



**UNIVERSITY OF
ZULULAND**

Communications and Marketing Division

Ground Floor, Administration Building, KwaDlangezwa Campus

Tel: +27 35 902 6668 | Email: cmd@unizulu.ac.za | Web: www.unizulu.ac.za

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**Guest lecture – Intersecting
agricultural extension, the promotion
and protection of indigenous crops of
northern KwaZulu-Natal**

PROGRAMME

The guest lecture “Intersecting agricultural extension, the promotion and protection of indigenous crops of northern KwaZulu-Natal”, is hosted by the Faculty of Science, Agriculture & Engineering, Department of Agriculture via a hybrid platform (physical and MS Teams (online)) and is designed to examine how agricultural extension, traditionally seen as a vehicle for transferring modern agricultural technologies, can be reimagined as a facilitator of farmer-centered knowledge exchange, supporting local seed systems, value addition, and market development for indigenous crops. Dr Qwabe will explore how extension services can be repositioned to support the revival, protection, and promotion of underutilised indigenous crops.

DATE: 30 July 2025 | **TIME:** 14h00 – 15h00

VENUE: MS Teams (Online)

GUEST SPEAKER: Dr Qinisani Nhlakanipho Qwabe (lecturer, NMU)

MS Teams link: [Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 318 417 445 533 0

Passcode: 4t6sv9TH

[Download Teams](#) | [Join on the web](#)



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A NODE FOR AFRICAN THOUGHT



GUEST SPEAKER - Biography Dr Qinisani Nhlakanipho Qwabe

Dr Qinisani Nhlakanipho Qwabe is a lecturer at Nelson Mandela University in the Faculty of Science. His current project explores the link between indigenous food systems and agricultural policy in South Africa. He is the chairperson of the Australia-Africa Universities Network (AAUN) Early Career Researchers, and a member of the Agroecology Knowledge Network (AKN). **Dr Qwabe** has emerged as a visionary in sustainable development, youth empowerment, and indigenous knowledge preservation. **Dr Qwabe** leads has led several transformative initiatives focused on livelihoods development through improved agriculture, youth and community engagement, research, and the revitalisation of indigenous knowledge systems. His journey is rooted in a profound personal transformation, driven by a deliberate reconditioning of the mind to always strive for excellence. Currently serving as a researcher and community engagement practitioner, **Dr Qwabe** is deeply involved in pioneering projects that bridge science, culture, and sustainability. His work also has focused on climate change awareness and action. **Dr Qwabe** believes that addressing climate change is not only a scientific imperative but also a moral one, advocating for early awareness and grassroots involvement to safeguard future generations. Through his leadership, he restores hope among rural youth by combining social entrepreneurship and agricultural innovation to build resilient, empowered communities. A passionate advocate for education and opportunity, **Dr Qwabe** finds the most fulfilment in seeing young people who value learning and seize opportunities for personal and collective growth. His vision is of a society that believes in the power of individual and collective change, a society where transformation begins within. With a commitment to empowering the next generation, **Dr Qwabe** stands as an inspiring figure for students of agriculture, sustainability, and community leadership, embodying the spirit of African renaissance and resilience in the face of global challenges.

PROGRAMME

Guest lecture “Intersecting agricultural extension, the promotion and protection of indigenous crops of northern KwaZulu-Natal”

30 July 2025

14h00

Welcome remarks – Prof Melusi Sibanda (Facilitator)

14h05

Talk/ lecture delivery – Ms Zime Nxumalo (40 mins)

14h45

Question and answer – All

14h55

Vote of thanks and closure

15h00

END