

## THE 6<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL RESEARCH COLLOQUIUM ON ACADEMIC MONITORING AND SUPPORT

### INVITATION AND CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

The University Teaching and Learning Office in partnership with the College of Law and Management Studies Teaching and Learning Unit invites the submission of abstracts

#### Theme

### EVALUATIONS OF AND REFLECTIONS ON EVIDENCE-BASED ACADEMIC MONITORING AND SUPPORT PROGRAMMES

#### *The Colloquium will be hosted as follows:*

##### Date

Wednesday, 28 November 2018

##### Time

08h00 to 17h00

##### Venue

Graduate School of Business and Leadership,  
Westville Campus, UKZN

##### Bookings

Click [HERE](#) to make a booking before  
Wednesday, 7 November 2018

##### Fee

Free to participants  
**Refreshments will be provided**

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Calls to improve the quality of education have been on the higher education agenda in South Africa for more than two decades. Stakeholders over the recent years have also been demanding for the accountability and transparency of higher education institutions with regards to their operations. For instance, the 2016 student protests revealed that universities cannot continue to operate as usual but must operate like any other business where their losses and gains are made public. In response to these demands, the University of KwaZulu-Natal has invested in increased academic support at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels. This year marks 12 years since the introduction of the AMS policy, yet, there has been little evidence that the academic support loop has indeed been closed. Specifically, there have been limited quantitative assessments of the effectiveness of the AMS programmes and equally missing have been qualitative studies that examine students' experiences of AMS. Thus, it is still not known whether these programmes have improved student outcomes. This status quo presents several challenges, chief being the ability of the higher education institutions to make evidence-based enhancements to the AMS programmes on offer.

In line with this background, the 2018 Academic Monitoring and Support Colloquium seeks to create an interface where the evidence-based effectiveness of the AMS programmes in the university can be debated. The colloquium will provide an opportunity to

- Discuss and unpack the effect of AMS programmes on students learning and development.
- Explore and share AMS experiences and best practices from four higher education institutions in KZN (UKZN, UNIZULU, DUT and MUT).

#### Papers which focus on the following are specifically invited:

1. Quantitative evaluations of AMS programmes (including uptake of AMS programmes)
2. Cohort analysis of the effect on AMS on student outcomes (retention, dropout, graduation)
3. Qualitative papers on students' experiences of AMS (including student satisfaction with the programmes)
4. College/Department self-evaluations of AMS programmes

The conference will also include keynote addresses, panel discussions and question and answer sessions.

We invite interested staff and students to present a paper/poster that addresses any of the above objectives. Click [HERE](#) to submit abstracts **NOT EXCEEDING 200** words. Deadline for registration and submission of abstracts is Wednesday, **7 November 2018**.

#### Presentations:

- Individual papers: 15 minutes plus 15 minutes discussion
- Poster Presentations

#### Hosted by:

College of Law and Management Studies Teaching and Learning Unit in partnership with University Teaching and Learning Office