

# 2024 UKZN School of Accounting, Economics & Finance Mentoring Programme\_ Understanding the challenges faced by students

\* Indicates required question

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1. Enter password to continue \*

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Untitled Section

## 2. Greetings,

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My name is Dr Sibongile Hlatshwayo. I am currently completing research entitled 'Students' experiences and perceived effect of the Mentoring Programme on their Academic outcomes in the School of Accounting, Economics and Finance at the University of KwaZulu-Natal'.

You are being invited to complete the accompanying google form in which we ask you to provide us with your comments and thoughts on the 2024 SAEF Mentoring Programme. **All responses are completely anonymous** and we would be most grateful for your feedback.

The aim and purpose of this questionnaire and research is (1) to evaluate students' experiences of the SAEF Mentoring Programme, and (2) to analyse students' perceived effect of the SAEF Mentoring Programme on their academic outcomes.

The invitation to complete this google form questionnaire is extended to all students who are enrolled in the 2024 SAEF Mentoring Programme at UKZN. The questionnaire is completely anonymous. The study is not expected to involve any risks and/or discomforts. **All data collected is anonymous – No respondents can be identified.**

This research aims to evaluate and analyse how the SAEF Mentoring Programme is able to assist students in overcoming obstacles to their academic success. We hope to use the recommendations arising from this research to improve practices for student support at tertiary institutions.

This study has been ethically reviewed and approved by the UKZN Humanities and Social Sciences Research Ethics Committee (approval number HSSREC/00005210/2023).

In the event of any problems/concerns/questions you may contact the researcher at NhariS@ukzn.ac.za, or the UKZN Humanities & Social Sciences Research Ethics Committee, contact details as follows:

### **HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES RESEARCH ETHICS ADMINISTRATION**

Research Office, Westville Campus

Govan Mbeki Building

Private Bag X 54001

Durban 4000 KwaZulu-Natal, SOUTH AFRICA

Tel: 27 31 2604557- Fax: 27 31 2604609

Email: [HSSREC@ukzn.ac.za](mailto:HSSREC@ukzn.ac.za)

You may refuse to participate or withdraw from the questionnaire at any time with no negative consequence. Your responses to the questionnaire are completely anonymous and your responses will not be used for any purposes outside of this study.

All data, both electronic and hard copy, will be securely stored during the study and archived for 5 years. After this time, all data will be destroyed.

If you have any questions or concerns about participating in the study, please contact me or the UKZN Humanities & Social Sciences Research Ethics Committee via the contact details listed above.

Sincerely

Dr Sibongile Hlatshwayo

Please indicate your willingness to participate by selecting one of the following options:

*Mark only one oval.*

☐ I consent to my anonymous responses in the google form being used for research purposes as outlined above

☐ I do not consent to my anonymous responses in the google form being used for research purposes as outlined above

Untitled Section

3. What degree/diploma are you registered for in 2024? \*

*Mark only one oval.*

- ☐ Bachelor of Commerce in Accounting
- ☐ Bachelor of Commerce in Accounting (Extended Curriculum)
- ☐ Bachelor of Business Science
- ☐ Bachelor of Commerce Honours in Accounting
- ☐ Bachelor of Commerce Honours in Management Accounting
- ☐ Bachelor of Commerce Honours in Economics
- ☐ Bachelor of Commerce Honours in Finance
- ☐ Master of Accountancy Coursework (MACC)
- ☐ Master of Commerce in Economics (Coursework)
- ☐ Master of Commerce in Maritime Studies (Coursework)
- ☐ Master of Taxation (Coursework)
- ☐ Postgraduate Diploma in Accounting
- ☐ Postgraduate Diploma in Finance, Banking and Investment Management
- ☐ Postgraduate Diploma in Financial Planning
- ☐ Postgraduate Diploma in Maritime Studies

4. What year did you first register at University for your current qualification? \*

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5. What academic year of study are you in? \*

*Mark only one oval.*

- ☐ First year
- ☐ Second year
- ☐ Third year
- ☐ Fourth year/Honours/Postgraduate diploma
- ☐ Masters

6. The majority of your modules in 2024 are: \*

*Mark only one oval.*

- ☐ First year modules
- ☐ Second year modules
- ☐ Third year modules
- ☐ Fourth year/Honours/Postgraduate diploma modules
- ☐ Masters modules

7. Please indicate your race: \*

*Mark only one oval.*

- ☐ African
- ☐ Coloured
- ☐ Indian
- ☐ White

8. Please indicate your citizenship? \*

*Mark only one oval.*

- ☐ South African citizen
- ☐ Non-South African citizen

9. Please indicate your gender: \*

*Mark only one oval.*

- ☐ Male
- ☐ Female
- ☐ Other

10. What is/are currently the greatest challenge(s) that could prevent you from succeeding in your studies?

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11. What type of assistance and support do you feel you need to help you pass your modules?

