



## higher education & training

Department:  
Higher Education and Training  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

**Directorate: University Research Support and Policy Development**

**Communiqué: Volume 1 Number 2 - August 2025**

### **Policy on the Evaluation of Creative Research Outputs and Innovations Produced by Public Higher Education Institutions (2017)**

To all DVC's for Research and Senior Directors of Research

#### **Amended closing date for the 2025 submission cycle of the Creative Research Outputs and Innovations via the Research Output Submission System (ROSS)**

On 30 May 2025, the Department of Higher Education and Training (the Department) issued a communique (**Annexure A**) informing all public higher education institutions of a revised opening date for the **2025 submission cycle** of the Research Output Submission System (ROSS) for the Creative and Innovation Research Outputs. The change was to accommodate the ongoing system upgrades to enable an automated peer review process, supporting the strengthening of the implementation of the Policy on the Evaluation of Creative Outputs and Innovations Produced by South African Public Higher Education Institutions, 2017 (the policy).

Due to unforeseen challenges, the implementation of the automated peer review process on ROSS was delayed. The Department recognises that these delays, along with the revised ROSS opening date, may affect the universities' submission timelines. To ensure that the universities have sufficient time to quality assure the submissions, comply with the policy and improve the quality of submitted Creative and Innovation Research Outputs, the Department has extended the deadline for submission of Creative and Innovation Research Outputs for the **2025 submission cycle**.

The deadline for the **2025 submission cycle** of the Creative and Innovation Research Outputs on ROSS has been extended to **14 November 2025**. Please note that this change in date is **only applicable to the 2025 submission cycle**.

Yours sincerely,

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**Deputy Director-General: University Education Branch**

Date: 08.08.2025