



Dear Colleagues

INTRODUCTION

Corporate Communications, a Unit of the Marketing and Communications Department, effectively communicates the university's mission, vision, values, highlights and achievements and provides information about academic programs, research, and events to its key multi-diverse stakeholder groups.

To achieve this, the Unit continues to deploy various communication strategies and tactics, including but not limited to media engagement and public commentary by our experts.

VUT DIRECTORY OF EXPERTS

Corporate Communications is compiling the VUT Directory of Experts. Through this directory, we aim to ease our mission to embark on a drive to market and profile all our experts to the various media houses and our diverse external stakeholders by actively sharing and contributing to public commentary and analysis on multiple issues within their fields of expertise. In return, this will increase the visibility of our institution and enable us to make meaningful contributions to the economic, social and political discourse or projects that may need specific expertise.

VUT Directory of Experts will enable media houses and our external stakeholders to have direct contact with each of our experts through the email addresses and direct mobile or telephone lines displayed on the attached list.

Please see the attached **VUT Directory of Experts**, which we hope to continuously revise, improve, and update with your input and ideas. If you'd like to be included as an expert, kindly send your name, field of expertise and contact details to Ms Nontobeko Moimane, Communications Officer: Corporate Communications on Tel: +27 16 950 6722/7688; cell: 083 630 6185 or email: nontobekoz@vut.ac.za and carbon copy (CC) Mr Sibusiso Nkosi, HOD: Corporate Communications at sibusison2@vut.ac.za. Should you need more information regarding our request.

Name & Title	Qualifications	Area/ Field of expertise/ specialisation	Professional Memberships	Committees/ Structures (Internal/ external)	Current Studies	Contact Details E-mail
Prof Christa Grobler Executive Dean: Faculty of Applied & Computer Sciences	DTech: Biomedical Technology (Durban University of Technology)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medical Laboratory Science (Immunology) Haematology Risk for cardiovascular disease) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health Professions Council of South Africa (MT0061972) Medical Laboratory Technologist of South Africa (SMLTSA); Science Advisory Committee (SAC) Research Ethics Committee Association of Southern Africa (REASA) 	External: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appointed as an evaluator for the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA) since 2018-current Appointed by minister of Health to serve on the Medical Technology Board (MTB) from September 2020 till August 2025 appointed to serve on the Biomedical Technology Board (Vice- chair). Society of Medical Laboratory Technologists of South Africa (S.M.L.T.S.A) Immunology Science Advisory Committee (SAC) National Pathology Academic Committee (NAPC) a sub-committee of the board of National Health Laboratory Services (NHLS) Alumni of HERS-SA 2020/2021 Appointed by Member of Executive Council (MEC): Health to serve as a member of the Provincial Health Research Committee of Health in Gauteng. Representing VUT on the South African Committee of Health Science Deans. 		christa@vut.ac.za 016 950 9249/ 9228

Name & Title	Qualifications	Area/ Field of expertise/ specialisation	Professional Memberships	Committees/ Structures (Internal/ external)	Current Studies	Contact Details E-mail
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appointed by CHE to serve on an Institutional Audit Panel <p>Internal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council Senate Deans Forum Faculty Management Committee Faculty Teaching, Learning and Quality Committee Faculty board Senate Enrolment, Academic Planning, and Development Committee (SEAPDC) OHSE committee QA committee Risk management 		
Prof Lazarus Maleho Executive Dean: Human Sciences	ND: Public Relations Management BTECH: PR MTECH: PR DTECH: Strat Comm	Strategic Communications	PRISA SAAPAM SACOMM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SENATE SENEX SRIC AQSC SEAPDC Health & Safety Institutional Audit Steering Committee FMC FRIC RMC ICT BTDC HDC DEANS FORUM STUDENT SUCCESS 	N/A	lasarus@vut.ac.za 016 950 9362

Name & Title	Qualifications	Area/ Field of expertise/ specialisation	Professional Memberships	Committees/ Structures (Internal/ external)	Current Studies	Contact Details E-mail
Prof Chendedzai Mafini Executive Dean: Faculty of Management Sciences	PhD Economics D Tech Business	Supply Chain Management	CILT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> VUT COUNCIL SENATE SENEX SRIC AQSC SEAPDC Health & Safety Institutional Audit Steering Committee FMC FRIC RMC ICT BTDC HDC DEANS FORUM STUDENT SUCCESS	N/A	chendedzaim@vut.ac.za 016 950 6886
Dr Biki Pitso Project Manager: Learner Support		Entrepreneurship				biki@vut.ac.za 016 950 9142
Mr George Mvalo Director: Social Justice & Transformation		Transformation				georgem1@vut.ac.za 016 950 9754
Dr Nolutho Mkhumbeni HOD: Health Sciences Lecturer: Biomedical Technology	PhD in Science: Medical Laboratory Science	Tissue engineering and regenerative medicine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA) 	Internal: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Faculty Management Committee: Faculty of Applied & Computer Sciences Faculty Teaching, Learning and Quality Committee 	PGD: Education Management and Leadership	nkonki@vut.ac.za 016 950 9210
Dr Ike Sikakana HOD: Applied Physical Sciences	PhD: Physics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-Destructive Testing – Education & Training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> South African Institute for Non-Destructive Testing (SAINT) 	Internal: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> FMC Faculty Teaching, Learning and Quality Committee Faculty Board SENATE 	N/A	ike@vut.ac.za 016 950 9761