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12. How do you hope the 2024 SAEF Mentoring Programme will provide you with the assistance and support that you feel you need to pass your modules?

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13. Do you believe the 2024 SAEF Mentoring Programme will help you in any other ways, aside from helping you to pass your modules? Please explain your answer.

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14. Thank you!



07 March 2024

Dr Michelle Deborah Hatch (412581)  
School of Accounting, Economics & Finance  
Westville Campus

Dear Dr Hatch,

Protocol reference number: HSSREC/00005210/2023

Project title: Students experiences and perceived effect of the Mentoring Programme on their Academic outcomes in the School of Accounting, Economics and Finance at the University of KwaZulu-Natal

### Approval Notification – Recertification Application

Your request for Recertification dated 26 February 2024 was received.

This letter confirms that you have been granted Recertification Approval for a period of one year from the date of this letter. This approval is based strictly on the research protocol submitted and approved in 2023.

Any alterations to the approved research protocol i.e. Questionnaire/Interview Schedule, Informed Consent Form, Title of the Project, Location of the Study must be reviewed and approved through the amendment/modification prior to its implementation. Please quote the above reference number for all queries relating to this study.

PLEASE NOTE: Research data should be securely stored in the school/department for a period of 5 years

Incidents of adverse events and serious adverse events (AEs and SAEs) should be reported in writing to HSSREC, the study sponsors, and any regulatory authority (where appropriate), within 7 working days of the occurrence for local sites and 14 days for all other South African sites.

This approval is valid for one year: 07 March 2025.

To ensure uninterrupted approval of this study beyond the approval expiry date, a progress report must be submitted to the Research Office on the appropriate form 2 - 3 months before the expiry date. A close-out report to be submitted when study is finished.

HSSREC is registered with the South African National Research Ethics Council (REC-040414-040).

Yours sincerely,

Professor Dipane Hlalele (Chair)  
/ms

Humanities & Social Sciences Research Ethics Committee  
UKZN Research Ethics Office Westville Campus, Govan Mbeki Building  
Postal Address: Private Bag X54001, Durban 4000  
Tel: +27 31 260 8350 / 4557 / 3587  
Website: <http://research.ukzn.ac.za/Research-Ethics/>

Founding Campuses: Edgewood Howard College Medical School Pietermaritzburg Westville

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9 November 2022

Dr Michelle Hatch  
School of Accounting, Economics & Finance  
College of Law and Management Studies  
Westville Campus UKZN  
Email: [Hatchm@ukzn.ac.za](mailto:Hatchm@ukzn.ac.za)

Dear Dr Hatch

**RE: PERMISSION TO CONDUCT RESEARCH**

Gatekeeper's permission is hereby granted for you to conduct research at the University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN), provided Ethical clearance has been obtained. We note the title of your research project is:

*"students' experiences and perceived effect of the Mentoring Programme on their academic outcomes in the School of Accounting, Economics and Finance at the University of KwaZulu-Natal".*

It is noted that you will be constituting your sample as follows:

- With a request for responses on the website. The questionnaire must be placed on the notice system <http://notices.ukzn.ac.za>. A copy of this letter (Gatekeeper's approval) must be simultaneously sent to ([govenderlog@ukzn.ac.za](mailto:govenderlog@ukzn.ac.za)) or ([ramkissoobh@ukzn.ac.za](mailto:ramkissoobh@ukzn.ac.za)).

Please ensure that the following appears on your questionnaire/attached to your notice:

- Ethical clearance approval letter;
- Research title and details of the research, the researcher and the supervisor;
- Consent form is attached to the notice/questionnaire and to be signed by user before he/she fills in questionnaire;
- gatekeepers approval by the Registrar.

You are not authorized to contact staff and students using the 'Microsoft Outlook' address book. Identity numbers and email addresses of individuals are not a matter of public record and are protected according to Section 14 of the South African Constitution, as well as the PAIA and POPI Act. For the release of such information over to yourself for research purposes, the University of KwaZulu-Natal will need express consent from the relevant data subjects. Data collected must be treated with due confidentiality and anonymity.

Yours sincerely



**Dr KE CLELAND: REGISTRAR**

**Office of the Registrar**

Postal Address: Private Bag X54001, Durban, 4000, South Africa

Telephone: +27 (0)31 260 7971 Email: [registrar@ukzn.ac.za](mailto:registrar@ukzn.ac.za) Website: [www.ukzn.ac.za](http://www.ukzn.ac.za)

Founding Campuses:  Edgewood  Howard College  Medical School  Pietermaritzburg  Westville

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