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

# COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE

**POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOW: CROP IMPROVEMENT**

# SIX-MONTH FIXED-TERM APPOINTMENT

**School of Agricultural, Earth and Environmental Sciences PIETERMARITZBURG CAMPUS**

# REF NO. SAEES 01/2025

The School of Agricultural, Earth and Environmental Sciences (SAEES), University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN), is pleased to announce a six-month Postdoctoral Research Fellowship in Crop Improvement with the possibility of renewal beyond six months depending on productivity and funding availability. The postdoc fellow will support crop improvement initiatives on under-researched and previously neglected crops led by Dr Zamalotshwa Thungo; and will entail conducting and managing research, postgraduate student mentorship, and teaching.

**Minimum Requirements**

* + A PhD degree, completed between 2023 and 2025, in Plant Breeding or related disciplines
  + Proven experience with biotechnology-based research
  + A proven research track record as evidenced by at least five recent peer-reviewed ISI/DHET rated journal articles
  + Experience in working in multi-disciplinary teams
  + Experience in postgraduate mentorship

Eligible and suitable candidates are encouraged to apply. **The closing date for submitting applications is 20 June 2025.** This appointment will be made in line with the University Guidelines/benchmarks, which are available on the University Vacancies website. Enquiries and details regarding this post may be directed to Dr Z Thungo, 033 260 5440 or email: [thungoz@ukzn.ac.za](mailto:odindoa@ukzn.ac.za)

**Fellowship Award applications should include the following:**

A letter of motivation; C.V.; Full academic records; and contact details of three academic referees. Applications should be submitted to the School Administration: [sitholep@ukzn.ac.za.](mailto:sitholep@ukzn.ac.za) The School reserves the right not to fill the post until a suitable candidate is found.

**The 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 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. We refer you to the University’s relevant Section 18 notice at**

<http://vacancies.ukzn.ac.za/Libraries/General_Documents/Section_18_Notice_-_Employees_and_Potential_Employees.sflb.ashx>