

2 September 2025

Dr Dalia Varghese
School of Agriculture and Sciences
College of Agriculture, Engineering & Science
Westville Campus UKZN
Email: varghesed@ukzn.ac.za

Dear Dr Varghese

RE: PERMISSION TO CONDUCT RESEARCH

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

"Beyond Three Years: Identifying Factors Affecting Extended Time-To-Degree Among Undergraduate Science in a Higher Education Institution".

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

- By requesting Institutional Intelligence to supply with the Pass rate of Science students under School of Science and Agriculture from the first year to third year level of study.
- 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) or (ramkissoonb@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



Mr MA TUFTS
Director Governance & Administration

Office of the Registrar

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