

DIVISION: STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES | **DEPARTMENT:** STUDENT LIFE AND GOVERNANCE

POST: DIRECTOR

POST N°: 3048
PEROMNES GRADE: 05

JOB DESCRIPTION:

Key performance areas include but are not limited to:

- Provide strategic leadership and direction for Student Life and Governance in alignment with the institutional strategy.
- Oversee student governance structures (SRC, Student Parliament, and related bodies), ensuring constitutional compliance, integrity, and transparent and credible electoral processes.
- Develop and implement governance frameworks that regulate the relationship between the University and student leadership.
- Lead student leadership development programmes and co-curricular initiatives that promote student success, ethical leadership, and active citizenship.
- Facilitate structured engagement between student leadership and University management to promote institutional stability.
- Manage and mitigate risks relating to student governance, unrest, and protest action through proactive systems and coordinated institutional responses.
- Ensure sound financial management, budgeting, and effective utilisation of resources within the portfolio.
- Lead and manage staff performance, organisational development, and foster a high-performance culture within the department.
- Build and maintain strategic partnerships with internal and external stakeholders.
- Ensure compliance with institutional policies, governance frameworks, and relevant legislation in consultation with Legal Services.

APPLICATION CRITERIA:

Qualifications and Experience:

- An Honours Degree in Higher Education / Management / Public Administration / Education / Social Sciences or equivalent (NQF Level 8).
- A master's degree in a relevant field (NQF Level 9) will be an added advantage.
- A minimum of five (5) years' experience in Student Affairs / Student Development.
- At least two (2) years' experience at middle or senior management level within a Student Affairs / Student Support Services environment.
- Proven experience in student governance, leadership development, and co-curricular programming.
- Demonstrable experience in managing complex student environments, including governance and institutional stability matters.

Skills:

- Strategic leadership and the ability to align programmes to institutional priorities.
- Advanced knowledge of higher education governance, policy development, and regulatory compliance.
- Strong stakeholder engagement, negotiation, and influencing skills.
- Conflict resolution, mediation, and crisis management capabilities.
- Expertise in student leadership development and programme design.
- Strong organisational, project management, and execution capability.
- High levels of professionalism, ethical judgment, and discretion.

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS: 13 MAY 2026

Application requirements:

1. A fully completed prescribed application form which can be obtained from www.vut.ac.za
2. A detailed curriculum vitae (explicitly stating relevant experience or knowledge in the fields mentioned above)
3. Certified copies of all certificates or degrees
4. A certified copy of your South African identity document
5. Current contact details of referees
6. Applications must be emailed to recruitment1@vut.ac.za. Please quote the post reference and post description in the subject line.
7. No manual applications will be accepted. Incomplete applications, or applications submitted without the application form and required supporting documents, will be disregarded.
8. Only applications submitted using the official VUT application for employment form will be considered.
9. Correspondence will only be entered into with shortlisted candidates. If you do not hear from VUT within 3 months of the closing date, please regard your application as unsuccessful.

Please Note

- **By submitting your application, you consent to VUT verifying your qualifications and sharing your personal information with the selection panel and other authorised persons involved in the recruitment process. Candidates with foreign qualifications must submit a South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA) certificate of evaluation. VUT is an equal opportunity and affirmative action employer. In compliance with the Employment Equity Act No. 55 of 1998 (as amended), and in line with its Employment Equity Plan and Recruitment Policy, preference will be given to suitably qualified candidates from designated groups, specifically African, Coloured, and persons with disabilities.**
- **VUT reserves the right not to make an appointment**

