

UNIVERSITY OF KWAZULU-NATAL

SUBMISSION IDENTIFIERS:

Title	UNIVERSITY OF KWAZULU-NATAL LANGUAGE BOARD REPORT FOR 2014/2015
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APPROVAL HISTORY

Structure consulted	Date	Outcome
University Language Board	24 June 2015	supported
Senate	19 August 2015	

SUBMISSION CONTENT

Proposal To note the third annual University Language Board Report (ULB) (2014/2015) as required by policy.
Motivation The 2014/2015 ULB Report is the third such report to Senate in conformity with the University Language Policy and Plan, which specifies that a bilingual annual report must be presented to the University Senate. The first second and third Senate Reports were respectively tabled on 09 May 2012, 21 August 2013 and 20 August 2014. This current report documents further work and progress that the ULB has made towards the implementation of the University Language Plan.
Financial implications Indicated in the report
Attachments University of KwaZulu-Natal Language Board Report For 2014/2015

**University of KwaZulu-Natal Language Board
Report for 2014/2015**

Contents

Introduction.....	3
Membership of the University Language Board 2014:	3
University Language Planning and Development Office (ULPDO).....	4
Implementing the Language Policy and Plan	5
IsiZulu Language Module.....	5
Corpus Building and Terminology Development	5
IsiZulu Terminology Development and Dissemination Indaba	8
ULPDO Services	8
Funded Projects	9
ULPDO Funded Projects.....	10
Monitoring and Evaluation of isiZulu interventions/ projects.....	10
Looking Ahead	11
Publications.....	12

Introduction

The University Language Board (ULB) continues to oversee the implementation of the University Language Policy and Plan. Following the University College re-organization, the Higher Education Ministerial Committee visit in May 2013, and the enactment of the Use of Official Languages Act in 2012, the ULB initiated a process to revise the University Language Policy and Plan, which was first approved in 2006. The ULB appointed a task team whose mandate was to strengthen the provisions of the Language Policy, and to align these provisions so that the Language Policy is responsive to both the needs of the entire University community, and most importantly, with the country's constitutional imperatives as provided for in the Use of Official Languages Act (2012).

The task team, led by the Chair of the ULB, consulted all the University structures. Input was received from all sections of the University, and were considered and incorporated in the revised Language Policy and Plan. The Language Policy and Plan was approved by Senate and Council in November and December 2014.

Membership of the University Language Board 2014:

Professor R Vithal (Chair)	DVC: Teaching and Learning
Dr. L Khumalo	Director: Language Planning & Development
Dr. R Dhunpath	Director: Teaching & Learning
Mr. L Seshoka	Executive Director: Corporate Relations
Dr. S Chalufu (Alternate)	Executive Director: Student Services
Mr. B Poo	Support Services Sector
Professor G Kamwendo	Academic Expert
Professor A Modi	Agriculture, Engineering and Science
Dr. M Matthews	Health Sciences
Ms C Engelbrecht (Alternate)	Health Sciences
Dr. G Mazibuko	Humanities
Dr. S L Ntuli (Alternate)	Humanities
Dr. A Bengesai	Law and Management Studies
Mr. K Zondi (Alternate)	Law and Management Studies
Mr. K Mngadi	Language coordinator
Mr. S Mthethwa	CSRC Representative

The ULB had four meetings in 2014. These meetings were strategic platforms for the Board members to come up with strategies to steer the implementation of the Language Policy and Plan across all sectors of the University. This report highlights some of the milestones the ULB achieved towards the implementation of the Language Plan.

University Language Planning and Development Office (ULPDO)

While the ULB provides oversight and strategic leadership in the implementation of the University Language Policy and Plan, the University Language Planning and Development Office (ULPDO) operationalizes the activities of the ULB. The ULPDO has just completed its first year of operating fully following the appointment of key staff members. In its first year of inception ULPDO initiated various language programs. The flagship program, however, remains the twin process of isiZulu corpus building and isiZulu terminology development, which are germane in the intellectualization of isiZulu.

