

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

COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES

POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCHER (ONE POST)

TWO YEAR FIXED-TERM APPOINTMENT (RENEWABLE BASED ON FUNDS AND PERFORMANCE)

TOWN & REGIONAL PLANNING (SARCHi Chair for Inclusive Cities)

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

HOWARD COLLEGE CAMPUS

REF: SRI 03:2026

The School of Social Sciences (SOSS) SARCHi chair for Inclusive Cities is seeking to appoint a highly motivated and qualified Post-Doctoral Researcher with a background in urban planning or relevant disciplines for a multi-disciplinary project on Inclusive Cities. The successful incumbent will contribute to the ongoing research activities focused on gender inclusion, migrants' inclusion, disability inclusion, and climate change as it relates to planning within our cities, among other research focus areas of the Chair. The post-Doc will work under the supervision of the SARCHi Chair for Inclusive Cities (Prof. Hope Magidimisha-Chipungu) conducting research relevant to the Chair.

The applicants should demonstrate a distinct interest and passion to work in a highly interdisciplinary/transdisciplinary collaborative environment and have a strong critical background in one or more of the Social Science disciplines and subdisciplines (planning, housing, geography, economics, gender studies, development studies, sociology and environmental studies any other related). The incumbents will support the Chair through active research, planning, and administration. The successful candidates should demonstrate:

- A keen interest in city inclusiveness and climate change disasters as they relate to city planning and development,
- A strong ability of computational skills, research, and report writing skills for project reports, grant proposals, and other research-related documents,
- The ability to deliver research within specified budgets and to the deadline,
- The ability to work with a team of scholars and postgraduate students as well as stakeholders from other research institutes, civil society, and community-based members,
- The capability to publish research results in high-impact peer-reviewed journals, and present research findings at conferences and seminars,

- The capacity to mentor and supervise postgraduate students and research assistants involved in related projects and assist in any relevant tasks as and when required by their supervisor.

Minimum Requirements

- A recent PhD (completed within the last five years) in town/urban/city planning or related disciplines such as development studies, housing, geography etc.
- PhD Candidates that have submitted their PhD for examination and awaiting results will be considered, but the appointment can only be made once PhD has been awarded.
- A proven track record of publications in peer-reviewed ISI/DHET rated journals or book chapter/s.
- Two years of research experience.
- Proficiency in both qualitative and quantitative research data analysis

Applicants are required to submit the following:

- ✓ A Motivational letter, including 1-2-pages outlining relevant expertise and experience. Full CV including a list of research publications, conference papers and other scholarly output and the contact details of two academic referees who have taught/supervised the candidate.
- ✓ Full transcripts of academic record and copy of doctoral degree certificate, and the title and abstract of doctoral Thesis,

The closing date for receipt of applications is 31st June 2026

Applications must be emailed to Ms Gevina Matebhere at Matebherem@ukzn.ac.za

Please state the job title and the reference number in the subject line. Should you not receive a reply or update by 31 August 2026, please consider your application as unsuccessful

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 ->

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