



Siyaphumelela
we succeed

Siyaphumelela Goals

- Improve capacity to collect student data and integrate it with Institutional Research (IR), ICT, academic development, student services, planning and academic divisions
- Create South African models of universities using successful data analytics to improve student outcomes
- Create a greater awareness and support for evidence to improve student success in South Africa
- Create and highlight a shared vocabulary and consensus on especially effective practices to improve student success
- Enlarge the cadre of experienced institutional researchers versed in data analytics to support student success “(p. 5).

Siyaphumelela Common Objectives

- Use data analytics to review the top 10 high impact modules with a view to improve student success.
- Establish a broadly representative student success committee or task force
- Develop annual goals for improving student success, such as 1st year retention to 2nd year based on entering cohort.
- Commit to reducing student outcomes differences based on race, gender, class and first generation status, while maintaining quality.

**International
Discourse**

**National
Discourse**

**Inter Institutional
Discourse**

**Data Analytics
Coaching**

**DUT, NMMU,
UFS, UP, Wits**

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UP

- Develop high-level data analytics capacity in BIRAP and EI
- Improve student success in 10 high impact/gateway modules
- Develop flexible undergraduate curricula
- Develop online environments used in a blended mode with contact to ensure undergraduate students' academic engagement outside class
- Promote informed course choice by first years
- Develop learning communities

Wits

- Develop a feeder school comprehensive database
- Collect comprehensive student biographic data upon registration
- Integrate institutional support mechanisms data
- Conduct descriptive and trend analysis of student performance conducted through tracer and cohort studies
- Provide institutional training on dashboards (tableau software)
- Build capacity of institutional researchers and business analysts at Wits, including four representatives from the University of Venda and the University of Limpopo
- Conduct first year and final year student experience surveys in 2017 and 2018.

DUT

- Create a university planning unit that develops and executes a coherent, university-wide strategy for improving success that meaningfully connects leadership, academic, and student services stakeholders
- Develop a shared mechanism for storing and retrieving student data, including data warehousing, BI tools, data convergence, tracking system
- Train faculty and staff to use student data to intervene just in time

NMMU

- Develop a framework and comprehensive set of student success indicators and data.
- Develop a system and software to monitor student progress and the extent to which students take up academic support and development opportunities.
- Develop a comprehensive electronic student tracking and monitoring system
- Develop capacity to generate and use data analytics related to student success - SLPs.
- Improvement of student success initiatives - focussing on courses with high failure rates and large enrolments
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UFS

- Improve student success rates in the top 20 high risk modules at the UFS;
- Decrease the difference in success rates between black and white students; and
- Increase retention and throughput rates among undergraduate students in these modules.

The UFS plans to achieve these goals by (a) strengthening its capacity for collecting and analysing student data and (b) *integrating* its data analytics functions across five support services divisions and five academic faculties.