Work on the building of the isiZulu National Corpus (INC) started in the last quarter. The first corpus materials to be processed and stored in the database to mark the first texts in the INC were the isiZulu bible, the national constitution, the first novel published in isiZulu, the first novel published by a female author in isiZulu and the first grammar book in isiZulu. The INC was piloted at the Terminology Development Indaba, in November 2014 at 1, 1 million running words. Terminology development continued in a very impressive fashion with ULPDO successfully hosting ten (10) terminology development workshops and overseeing the standardization and approval of architecture, anatomy and law terminology by the National Language Body. A total of 1863 terms were taken through the statutory terminology development processes of consultation, verification and standardization.

One of the foremost aims of the University Language Policy (revised in 2014) is to “[...] preserve and promote respect for, and proficiency in, the languages referred to in the Constitution, and other languages, including the heritage languages, that facilitate potentially valuable cultural, scientific and economic ties [...]”. This is vitally important in order to embrace and foster social cohesion within the University community. It is in this light that in 2014 ULPDO initiated as one of its running projects, the *Bua le nna* (Let’sTalk) program. The program is implemented in conjunction with the office of the director of student services through language champions and ULPDO staff. The program is aimed at teaching conversational Sesotho to non-Sesotho speaking students at UKZN student residences. The residences where the program has been piloted were carefully chosen, one for female and the other for male residents, respectively Ansell May Hall and John Bews. This program seeks to introduce different indigenous languages to students in a relaxed, cheerful, but informative way. Consequentially students embrace, appreciate, and respect cultural and linguistic diversity. Thus far the students

in both residences, and the language champions are very excited to have been part of this program.

On the 23rd of April 2014 the ULPDO also launched another exciting program, the South African Sign Language Advocacy Day at UKZN. The theme of the program is “UKZN Connecting People with SA Sign Language”. This was done notably because the Use of Official Languages Act of 2012 officially recognizes SA sign language as a language equal in status to the eleven official languages of the country. The advocacy day brings awareness to the Deaf Community at UKZN and brings to the fore the issues that confronts the Deaf Community amongst us. The ULPDO is thus proud to have initiated the two programs as part of its broad mandate to enhance the status and role of the previously disadvantaged languages to be central languages in the life of a University.

Implementing the Language Policy and Plan

IsiZulu Language Module

The year 2014 was a momentous year in which the African Languages discipline successfully rolled out the compulsory isiZulu module to new entrant undergraduates. A total of 1,089 first level students successfully completed the compulsory isiZulu language module. A teaching manual, *Asikbulume* was developed by staff in the African languages discipline for Howard, Westville and Pietermaritzburg Campuses. The Medical School has a specialized module for their students designed to suit their professional needs.

Corpus Building and Terminology Development

As stated in the introduction, the two key programs that are crucial in the whole process of the intellectualization of isiZulu at UKZN is the building of INC and isiZulu terminology development. The INC is going to be crucial in the development of human language technologies (HLT's) and computer/mobile applications in isiZulu. It is also an invaluable body of knowledge for academic research.

While the official memorandum is still being processed between UKZN and PanSALB, the ULPDO has commenced the complex process of building the INC. The INC is a monitor corpus, which will grow substantially in the years ahead. Launched at 1, 1 million tokens it is currently in the proud company of other million-word corpora such as the Brown Corpus of

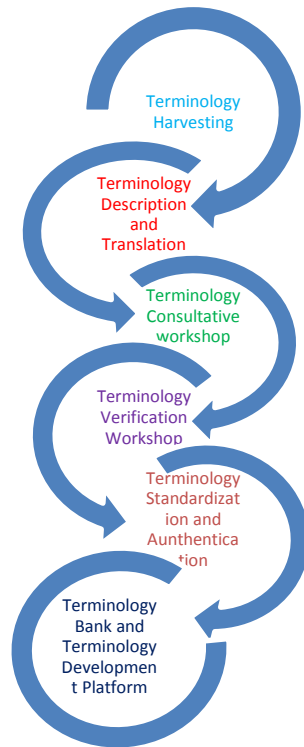
American English (1964) and the Lancaster-Oslo/Bergen (LOB) Corpus of British English (1978).

