

language matters@UKZN

**University Language Planning and Development Office
Second Quarterly Report: 2017**

INSPIRING GREATNESS



Langa Khumalo, PhD Linguistics.
Director: Language Planning
and Development Office

Terminology development and corpus building remain the two crucial language activities that form the bedrock of the intellectualization effort at UKZN. In this quarter alone, the University Language Planning and Development Office successfully hosted three standardization workshops and one verification workshop, itself an important milestone. The terms that have been standardized are now ready for dissemination using the technologies that we launched last year, viz. the isiZulu Term Bank and the Zulu Lexicon Mobile APP. The IsiZulu National Corpus (INC) grew by almost a million tokens in this quarter, raising the number of tokens in the INC to 22.7 million. The ULPDO has embraced the new UKZN Strategic Plan, and has had a strategic session to discuss the new plan in order to situate its activities towards enhancing the new UKZN strategy.

Second Quarterly Report April - June 2017.

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1. Introduction

The University Language Planning and Development Office continues to implement the university language policy and plan. One of the stated objectives of the University Language Policy (2006 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 [...]”. As part of the implementation of multilingualism at the University in order to initiate and foster social cohesion within the University community, ULPDO continued to offer the *Bua le Nna* (Let’sTalk) program as a running project in the student residences. In this quarter, five sessions were held with Sesotho language champions taking the lead in teaching non-Sesotho speaking students communicative competency in the language. The program continues to grow, and plans are underway to expand it to other campuses.

The creation of specialized terminology for various disciplines, and taking them through mandatory processes of consultation, verification and authentication remains the kernel of the intellectualization effort at UKZN together with the building of the isiZulu National Corpus. During the period under review the University Language Planning and Development Office successfully hosted one verification workshop and three standardization workshops. The terms that have been authenticated and standardized are now ready for dissemination using the technologies that we launched last year. These are the isiZulu Term Bank and the Zulu Lexicon Mobile APP. Equally important is the corpus development. The IsiZulu National Corpus (INC) grew by almost a million tokens in this quarter, raising the number of tokens in the INC to 22.7 million. The ULPDO also continued to do corpus cleaning in preparation for the tagging of the INC in order to add value to the resource.

The language services are offered to many clients across the University. The implementation of the DR9 Rule, which requires all submitting doctoral candidates to provide their dissertation abstracts in both English and isiZulu will increase the volume of translation activity at the office. The office is initiating a strategy to deal with the volume of work. The office has further engaged with the new University Strategic Plan, and has developed its plan that enhances the goals of the new UKZN strategy.

Dr Langa Khumalo
Director: ULPDO

2. Law Terminology Verification Workshop

The ULPDO hosted another Law Terminology Verification Workshop on the 24-26 April 2017 at Emakhosini boutique Hotel.



In the picture are the collaborators for this workshop. Prof. A. M. Maphumulo, Dr. N. Sibiya, Mr. Z. Xala, Mr. B. Nxumalo, Rev. J. Mazibuko, the subject specialists included; Adv. S. E. Ngcobo, Mr. K. K. Zondi, Mr. N. Mzolo, Mr. T. Ndlovu, PanSALB Representative Ms. J. Ngcobo and the ULPDO staff members.

This is a second mandatory stage in terminology development processes. The collaborators were considering a third law terminology batch since 2015. This demonstrates progress in the discipline of law as over 1 500 terms have been created in this discipline for teaching and learning. Subject specialists and collaborators thoroughly discussed the terminology submitted before them during this workshop. This workshop was organized by PanSALB together with ULPDO, since PanSALB is a statutory body dealing with all language matters as per the constitution of the Republic of South Africa.

A total of 496 terms were verified at this workshop, and are now ready for the standardization stage.

3. Research Terminology Standardization Workshop

The ULPDO also hosted the Research Terminology Standardization Workshop on from 11-12 April 2017 at Coastlands on the Ridge Hotel.



In the picture are the collaborators for this workshop, Prof A. M. Maphumulo, Dr N Sibiya, Dr B Zungu, Mr. Z. Xala, Mr. B Nxumalo, the subject specialists included; Dr G. Mazibuko and the ULPDO staff members.

Research is identified as one of the key component and strategic focus of UKZN. Therefore standardizing the research terminology is one of the important task that have been undertaken by ULPDO in this quarter. It is important to note that standardization is the last stage in terminology development, which means that after this stage the terms are officially disseminated and used particularly for teaching and research. Research terminology is also envisaged to be used to translate research methodology materials into isiZulu. The collaborators spent three days during this workshop thoroughly engaging each individual term, and at the end unanimously agreeing on all of them.

At the end, 494 terms were standardized and are now ready for dissemination and use.

4. Computer Science Terminology Standardization Workshop

The Computer Science Terminology Standardization Workshop was also hosted by the ULPDO on 13 April 2017 at Coastlands on the Ridge Hotel.



