



Central University of  
Technology, Free State

7 February 2020

WELCOME  
TO THE  
GRADUATE  
SCHOOL

# Graduate School e-Letter

## WELCOME BACK

Dear Colleagues and Postgraduate Students

A warm welcome back and a Very Happy 2020 to you all.

A special word of welcome to our postgraduate students. We wish you a very productive and fulfilling time, achieving many milestones in your postgraduate journey.

The role of the Graduate School is to accompany you on this journey, so feel free to consult us regarding your questions and challenges.

We look forward to working with you in 2020.

All the best!

Eleanor Nel

Research Officer: Graduate Studies

***"Nothing builds self-esteem and confidence like accomplishment"***

- Thomas Carlyle

**Professor Fidelis A. Emuze, Professor and Head of the Department of Built Environment shares a few tips of motivation.**

*"In my research journey, I have been fortunate to produce over 200 outputs with over 20 awards and recognitions, because I tend to focus on the goals. I believe work or studying is a spiritual deed that I must do to get desired results/rewards. As the saying goes, what you put into life is what you get back. I do not believe there is a goal that I cannot achieve if I put my mind to it. I embrace challenges and barriers to obtain inspiring victories. Victories only come when one overcome a challenge or hurdle. With the support of friends as collaborators and the Grace of the Almighty God, I am able to continue to break down barriers and glass ceilings. If I can do it, everyone can do the same as I hold no claim to a privileged past in terms of either research or academic background."*

## YOU DO NOT WANT TO MISS OUT!

This will be another exciting year for the Graduate School. We kick off with a series of training opportunities that will enable you to enhance your personal impact and that of your research. So, check our calendar of events and diarise the dates well in advance.

## UPCOMING GRADUATE EVENTS

Graduate School Workshop – 20 February 2020

Academic Writing for Doctoral Students - 21 February 2020 – 10 June 2020

Academic Writing for Master's students – 26 February 2020 – 10 June 2020



[www.cut.ac.za](http://www.cut.ac.za)

## Academic Writing for Master's Students

The Graduate School presents a series of Academic Writing sessions particularly aimed at Master's students. The objective of these 2-hour sessions is to enable you to effectively improve your academic writing skills. Practical sessions are included to support you in understanding and practically applying the theory. At the end of the programme a Language Practitioner will advise you on how to edit your writing.

***If you would like to upgrade your academic writing style, then this opportunity is just for you!***

A maximum of 30 participants can be accommodated. If you enroll for the programme, then the attendance of all seven (7) sessions is compulsory. Join this short programme and become a better academic writer. To register for the programme, please contact Ms. Eleanor Nel at [enel@cut.ac.za](mailto:enel@cut.ac.za).

<b>PROGRAMME</b>	
<b>Registration deadline: 18 February 2020</b>	
<b>Venue: Bethuel Setai Library</b>	
<b>Facilitator: Dr Mardi Delport</b>	
<b>Date &amp; Venue</b>	<b>Topic</b>
<b>26 February 2020</b> Room 313	<b>Introduction to Academic Writing</b> Overview of a research dissertation, requirements for scholarship, quality assurance, characteristics of a good scientific text, general problems with a thesis, reading for writing, graduate attributes, planning and time-management.
<b>4 March 2020</b> Room 313	<b>Houston ... we have a problem ...</b> Development of the argument, formulation of the problem, formulating the hypothesis, formulating the: aim, objectives and research questions.
<b>11 March 2020</b> Room 313	<b>The composition of information</b> Structure and sequence, being critical, organizing a paragraph, cohesion and coherence, topic and support sentences, summarising, paraphrasing, direct quotation, academic writing vocabulary: linking words, spelling, punctuation, grammar <b>Plagiarism</b> What is plagiarism, causes of plagiarism, examples of what constitutes plagiarism, academic integrity, ethical considerations.
<b>13 May 2020</b> Room 313	<b>The importance of "own voice in writing"</b> Useful hints in academic writing, introducing a new chapter, generalizations, summary sentences, concluding a chapter/paper, concluding statements.
<b>20 May 2020</b> Room 313	<b>Scientific style &amp; referencing</b> (definition of style, dimensions of style, referencing methods, referencing different types of sources, reference list)
<b>3 June 2020</b> 2nd Floor LAB 234	<b>The research product</b> Language Editing – advice from an accredited Language Practitioner
<b>10 June 2020</b> Room 313	<b>Reflective session</b>

## Academic Writing for Doctoral Students

The Graduate School presents a series of Academic Writing sessions particularly aimed at Doctoral students. The objective of these 2-hour sessions is to enable you to effectively improve your academic writing skills. Practical sessions are included to support you in understanding and practically applying the theory. At the end of the programme a Language Practitioner will advise you on how to edit your writing.

