15 July 2014

VICE-CHANCELLOR’S COMMUNIQUÉ

UKZN RANKED IN THE TOP 2.1 PERCENT IN WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS

Dear Staff and Students

I am pleased to advise you that the University of KwaZulu-Natal has been ranked in the top 2.1% among the world’s leading institutions by the Centre for World University Rankings (CWUR). UKZN was ranked 459th among approximately over 22 000 institutions of higher learning globally.

According to communication received from CWUR: ‘The Center for World University Rankings (CWUR) publishes the only global university ranking that measures the quality of education and training of students as well as the prestige of the faculty members and the quality of their research without relying on surveys and university data submissions’.

I take this opportunity to pay tribute to our academic staff for their unstinting commitment to teaching excellence. This commitment is central to providing a world-class education and an enabling teaching and learning environment. I applaud your dedication to ensure that teaching at UKZN is of high standard and that our students’ academic experience is comparable to the best universities in the world.

In a letter from the President of CWUR the details of the rankings are as follows: ‘Of particular note, University of KwaZulu-Natal ranked as follows:

- National Rank: 4
- Quality of Teaching Rank: 355+
- Alumni Employment Rank: 142
- Quality of Faculty Rank: 210+
- Publications Rank: 584
- Influence Rank: 436
- Citations Rank: 310
- Broad Impact Rank: 554
- Patents Rank: 737+
- Overall Score: 45.26

About the Methodology:
CWUR uses eight objective and robust indicators to rank the world's top 1000 universities:

1. Quality of Education, measured by the number of a university's alumni who have won major international awards, prizes, and medals relative to the university's size [25%]
2. Alumni Employment, measured by the number of a university's alumni who currently hold CEO positions at the world's top companies relative to the university's size [25%]
3. Quality of Faculty, measured by the number of academics who have won major international awards, prizes, and medals [25%]
4. Publications, measured by the number of research papers appearing in reputable journals [5%]
5. Influence, measured by the number of research papers appearing in highly-influential journals [5%]
6. Citations, measured by the number of highly-cited research papers [5%]
7. Broad Impact, measured by the university's h-Index [5%]
8. Patents, measured by the number of international patent filings [5%]

Further details can be accessed at the CWUR website: cwur.org.

Sincerely yours

Professor Malegapuru Makgoba
Vice-Chancellor and Principal