A screen short of the INC at its launch.

N	text file	file size	tokens (running words) n	tokens used for word list	sum of entries	types (distinct words)	type/total ratio	standard dev.	STR basis	STR basis	mean word length	word length std.dev.	sentences	mean (n words)	std.dev.	graphs	mean (n words)	std.dev.	headings	mean (n words)	std.dev.
1	Overall	10 402 393	1 186 675	1 097 358	204 233	18.61	61.23	40.13	1000	7.09	3.24	78 490	16.68	756.59	382	2 872.66	20 413.9				
2	Zukon00001.txt	301 724	32 353	29 943	8 488	28.35	54.17	42.03	1000	7.81	3.84	962	31.13	35.89	1	29 943.0					
3	Zunovel00001.txt	164 561	19 396	19 258	8 878	46.10	73.51	23.89	1000	7.02	2.61	1 858	10.36	6.86	1	19 258.0					
4	Zunovel00002.txt	188 231	21 985	21 965	8 806	40.09	68.43	29.83	1000	7.32	2.77	1 982	11.08	7.13	1	21 965.0					
5	zubbble00001.txt	3 886 206	425 504	394 316	72 721	18.44	59.11	43.26	1000	7.63	3.12	30 076	20.16	1 222.13	1	394 316.					
6	zuluhelo00001.txt	434 126	42 802	40 341	14 400	35.70	58.44	40.51	1000	6.74	3.68	3 489	11.56	18.25	1	40 341.0					
7	zulumanu00001.txt	362 541	41 042	39 779	14 019	35.24	62.79	34.08	1000	7.50	2.88	3 276	12.14	7.45	1	39 779.0					
8	zulumanu00002.txt	158 380	17 976	17 556	6 439	36.68	59.21	37.52	1000	7.36	2.94	1 657	10.60	6.73	1	17 556.0					
9	zulumanu00003.txt	142 269	15 593	14 866	6 377	42.90	66.35	29.87	1000	7.69	3.15	1 532	9.70	6.61	1	14 866.0					
10	zulutales00001.txt	14 606	1 703	1 703	951	55.84	58.80		1000	7.29	2.63	199	8.56	5.77	1	1 703.00					
11	Zul_janga_00001.txt	11 046	1 268	1 247	921	73.86	77.10		1000	7.01	2.99	81	15.40	11.53	1	1 247.00					
12	Zul_janga_00002.txt	6 914	737	716	535	74.72			1000	7.65	3.04	44	16.27	11.62	1	716.00					
13	Zul_janga_00003.txt	12 915	1 556	1 404	932	66.38	68.60		1000	6.60	3.25	98	14.34	11.56	1	1 404.00					
14	Zul_janga_00004.txt	12 145	1 351	1 324	979	73.94	72.80		1000	7.33	2.87	100	13.24	7.85	1	1 324.00					
15	Zul_janga_00005.txt	9 520	1 028	1 021	764	74.83	74.60		1000	7.64	2.81	91	11.22	6.64	1	1 021.00					
16	Zul_janga_00006.txt	16 329	2 051	1 941	1 074	55.33	55.30	31.61	1000	6.36	3.68	74	26.23	24.53	1	1 941.00					
17	Zul_janga_00007.txt	4 249	448	440	378	85.91			1000	7.75	2.84	27	16.30	7.52	1	440.00					
18	Zul_janga_00008.txt	5 331	675	670	500	74.63			1000	6.31	2.89	61	10.98	6.97	1	670.00					
19	Zul_janga_00009.txt	25 941	2 588	2 432	913	37.54	71.85	19.91	1000	6.45	3.45	123	19.77	13.13	1	2 432.00					
20	Zul_janga_00010.txt	8 433	919	899	662	73.64			1000	7.48	2.80	58	15.50	9.45	1	899.00					
21	Zul_janga_000100.txt	9 844	1 163	1 103	821	74.43	71.00		1000	6.62	2.91	63	17.51	15.97	1	1 103.00					
22	Zul_janga_000101.txt	15 180	1 726	1 628	1 094	67.20	67.20		1000	7.03	3.27	121	13.45	12.72	1	1 628.00					
23	Zul_janga_000102.txt	14 129	1 575	1 543	1 114	72.20	73.10		1000	7.33	2.94	108	14.29	8.16	1	1 543.00					
24	Zul_janga_000103.txt	12 443	1 368	1 349	909	67.38	69.60		1000	7.43	3.29	107	12.61	10.36	1	1 349.00					
25	Zul_janga_000104.txt	12 443	1 368	1 349	909	67.38	69.60		1000	7.43	3.29	107	12.61	10.36	1	1 349.00					
26	Zul_janga_000105.txt	6 786	823	704	520	73.86			1000	6.55	3.43	46	15.30	12.88	1	704.00					

