

10 June 2026

Mrs Albe van Niekerk  
Department of Industrial Engineering  
Stellenbosch University  
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[caliepistorius@sun.ac.za](mailto:caliepistorius@sun.ac.za)

Dear Mrs van Niekerk

**RE: PERMISSION TO CONDUCT RESEARCH**

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

*"Robotic Process Automation in Research Ethics Administration: Preserving Human Moral Agency while Optimizing Workflow Efficiency".*

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

- With a request for responses on the website. The questionnaire and/or request for responses to "interview questions" 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 ([msomis10@ukzn.ac.za](mailto:msomis10@ukzn.ac.za)) or ([ramkissoob@ukzn.ac.za](mailto:ramkissoob@ukzn.ac.za)).
- Informed Consent need to be obtained from each participant prior to conducting the survey.

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

- Ethical clearance approval letter (Only if the date will be published then ethical clearance will be required).
- 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 Protection of Personal Information 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



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**Mr MA TUFTS**  
**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 **Website:** www.ukzn.ac.za

Founding Campuses: ■ Edgewood ■ Howard College ■ Medical School ■ Pietermaritzburg ■ Westville