

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.

**CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FROM INTERNAL UKZN PERMANENT ACADEMIC STAFF MEMBERS
WITHIN THE DISCIPLINE OF PHYSICS, SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE AND SCIENCE**

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE

**NODE DIRECTOR: NATIONAL ASTROPHYSICS AND SPACE SCIENCE PROGRAMME (NASSP)
(THREE YEAR FRACTIONAL APPOINTMENT)
SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE AND SCIENCE
DISCIPLINE OF PHYSICS
WESTVILLE CAMPUS**

Ref: SASc09/2026

The National Astrophysics and Space Science Programme (NASSP) is an NRF-funded programme for Honours and Masters students in space science, with a node at UKZN. The School seeks to appoint a suitable candidate to manage and develop the NASSP teaching programme for the School. The candidate should be familiar with the NASSP programme and have experience in space science research and supervision.

The Node Director will manage NASSP at UKZN, including the node institution budget, student recruitment and ongoing support, coordination of the academic programme and student activities, management of NASSP support staff, and any other administrative processes related to NASSP. The Director will be a member of the National Executive Committee (NEC) and produce quarterly and annual reports to the NEC.

The Node Director will participate in lecturing and supervision of NASSP students, liaise with Partner Institutions, and promote NASSP in the region. The Director will also conduct research in space science to provide academic leadership in the programme.

The incumbent will report to the Dean and Head of School.

Minimum Requirements:

- Doctoral degree and holds the position of Associate Professor or above
- Excellent and sustained publication of independent research in quality scientific journals in Space Science.
- Evidence of national and international recognition in space science research.

Enquiries and details regarding this post may be directed to the Dean and Head of School via e-mail: Olanirana@ukzn.ac.za

The Node Director is a secondment position, therefore, additional remuneration do not apply.

The closing date for receipt of applications is 20 March 2026. The School of Agriculture & Science reserves the right not to make an appointment.

Applicants are required to submit a CV with a motivation, clearly indicating how they meet the minimum requirements. Application documentation may be sent to Ms Suzan Rapuleng at RapulengS@ukzn.ac.za