Terminology development is also at the core of language intellectualization. One of the most important principles in terminology development is to observe statutory and mandatory processes. ULPDO has designed a unique terminology development process with five important stages that incorporate the statutory processes facilitated by PanSALB. The five stages are terminology harvesting, terminology description and translation, terminology consultation, terminology verification, and terminology standardization and authentication. These processes can be monitored through an electronic platform developed by ULB: the terminology development platform. The ULPDO has also developed an isiZulu term bank for the ease of access and dissemination of standardized and authenticated terminology. The five stages are illustrated in figure 1 below.

Figure 1: Terminology Development Processes



Language experts and subject specialists go through weeks on end to carefully consider each and every term in both English and isiZulu in a sequence of meetings convened by the ULPDO. This is done to observe the statutory and mandatory processes in terminology development in collaboration with the KZN PanSALB office as a legislated body that convenes such gatherings. In the period under review ULPDO successfully hosted 10 terminology workshops. To date, the office has standardized 1863 terms. The approval of these terminologies has increased the number of authorized terminology for official usage both inside and outside UKZN.

Table 1 terminology workshops spread sheet 2014/2015

No.	Discipline	Number of terms developed	Number of verified terms	Number of standardized terms	Number of terms remaining	RAG
1.	Anatomy Terminology	673	834	834	0	
2.	Literature Onomastic and Research	271	0	0	0	
3.	Architecture Terminology	210	222	224	0	
4.	Computer Science	145	146	0	0	

UNIVERSITY OF KWAZULU-NATAL

	Terminology					
5.	Corporate Relations Terminology	192	192	0	0	
6.	Law Terminology	748	256	256	492	
7.	Environmental Studies terminology	513	513	0	0	
8.	Nursing Terminology	549	549	549	0	
	Total	3301	2712	1863	492	

IsiZulu Terminology Development and Dissemination Indaba

Following the steady progress in the development of new technical terminology for various disciplines through projects funded by ULB, and the onerous task of intellectualizing a hitherto disadvantaged language, the ULB in its June 2014 meeting, decided to convene an all stakeholder Indaba in order to share strategies for the dissemination of the standardized multi-disciplinary terms. It was thus one of the objectives of the Indaba for stakeholders to commit to sharing of resources and expertise in the development and dissemination of isiZulu terminology for use in the knowledge economy. Delegates at the Indaba included officials from Higher Education, Government Departments, Media, Legislature, Municipalities, Language Researchers and Language Practitioners.