Name & Title	Qualifications	Area/ Field of expertise/ specialisation	Professional Memberships	Committees/ Structures (Internal/ external)	Current Studies	Contact Details E-mail
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> South African Quality Council Committee Non-Destructive Testing 		
Prof Joe Modise HOD: Natural Sciences	PhD: Chemistry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water treatment Medicinal Plant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water Institute of Southern Africa (WISA) South African Chemical Institute (SACI) 	Internal: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Faculty Management Committee: Faculty of Applied & Computer Sciences 	N/A	joe@vut.ac.za 0169509603
Prof Tranos Zuva: Head of Department (Acting) Computer Sciences Department	DTech: Computer Sciences and Data Processing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Computer Sciences 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> THE INSTITUTE OF IT PROFESSIONALS SOUTH AFRICA (IITPSA) IEEE 	Internal: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Senate Departmental Research and Innovation Commercialisation Committee (DRIC) External: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> THE INSTITUTE OF IT PROFESSIONALS SOUTH AFRICA (IITPSA) Gauteng Committee 	N/A	tranosz@vut.ac.za 016 950 7587
Prof Fanyana Mtunzi Manager: Institute for Chemical and Biotechnology	PhD: Chemistry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chemistry and Medicinal plants. Cannabis and Hemp. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> South African Chemical Institute (SACI) South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions (SACNASP) 	Internal: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Short Learning Programmes (Faculty Representative) Faculty Health and Safety Committee Faculty Research and Innovation Committee 	N/A	016 930 6690 Fanyana@vut.ac.za
Mr Prenaven Reddy Manager: VUT Water & Food Testing Laboratory	MTech: Biotechnology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Microbiology, Chemical and Microbial analysis Water & Wastewater treatment processes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> South African Society for Microbiology 	Internal: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Faculty Management Committee: Faculty of Applied & Computer Sciences 	N/A	016 950 6644 082 802 9078

Name & Title	Qualifications	Area/ Field of expertise/ specialisation	Professional Memberships	Committees/ Structures (Internal/ external)	Current Studies	Contact Details E-mail
Prof Thozani Xaba Associate Professor: Natural Sciences	DTech: Chemistry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nanotechnology 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> South African Chemical Institute (SACI) 	Internal: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Faculty Research and Innovation Committee 	N/A.	thokozanix@vut.ac.za 0169509820
Prof. C.C. Ssemakalu Faculty Research Professor (Acting)	DTech: Biological Sciences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biological Sciences Cell Biology 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions (SACNASP) 	Internal: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Faculty Research and Innovation Committee (Chair) 	N/A	016 950 9128 corneliuss@vut.ac.za ;
Prof Ntaote Shooto Associate Professor: Natural Sciences	D-Tech: Chemistry (VUT)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Material Science and Water treatment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Royal Society of Chemistry 	Internal: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Faculty Research and Innovation Committee Departmental Research and Innovation Commercialisation Committee (DRIC) 	N/A	ntaotes@vut.ac.za 016 950 6690
Prof Thiri Padayachee Professor: Natural Sciences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MSc in Medicine: Bioethics and Health Law - Wits Doctorate in Biotechnology - DUT Master Biotechnology Higher National Diploma in Post School Education Higher National Diploma in 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ethics Practitioner. Professional and Transformational Life Coach Practitioner - PCC. Food Safety Food Security Enzymology Food Microbiology Food Quality Analysis Quality Assurance – Industry and Academic Curriculum Development Academic Qualification and Institutional Auditing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ICF COMENSA Past Member of SASM, SAFoST and IuFoST 	Internal: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Central Research Ethics Committee - Chairperson Institutional Forum Executive Committee SENATE Senate Research and Innovation Committee member Faculty Research Ethics Committee Teaching and Learning Committee Departmental Research and Innovation Commercialisation Committee (DRIC) Biotechnology Advisory Board 	Mentorship Programme -UKZN	thiri@vut.ac.za

Name & Title	Qualifications	Area/ Field of expertise/ specialisation	Professional Memberships	Committees/ Structures (Internal/ external)	Current Studies	Contact Details E-mail
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Food Technology Advanced Coach Practitioner Programme – SACAP Higher Education Management Development - GIBS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Qualification Development Academic Mentor Skills Development Facilitator – Academic and Industrial Training 				
Prof Kaitano Dube: Acting Research Professor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PhD Environmental Management, MSC Geography, Post Graduate Advanced Diploma in Higher Education, Hons Bsc Geography and Environmental Management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate change Tourism Aviation Sustainable Development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tourism Educators Association of South Africa (TESA) AFRAA 	SENATE FRIC	Masters in Business leadership	dubekaitano@gmail.com kaitanod@vut.ac.za
Dr Martin Tsiliso Lerata: OD & Performance Specialist	MBA, PhD. UNISA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Human Resources Management Organizational Development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 			0)16 950 9060 0605242595 tsilisol@vut.ac.za

Name & Title	Qualifications	Area/ Field of expertise/ specialisation	Professional Memberships	Committees/ Structures (Internal/ external)	Current Studies	Contact Details E-mail
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organizational Innovativeness Organizational Ambidexterity 				