*If you would like to upgrade your academic writing style, then this opportunity is just for you!*

A maximum of 30 participants can be accommodated. If you enroll for the programme, then the attendance of all seven (7) sessions is compulsory. For more details and to register for the programme, please contact Ms. Eleanor Nel at [enel@cut.ac.za](mailto:enel@cut.ac.za).

<b>PROGRAMME</b>	
<b>Registration deadline: 18 February 2020</b>	
<b>Venue: Bethuel Setai Library</b>	
<b>Facilitator: Dr Brenton Fredericks</b>	
<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>
<b>21 February</b> 2nd Floor LAB 234	<b>Introduction to Academic Writing</b> What do we mean when we refer to academic writing, overview of a research, proposal (guidelines), active reading, planning: procrastination & writer's block, graduate attributes
<b>06 March</b> Room 313	<b>Craft your Academic Writing</b> Conceptualizing your research, being critical <b>Coherency and sequencing</b> Structuring an argument (words, phrases, counter argument, spelling), organizing a paragraph, topic sentence, supporting ideas, linking words, transitions
<b>13 March</b> Room 313	<b>Writing your thesis: Thesis Essentials</b> Words commonly confused, writing clear, grammatically correct sentences <b>Paraphrasing:</b> ideas on how to paraphrase, direct quotations, finding your voice <b>Summarizing:</b> extracting the important information, examples of summarizing, texts/arguments, punctuation, academic writing vocabulary, sample writing, assessing student writing-pitfalls
<b>15 May</b> Room 313	<b>Writing your thesis: Ethical Considerations</b> <b>Plagiarism</b> What is plagiarism, causes of plagiarism, examples of what constitutes, plagiarism, academic integrity, quality assurance
<b>29 May</b> Room 313	<b>Writing your thesis: Academic writing-acquisition of the skills set for success and consolidation</b> Generalizations, summary sentence, introducing a new chapter, concluding a chapter, concluding statements
<b>05 June</b> 2nd Floor LAB 234	<b>Completing your thesis: Language Editing</b> Advice from an accredited Language Practitioner
<b>10 June</b> Room 313	<b>Reflective Session</b>

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**Fame Lab**  
TALKING SCIENCE

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**CALLING ALL SCIENTISTS**  
Are you passionate about science?

Want to develop your **science communication, confidence and public engagement skills**?

Join the FameLab team for a workshop and participate in a heat.

Find out more and register at:  
[www.britishcouncil.org.za/famelab](http://www.britishcouncil.org.za/famelab)

**YOU COULD WIN GREAT PRIZES AND A TRIP TO THE UK!**

FameLab is an international science communication competition, running in 30 countries worldwide. It has been run in South Africa since 2013 and has grown science communication and media skills among hundreds of young scientists (ages 21 to 35 in the fields of science, technology, engineering and maths) - benefiting their organisations and South Africa at large.

The competition is managed in South Africa by a partnership between The British Council, The South African Agency for Science and Technology Advancement (SAASTA) and science communication agency Jive Media Africa. The competition gives scientists 3 minutes in front of judges and a live audience to communicate an aspect of their research. In so doing, it builds capacity for working with the media and for engaging public audiences with accessible science. The Graduate School supports this initiative to provide the opportunity for postgraduate students to participate and grow their public speaking skills.

## STAY CONNECTED AND GET INVOLVED

Kenneth Masopoga (3rd year Radiography student) used this opportunity to present his research at FameLab last year at the University of the Free State.



*"In my second year of radiography studies at Central University of Technology, Free State, my group was tasked to create a prototype of any medical x-imaging device used for x-ray examination purposes in Radiation Physics module.*

*Mr. E. Muhluri, Mr. T. Litone, Mr. K. Masopoga and Mr. N. Phahlamohlaka (Lecturer) decided to modify the C-arm prototype using the PICO method in research to make it relevant to the radiography practice. PICO stands for Problem, Intervention, Comparison and Outcome. As a team we decided to modify the existing C-Arm x-ray unit taking in consideration the current challenges experienced by nurses, orthopaedic doctors and patients".*



We aim to improve communication between the Graduate School, researchers, supervisors and postgraduate students to keep you informed about activities and opportunities offered by the Graduate School. To stay up to date, look out for our future monthly newsletters.

### CUT GRADUATE SCHOOL

Tel: +27 51 507 4320 | | E-mail: [enel@cut.ac.za](mailto:enel@cut.ac.za)

Central University of Technology, Free State (CUT)

Private Bag X20539, Bloemfontein, 9300, South Africa

[www.cut.ac.za](http://www.cut.ac.za)