The Indaba was officially opened by the Vice-Chancellor and Principal Professor MW Makgoba, who reinforced the importance of ensuring the centrality of indigenous languages in higher education, science and technology. The keynote speaker was Professor L. Pretorius from the University of South Africa in Pretoria, who spoke on the intellectualization of African languages in Higher Education. The DVC of Teaching and Learning, and Chair of the ULB, Professor R. Vithal officially opened the University Language Planning and Development. It was also at the Indaba where ULPDO also piloted for the first time the INC and the isiZulu Term Bank.

ULPDO Services

ULPDO has established strong working relations with both internal and external stakeholders. Internal stakeholders include schools, colleges and the support services. External stakeholders

UNIVERSITY OF KWAZULU-NATAL

Universities, government departments, eThekweni Municipality, the Legislature, and the Pan-South African Languages Board (PanSALB). The services rendered particularly to schools, colleges and support services department are informed by the mission of the ULPDO, to embrace and foster functional bilingualism at the University through the promotion of equitable use of the English language and isiZulu as provided for in the University Language Policy (2006 revised in 2014). In order for UKZN to gradually become a fully bilingual institution, there are specific services that ULPDO must discharge, and they are explained below.

As reported in the 3rd Senate report the ULPDO continues to offer translation, interpreting and editing services to the entire University community on request. Translations that were done in the period under review include:

- Access to Information Policy
- College Hand Books
- Students Disciplinary Rules
- Distinguished Teachers Awards Video
- Annual Reports

Interpreting services were also rendered at the following functions:

- UKZN Terminology Development and Dissemination Indaba
- Sign Language Advocacy Day

Funded Projects

In 2013/2014 ULB provided funding to various projects across three colleges, namely the college of Humanities, Health Sciences and Agriculture, Engineering and Science (AES) to the tune of R1, 021, 880. The progress reports submitted to ULPDO indicate that Buthelezi presented a paper with Dr. Keet at ALTA 2014 in isiZulu titled *Izindlela ezimkhakhamingi neziqhakambisa umphakathi ekwakhiveni kwamagama esiZulu semfundo emkhakheni weSayensi YeKhompyutha neminye encike kuwo*. (Novel ways of creating isiZulu terminology for computer science and other related disciplines). Professor Frescura's project successfully standardized architectural terms in 2014. A manuscript on an illustrated bilingual glossary has been submitted to ULPDO and discussions are afoot to publish the manuscript through UKZN Press. The environmental science project under Professor Modi has seen the translation of the AES college

UNIVERSITY OF KWAZULU-NATAL

handbook, and an English glossary of terms with isiZulu equivalents has been submitted to ULPDO for consultation and verification through the mandatory processes.

Dr. Keet and Dr. Barbour’s COMMUTERM project has been the most successful and the most visible. The computer terminology has been standardized. Dr. Keet has developed a crowdsourcing software for harvesting terminology in isiZulu, and has a dedicated webpage to report on the project developments <http://www.meteck.org/files/commuterm/>. She has also published a journal article in Alternations (Vol. 21) 2014 on: “Limitations of Regular Terminology Development Practices: The Case of isiZulu Computing Terminology Practices”. Dr. Mathews has also made tremendous progress and her reports have been submitted regularly at ULB.

ULPDO Funded Projects

Table 1.

Year	Surname	School/Department	Title of the project	Amount Approved
2013	Buthelezi	Humanities	Development of discipline specific terminology for professional psychologists	R 90 000.00
2013	Christiansen	Humanities	Games for isiZulu Teaching	R 70 000.00
2013	Frescura	Humanities	Illustrated dictionary of Southern African Architectural Terms	R 50 000.00
2013	Modi	AES	Various projects involving isiZulu tutorials. Introducing Supplemental instruction in isiZulu AES.	R 730 000.00
2013	Keet	AES	COMMUTERM	R 56 880.00
2013	Mathews	Health Sciences	Mini video productions	R 25 000.00
2014	Modi	AES	Translation of College of AES handbook into isiZulu	R 80 000.00
2014	Bengesai	LMS	Translation of College of LMS handbook into isiZulu	R 80 000.00
Total				R 1 181 880.00

Monitoring and Evaluation of isiZulu interventions/ projects

The ULB directed the ULPDO to systematically evaluate all isiZulu intervention projects that the ULB has funded on student performance. The exercise was also supposed to evaluate the impact of those projects that may not have been funded by the ULB but are in support of supplementary instruction in isiZulu.

