

Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences



20 October, 2020

To All Partner Institutions

Dear Colleagues,

University Capacity Development Programme (UCDP) National Collaborative Project: Strengthening Academic Staff Development in Mathematical and Statistical Sciences in South Africa

I am pleased to inform you that the above project funding is still available until 31st December, 2022. The University of Pretoria (UP) continues to be the lead university in this project – which will still be coordinated by the Dean of the Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences.

For your convenience, please, find attached updated and useful information about the following aspects of the project:

- 2020 Funding Guidelines which have been revised to reflect the current public health reality;
- Updated list of partner institutions;
- Requests for project related information;
- Contact Details;
- The 2020 2022 budget

I would like to further iterate that one of the goals of the UCDP is "to increase the number of permanent academic and professional staff at South African universities who hold doctoral degrees and to build post graduate supervisory capacity in South African universities." It is, therefore, imperative that both established and emerging academics take full advantage of this opportunity.

In addition the need for submitting up to date information as requested by UP cannot be overemphasised. This information will help us account for new members of staff in institutions as well as those that have left. Further this information forms part of annual reports on the progress and impact of the grant. The Department of Higher Education and Training needs this information annually. Accurate information also enhances timely communication between institutions in the consortium and UP.

Sincerely yours,

Prof. M. K. Banda.

Academic Leader