Wellness, Teaching and learning, Student /Academic development, Research, Academic Planning, Quality enhancement, Engagement, and Institutional Research as well as Managers and Senior Faculty Administrators.

Full financial support will be provided for two cohorts, each of the 27 senior professional staff and one from each university. The first cohort will start in January 2016 and the second cohort in January 2017 respectively. Candidates for the scholarship will be selected by a panel chaired by the Deputy Director General (DDG): University Branch.

The collaborative group of universities that will work on the development and running of the programme includes the Cape Peninsula University of Technology, the University of Fort Hare, the University of Johannesburg, the University of Mpumalanga, the University of Pretoria and the University of the Western Cape. In the near future the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University will be offering a Post Graduate Diploma in Higher Education Management.

By Michael Radzilani