The Language Researcher in the ULPDO solicited for reports from all the colleges from the respective project leaders, and also met with them. In some colleges he met college representatives to the ULB. During these meetings a lot of information was shared regarding the interest of students in isiZulu intervention, and the lack of interest of the students in some of

these projects. The Language Researcher is preparing a preliminary report on the evaluation exercise to serve at the ULB.

The ULPDO is now busy working on creating an evaluation tool to further assess the impact of these interventions. It must be noted though that, other projects such as; Bilingual Tutorials in Engineering, Bilingual Tutorials in economics, isiZulu Physics Tutorials, Modules Translation into isiZulu in the College of Humanities (Political Science department), and so on are still in progress. Therefore it is not possible at this stage to assess the full impact on students although preliminary reports in AES indicate positive results.

Looking Ahead

The ULPDO in January set a target of 5 million running words as the INC corpus size to be achieved by the end of the year. As a result, corpus building has been accelerated. At the end of January, 2015 the office took delivery of the corpus designated scanner, which is expected to enhance the corpus collection exercise. Since the arrival of the scanner the office has managed to improve the monthly output from 14 800 running words to 340 000 running words. Strategies are being put in place to significantly improve this output. The office has also embarked on the process of visiting relevant institutions in order to introduce the corpus project as a national imperative and to appeal for corpus materials. Drafting a memorandum of understanding is underway with a leading publisher to access the vast amount of publications in isiZulu, which range from the classical isiZulu writings to contemporary children short stories.

The office will be hosting the 20th AFRILEX International Conference scheduled to take place on the 6th to 9th of July 2015 at UNITE building, Howard College campus. This conference will be attended by the international and local renowned scholars in terminology, e-lexicography, corpus lexicography, language planning and development, who will be conducting workshops and presenting scholarly papers.

Later in the year, the office will also be hosting a language research symposium on the 19th and 20th October 2015. The Director of ULPDO is going to be a keynote speaker at the National Conference on Multilingualism in Higher Education to be held at UNISA in Pretoria on 20-21 August 2015. These major events are an indication that ULPDO is ensuring that the university

language policy and plan is implemented through a robust academic engagement with various institutions, and through the sharing of best practices.

Publications

The publication output for members of the ULPDO in its first year of inception was as follows:

Book

1. Khumalo, L. (Ed). 2014. *African Languages and Linguistics Theory*. Cape Town: CASAS.

DoHET Accredited Journals

2. Khumalo, L. 2014. On the reciprocal in Ndebele. *Nordic Journal of African Studies* (NJAS) **23(3)**: 140-161.
3. Khumalo, L. 2014. On subject agreement in isiNdebele. *South African Journal of African Languages* (SAJAL) 34(2):137-143.

Book Chapter

4. Khumalo, L. 2014. Generative grammar and cognitive grammar: a case of the passive construction in Ndebele: 37-55. In L. Khumalo (Ed.) 2014. *African Languages and Linguistics Theory*. Cape Town: CASAS.

Peer-reviewed Proceedings

- 2014 Keet, C. M. and Khumalo, L. Toward Verbalizing Ontologies in isiZulu. In Davies, B. Kaljurand, K and Kuhn, D. (Eds.) 2014. *Controlled Natural Language. Proceedings*. 78-89, **Springer**.
- 2014 Keet, C. M. and Khumalo, L. Basics for a Grammar Engine to Verbalize Logical Theories in isiZulu. In Bikakis, A, Fodor, P and Roman, D. (Eds.). 2014. *Rules on the Web: From Theory to Applications. Proceedings*. 216-225. **Springer**.