The University is a values-based, research-intensive university that equips its students to succeed in a rapidly changing world by providing students with inquiry-led training and learning opportunities. The University of Pretoria’s long-term Strategic Plan, UP 2025, captures the essence of a shared vision, aiming to sustain UP’s quality and relevance as a university that is firmly rooted in Africa, and to harness its existing and future potential for diversity. UP strives to ensure that it is recognised in the global marketplace of knowledge production.

UP has nine faculties and a business school:

• Economic and Management Sciences
• Education
• Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology
• Humanities
• Law
• Natural and Agricultural Sciences
• Theology
• Veterinary Science (the only faculty of its kind in South Africa)
• the Gordon Institute of Business Science (GIBS).

The University of Pretoria came into existence in 1908 as the Pretoria branch of the Transvaal University College. The College became a fully-fledged university in 1930 and the colloquial name Tuks, or Tukkies, was derived from the acronym TUC for Transvaal University College. UP’s current facilities portfolio consists of more than 860 buildings and structures spread over 107 sites located on seven campuses that cover 1100 hectares of land. In the 108 years of its existence the University has produced approximately 250 000 alumni.

The University prides itself on producing well-rounded, creative graduates, responsible, productive citizens and future leaders. Great emphasis is placed on student life and support as well as the advancement of sport, art, culture and music.

UP at a glance

The University’s considerable contribution to the skills pool is evidenced by the number of UP graduates as a percentage of the national pool of graduates produced by the 13 traditional public universities in 2014:

- 13% of graduates with 3-year first bachelor’s degrees
- 13.2% of graduates with 4-year first bachelor’s degrees
- 18% of all master’s-level graduates
- 14% of all doctoral-level graduates
- 23.2% of engineering degrees
- 15.4% of health sciences degrees
- 15.3% of natural sciences degrees

The University’s academic offering comprises:

- 137 academic departments
- 100 centres, institutes and bureaux
- 1453 study programmes
- 230 degrees, certificates and diplomas
- 179 undergraduate programmes
- 1274 postgraduate programmes

In 2015 UP issued:

- 13345 undergraduate and postgraduate degrees, certificates and diplomas
- 333 doctoral degrees

2015 UP student population:

- 59 514 students in total
- 49 152 contact students of whom 55% were women and 52.2% were black
- 4 298 international contact students
- 10 362 distance education students

TuksSport administers:

- > 30 sporting codes
- 8 000 combined membership
- 8 sports academies in partnership with the High Performance Centre (hpc): Swimming, Athletics, Football (Men), Tennis, Golf, Cricket, Judo and Traithlon

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