

The University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN) is committed to Employment Equity with the intention to promote representativity within the Institution. Preference will be given to applicants from the designated groups.

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE

ONE POST-DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP

September 2026 – August 2027

**Discipline of Electrical, Electronic and Computer Engineering, Howard College,
University of Kwazulu-Natal, Durban - 4041, South Africa.**

REF NO.: EECE/CE/2026-1

Founded in 1910 as the Natal University College in Pietermaritzburg, the University of Natal was granted independent university status in 1949 owing to its rapid growth in numbers, its wide range of courses, and its achievements and opportunities for research. The distinctive Howard College building was opened in 1931. The University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN) is one of the largest, oldest, and most transformed universities in sub-Saharan Africa – a teaching and research-led university. UKZN has an international reputation for academic excellence, outstanding research output, and African scholarship. It has links with over 250 international institutions, which facilitate ongoing collaborative academic partnerships.

In line with its research vision and mission, the Discipline of Electrical, Electronic, and Computer Engineering invites applications for Postdoctoral Research Fellowship position in **Computer Engineering**.

Our research focuses on leveraging the rapidly advancing fields of Computer Vision and Machine Learning to address real-world challenges. We are seeking a highly motivated Postdoctoral Researcher to develop innovative models that harness the capabilities of Foundation Models for Segmentation, Graph Neural Networks, and advanced machine learning techniques for environmental data modeling and analysis.

The successful candidate will contribute to research aimed at identifying critical trends, generating predictive insights, and developing intelligent solutions to pressing environmental challenges, including climate change modeling, biodiversity conservation, disaster risk reduction, and sustainable resource management. This position offers a unique opportunity to conduct impactful, interdisciplinary research that supports environmental awareness, informs policy and decision-making, and contributes to mitigating the effects of climate change and natural disasters.

The main responsibilities of the successful candidate will include:

- Developing and implementing advanced machine learning models for the analysis of data related to the built environment, natural habitats, and ecosystems.
- Collaborating with multidisciplinary research teams, industry partners, and other stakeholders to drive innovative research outcomes.
- Publishing research findings in high-impact, peer-reviewed journals and presenting results at leading national and international conferences.
- Contributing to the preparation of research grant applications, funding proposals, and project reports.
- Supporting the supervision and mentoring of postgraduate students, where appropriate.

Duration and Salary:

The post-doctoral fellowship is for 12 months, worth R200 000 per annum. It can be extended further one year, depending on the performance of the successful candidate.

Minimum Requirements:

- Doctoral degree (PhD) in Computer Engineering, Computer Science, Electronic Engineering or related fields, that should have been completed within the **past three years**.
- Applicants must be willing to travel to the host university (i.e., University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa).
- Applicants must have good oral and written communication skills.
- Bachelor's and/or Master's in Electronic Engineering / Computer Engineering / Computer Science or related areas.
- Applicants must be under the age of 35 years.
- An adequate number of publications in the relevant area of expertise.
- The ability to contribute to UKZN's mission and vision in terms of research.

Procedures and Dates:

1. Covering letter,
2. Curriculum Vitae
3. Project Proposal (related **to Foundation Models for Segmentation, Graph Neural Networks, and advanced machine learning techniques for environmental data modeling and analysis.**),
4. Applicant's doctoral degree certificate or PhD award letter

Enquiries

Prof. Jules R. Tapamo (tapamo@ukzn.ac.za), Prof. Tom Walingo (walingo@ukzn.ac.za) and Prof. (Dr.) Viranjay M. Srivastava (srivastava@ukzn.ac.za)

Applications submission

Applications should be addressed to Mrs. Dumisile Pretty Mbona (Ngcobod@ukzn.ac.za)

The **subject line** must clearly indicate Ref. no.: **'EECE/CE/2026-1 Post-Doctoral Fellowship – Your Surname'**

Applicants who do not meet the minimum requirements will not be considered.

The closing date for receipt of applications is **Friday 17 July 2026**.

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted/communicated till **Tuesday 21 July 2026**.

The interview will take place in the **Fourth week of July 2026**.

For selected International candidates, VISA should be applied till **2nd week of August 2026**.

Tentative joining will be from **September/October 2026**.

Useful Links:

About UKZN: www.ukzn.ac.za/about-ukzn/promotional-video/

NOTE - The research group reserves the right not to make an appointment for this advert. Should you not receive a reply or update by the 05 August 2026, kindly consider that your application has not been successful.