

**The University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN) is committed to meeting the objectives of Employment Equity to improve representivity within the Institution. Preference will be given to applicants from designated groups in accordance with our Employment Equity Plan.**

**COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE**

**RESEARCH SCIENTIST (1 POST)  
ONE YEAR FIXED TERM APPOINTMENT  
SCHOOL OF LIFE SCIENCES  
PIETERMARITZBURG CAMPUS**

**REFERENCE NO.: SLS 15/2025**

The SARChI Research Chair in Ecosystem Health and Biodiversity in KwaZulu-Natal and the Eastern Cape in the School of Life Sciences, University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN), Pietermaritzburg campus, is looking to employ a suitably qualified person as a research scientist. This position aims to continue the research on the effect of linear infrastructure on wildlife in South Africa, co-supervise honours and MSc postgraduates, produce peer-reviewed publications, present conference papers, and give management feedback. In addition, the candidate needs to have had experience in various research techniques, including carcass identification, genetic sample collection, camera trap use, occupancy modelling, analysing spatial movement data and/ or use of ecological niche modelling to investigate the distribution and biogeography of selected southern African vertebrates. Additionally, the candidate must have previous experience fostering international collaborations with other researchers in the field.

The incumbent will report to the SARChI Research Chair in Ecosystem Health and Biodiversity.

**Minimum requirements:**

- Doctoral degree (or proof of PhD submission) in Zoological or Ecological Sciences.
- A minimum of 2 years experience in researching the effect of linear infrastructure on wildlife, including field survey design and implementation.
- Experience using occupancy modelling, ecological niche modelling, ecological connectivity analysis, analysing spatial movement data, using ArcGIS Pro and advanced R statistics.
- Have a valid driver's license.

**Enquiries and details regarding this post may be directed to Prof. Colleen T. Downs at [Downs@ukzn.ac.za](mailto:Downs@ukzn.ac.za).**

**The remuneration will be in line with the UKZN fixed rates of pay. The closing date for receipt of applications is 05<sup>th</sup> April 2025.**

**Applicants are required to submit a detailed Curriculum Vitae, together with a cover letter indicating their experience in meeting the stipulated minimum requirements. Application documentation must be sent to Ms Preshnee Singh, e-mail: [SinghP7@ukzn.ac.za](mailto:SinghP7@ukzn.ac.za). The successful incumbent will commence duty in April 2025. Advert Reference Number MUST be clearly stated in the subject line.**

Kindly note that the University of KwaZulu-Natal ("the University") is required to process any Personal Information (as defined by the Protection of Personal Act, 2013 "POPIA") submitted by candidates when applying for positions at the University. The provision of the Personal Information is a requirement in terms of the University's recruitment and selection process. The retention of any personal

information is as a Consequence of the University being bound by legislative requirements and / or good governance practices as well as record keeping for statistical purposes. The University will endeavour to ensure that the appropriate security measures are in place and implemented for both electronic and paper-based formats that are used for processing of the personal information recorded through this recruitment and selection process.