

Call for Applications: UNISA Catalytic Niche Areas Research Chairs

The University of South Africa (UNISA) recognises the critical need to advance research and innovation, particularly in the areas of science, engineering, and technology. UNISA has strategically identified the following catalytic niche areas to prioritise as we pursue our research mandates:

- Marine Studies;
- Aviation and Aeronautical Studies;
- Automotive;
- Energy;
- Space Study and Square Kilometer Array;
- Fourth Industrial Revolution and Digitalisation;
- Natural Sciences [Biotechnological studies];
- Health Studies/Medicine;
- Feminist,
- Womanist,
- Bosadi Theorisations;
- Student Support and Co-Curricular Activities.

In order to optimise these niche areas, UNISA aims to establish dedicated Catalytic Niche Area Research Chairs as a key intervention to attract and retain exceptional scholars in service of excellence in research and innovation. These Research Chairs will be instrumental in increasing scientific research capacity, generating new knowledge, supporting the transformation of South Africa into a knowledge economy, and expanding the scientific research base to align with national research and development policies.

We invite applications from candidates who meet the following criteria:

- Doctoral degree (PhD) in a relevant field.
- Demonstrate a strong track record of research excellence in one or more of the catalytic niche areas.
- Provide evidence of academic citizenship and academic leadership activities in the last 5 years.
- Has a strong track record of supervising postgraduate students to completion.
- Has the demonstrated ability to lead research teams consisting of members at various levels of career development.
- Has a commitment to mentoring emerging scholars.
- Must have an extensive student supervision record and the ability to attract, recruit and train postgraduate students and post-doctoral fellows in the field of study that they are applying for.

Interested applicants should submit the following documents:

- Comprehensive CV that shows how the candidate meets each of the above criteria. The CV should include a full list of research outputs.
- Detailed research plan that clearly demonstrates the alignment of the research project with one or more of UNISA's catalytic niche areas.

Submission Deadline:

The deadline for submission **11 February 2024**

For academic queries, please contact: **Prof Jessica Murray, College of Graduate Studies**

Tel: 012 429 6047. E-mail: murraj@unisa.ac.za

Application Process:

Please submit the required documents to **Ms Mmabatho Nkoane**

Tel No: 012 337 6110 Email: ncubemp@unisa.ac.za

Note: The information provided in this call for applications is subject to change, and applicants are advised to check the official UNISA website for any updates or amendments. The university reserves the right to fill or not to fill the position(s).