



DEPARTMENT OF BIOCHEMISTRY AND MICROBIOLOGY UNIVERSITY OF ZULULAND

Website: <http://www.science.unizulu.ac.za/bio>

INTRODUCTION

This poster is intended to present Department of Biochemistry and Microbiology information with regard to the department History, Achievements, Notable Alumni, Awards, Community Engagement, International connections and Staff members.

HISTORY

Initially, there was the Department of Biochemistry in the Faculty of Science and Education. In 1992, Microbiology modules were offered, hence the name was changed to Department of Biochemistry and Microbiology. Some qualifications that were offered, but were phased out / suspended are BSc Medical Science, BSc Food Technology and BSc Biotechnology. The thrust of the Department of Biochemistry and Microbiology since inception is to offer high quality undergraduate and postgraduate qualifications in Biochemistry and Microbiology. The Department of Biochemistry and Microbiology has links with departments of Botany; Zoology department and Hydrology department.

The first candidate to graduate with a Doctoral degree was Prof Albert Basson who obtained a Doctor of Science (DSc) in Biochemistry and Microbiology in 1995. Thereafter, the doctoral degrees were designated as PhD in Biochemistry and PhD in Microbiology.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- 2017 - Best department award
- 2018 – Second best department award
- 2020 – Highest number of articles published by a department



Conducted Conference on Genomics, Proteomics and metabolomics:
All in the Bioinformatics (CGPMB-2019)

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- iNkonjane stream water quality monitoring at the rural kwaMkhwanazi area in KwaDlangezwa by Mr JS Shandu
- P450 database development for identification and naming of P450s to be used by researchers around the world by Prof K Syed and his international collaborators (<http://www.p450.unizulu.ac.za/>)

AWARDS



Singobile Fanele Ndulini and Bongakone Nkosinathi Makhanya Master students from Prof Mthembu's lab got Lewis Jonker award for best presentation at 19th WaterNet Symposium, Zambia, 2018



Prof E Madoroba got Technology transfer matchmaking award deal from Technology and Innovation Agency, South Africa in 2019

POST GRADUATE INTERNATIONAL STUDENT EXCHANGE



Master students Mr ML Ngwenya and Ms ZE Chiliza visited University of Concepcion, Chile between 2018-2019



Master students NS Ngcobo, N Nzuza and T Padayachee visited University of Concepcion, Chile in 2020



Legend change for Mrs OO Akapo as Doctoral student Mrs OO Akapo visited University of Warsaw, Poland between 2019-2020

IN NEWS



Top Marks Not Lukhele's First Rodeo Ms Khethiwe Lukhele, an undergraduate student from the Department of Biochemistry and Microbiology named top achiever in Faculty of Science and Agriculture in 2017



Trailblazer student has made UNIZULU proud Mr Bongumusa Comfort Mthethwa, being an honour student from the Department of Biochemistry and Microbiology published article in International Journal of Molecular Sciences (impact factor 4.7) in 2018



Postgraduate students featured on Metabolomics South Africa Postgraduate students from the Department of Biochemistry and Microbiology was featured in Metabolomics Society South Africa conference in 2019



UNIZULU Academic Selected as Visiting Professor at Poland University Prof K Syed has been selected as a visiting professor at the University of Warsaw, Poland

NRF RATED RESEARCHERS



Prof K Syed
NRF C1



Prof E Madoroba
NRF C3

NOTABLE ALUMNI



Mr David Mahlobo
Deputy Minister of Water and Sanitation



Prof D Gront
Poland



Prof JA Martinez-Dyanedel
Chile



Prof W Chen
China

INTERNATIONAL VISITORS

ACADEMIC STAFF



Prof AK Basson
HOD



Prof K Syed



Prof E Madoroba
NRF C3



Prof MS Mthembu



Mr JS Shandu



Mr ML Ngwenya



Dr N Hlengwa