

External Vacancy

DIVISION: Registrar	DEPARTMENT: Governance & Legal
POST: 8X Members of University Council	POST No: 5098

VISION

To be an African university that leads in quality teaching and learning, informed by research and driven by innovation and technology

MISSION

To produce employable and entrepreneurial graduates who make an impact in society.

The Vaal University of Technology (VUT) was established in 1966. It has grown in stature and size as a Higher Education Institution, drawing students from all over the country and the continent. It is one of the largest residential universities of technology (UoTs) situated in Southern Gauteng with approximately 20 000 students.

The rich heritage of the region and the presence of metal, steel, engineering and telecommunication companies provide support for the University to achieve its vision and mission and for VUT graduates to become fully-rounded global citizens. This position enables VUT to make substantial contributions to the development of human capital in the region, the country and the continent.

The VUT operates from its main campus in Vanderbijlpark. The University has repositioned itself to support government initiatives within the southern Gauteng region through the establishment of the VUT Southern Gauteng Science and Technology Park, based in Sebokeng.

The institution offers apposite academic programmes through its four faculties, namely Engineering and Technology; Applied and Computer Sciences; Human Sciences; and Management Sciences. Its focus is on growing impact-driven research relevant to society with the support of the following Centres of Excellence:

- VUT Southern Gauteng Science and Technology Park
- Technology Transfer and Innovation
- Dihlare Institute for Traditional Medicines
- Engineering Development and Support Unit
- French South African Schneider Electric Education Centre
- Institute of Applied Electronics
- Institute of High Voltage Studies
- Centre for Sustainable Livelihoods
- Centre for Renewable Energy and Water
- Institute of Chemical Biotechnology

The VUT Council governs the University in accordance with the Higher Education Act (101 of 1997, as amended) and the Institutional Statute. The Council protects institutional autonomy of the University and the academic freedom of its employees, while upholding public accountability. The University currently does not have a Council as it is under administration.

Recruitment of Council Members

The VUT is in the process of recruiting suitably qualified and appropriately experienced individuals, with the necessary stature and standing in the community, to fill the various positions on the Council of the University as outlined in its Statute. The Council positions being considered in this advertisement are the following categories:

- A (ix). Six (6) persons who are not employees or students of the University, to be considered by reason of their special knowledge or expertise, representing

appropriate sectors and professions and with a broad range of competencies in fields such as, but not limited to, education, business, finance, law, marketing, information technology and human resource management, taking into account considerations of equity and diversity.

- A (x). Two (2) representatives of the Convocation who are in good standing with the University and are neither currently registered students nor staff members of the University.

Council members will, jointly and severally, be responsible to:

- Set the strategic direction and long-range vision for the University in accordance with the Act and the University Statute;
- Restore and maintain public confidence in the University and ensure stakeholder trust;
- Perform both common law duties and fiduciary duties as prescribed in the Statute;
- Establish and maintain high standards of academic conduct and promote a positive culture in the institution;
- Apply probity and independent judgement on reports and submissions by management;
- Support the Vice-Chancellor and Principal and his/her Management Team towards promoting the success of the University.

APPLICATION CRITERIA:

Qualification and Experience:

- **For A(ix):** An appropriate qualification in any of the areas listed (education, business, finance, law, marketing, information technology and human resource management).
- **For A(x):** A qualification acquired from the VUT.
- **For both A(ix) and A(x):**
 - at least 10 years working experience as well as board/council membership experience.
 - Membership of a professional body will be an added advantage.

Essential Skills and Competencies:

- A demonstrable commitment to higher education and understanding of students and their needs;
- The ability to work effectively with the executive management: to challenge, support and hold the executive management to account for the delivery of the corporate strategy;
- The capacity to understand the organisational and governance issues facing the VUT and the skills required to analyse, interrogate and scrutinise performance data;
- Demonstrable experience in contributing constructively to collective decision-making processes, respecting and listening to others and earning the respect of colleagues;
- A personal commitment to good governance, ethics, integrity and upholding the recognised principles of public life and a commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion.

TERMS OF APPOINTMENT:

Remuneration:

- Council members are paid session fees in accordance with University policy.
- Council members are eligible to claim travel expenses at rates set by the VUT.

Time commitment:

- A minimum of 16 days per year (including reading and preparation time for meetings and attendance at training).
- Council members also serve on one or more of the Council Committees.
- There is a minimum of four Council meetings a year, often with one or two Council workshops per year.

Development and appraisal:

- An induction programme will be provided upon appointment.
- Members are also expected to participate in a development programme and to take part in Council appraisal processes.

Standards of conduct:

- Each Council member will be expected to demonstrate high standards of professional and personal conduct.
- The successful candidates must also subscribe to the VUT Code of Conduct for Council Members.

Vetting and conflict of interest:

- All applicants will undergo a vetting process, due diligence and probity checks.
- All applicants will be expected to declare any potential or actual conflict of interest upfront.

Closing date for applications: 26 March 2021

Submit CVs via e-mailed to recruitment@vut.ac.za.

Please Note: The application must be accompanied by a CV, identity document and ORIGINAL certified copies (not older than 3 months) of educational qualifications. Submission of such copies entitles the VUT to authenticate the qualifications without any further consent from the applicant. Candidates with foreign qualifications must also submit the South African equivalent of the qualification. These qualifications are evaluated by SAQA. The VUT is an equal opportunity and affirmative action employer, which is committed to the implementation of its employment equity plan. Therefore, people from designated groups are encouraged to apply. If you are not contacted within six weeks after the closing date, please accept that your application was unsuccessful.