In the picture are the collaborators for this workshop included, Prof A. M. Maphumulo, Dr N Sibiya, Dr B Zungu, Mr. Z. Xala, Mr. B Nxumalo, and Dr M Mbatha. The subject specialists include Dr G Mazibuko and the ULPDO staff members.

Computer Science contributed to the batch of terminology that have been standardized since 2014. This is one of the most important disciplines because of its role in modern technology advancement. The students and the general public will now have access to computer science terms in isiZulu, which will enhance their understanding of the field. Collaborators and a subject specialist extensively discussed these terms extensively. However, a lot of effort needs to be put by the office in harvesting more terminology in this field.

At the end, 147 terms were standardized and are now ready for dissemination and utilization.

5. Law Terminology Standardization Workshop

To complete the circle, the ULPDO hosted the Law Terminology Standardization Workshop on the 29-31 May 2017 at Coastlands on the Ridge Hotel.



In the picture are the collaborators for this workshop included, Prof A. M. Maphumulo, Dr N Sibiyi, Dr S Ntuli, Dr L Makhubu, Dr B Zungu, Mr. Z. Xala, Mr. S. W. A. Sibeko, Mr. B Nxumalo, Mr. B Mdluli, Ms V Masuku and Ms G Mkhize; the subject specialists included; Adv. SE Ngcobo, Mr. K.K Zondi, Mr. N. Mzolo, Mr. T Ndlovu; and the ULPDO staff members.

This is the last stage in terminology development processes. After this stage, the terms will be officially permitted for use both within and outside the university. IsiZulu speaking students are going to benefit from this project and this will certainly enhance their level of understanding. Subject specialists and collaborators passionately discussed and standardized these terms, which are now ready for dissemination.

A total of 496 terms were standardize and are now ready to be used.

4. ULDPO Strategic planning meeting.

The ULPD office held a successful Strategic Planning workshop wherein the ULPDO Programme of Action for 2016 was re-aligned with the new UKZN Strategic Plan on the 19 April 2017.

This was a special strategic planning workshop, which was necessitated by the adoption of the UKZN new strategic plan. The one-day workshop successfully aligned the ULPDO plan for this year with the strategy of the university. The office also critically engaged and clearly located its role in the new strategy, which is premised on the University Language Policy and Plan. Amongst other things, the office identified the following strategic goals as articulated in the new UKZN Strategic Plan as areas that it can strategically focus on:

- ❖ Excellence in Teaching and Learning
- ❖ Excellent & High Impact Research, Innovation/Entrepreneurship Through Language Intervention
- ❖ Targeted Internationalization
- ❖ Social Cohesion and Community Engagement

The meeting also discussed the preparations and planning for the biennial language symposium, which is scheduled as follows:

Date: 25 October 2017

Theme: HLTs and CALS as enablers in the intellectualization of isiZulu at UKZN

The workshop was a success and the plan was adopted with the estimated dates and timelines.

4. Running Projects

4.1. Bua Le Nna Sessions

As a continuation of last year's plans ULPDO successfully held five Bua Le Nna sessions in April, May and June 2017 respectively.



In the picture are the students who participated in this session including the ULPDO staff members.

These sessions were a continuous work from the previous quarter, which were about teaching students (mostly isiZulu speaking) conversational Sesotho at their residences. The language champions have extensively covered almost all sections that relate to social life including; mode of transportation, body parts, family members and extended family members etc. The participating students are confidently conversing in Sesotho language during these sessions. This has boosted the social cohesion project of the university, which is also central to uniting the university community.

5. KZN Stakeholder meeting/workshops.

5.1. eThekwinini Reading and Writing club

The ULPDO in collaboration with KZN DAC and eThekwinini Reading and Writing Club successfully hosted the Reading and Writing workshop on the 22 April 2017 in Howard College Campus at Shepstone Building.



In the picture are the writers who participated in this workshop, and the two facilitators of the workshop. Also in the picture are the ULPDO staff members.

This workshop is a continuation of the partnership between the ULPDO, DAC and the Ethekewini Reading and Writing Club. The workshops are intended for training and building the writers on how to write good literary works in isiZulu. The selected literary genre for 2017 is poetry. The Ethekewini Reading and Writing Club is an initiative that assists in keeping and preserving the isiZulu language for different purposes. This initiative hopes to inculcate the culture of reading and writing both in the university and the general public. The facilitators of the workshop were Mrs Ngcongo (DAC), Mr BR Nxumalo (DUT) and Mr Nxumalo (a retired teacher). They delivered an impressive workshop. At the end, the participants indicated that, they had acquired a lot of knowledge in this field.

6. ULPDO HLT's

6.1 Corpus Project

Statistics List (unsaved)

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	Overall	0649 is	0650 is	0650 is	0651	0652	0653	0654	0655	0656	0657	0658	0659	0660	0661	0662	0663
text file																	
file size	193 370 928	113 922	118 340	75 712	97 946	136 068	182 712	80 544	34 776	126 613	133 398	34 869	95 801	193 671	66 106	106 106	106 106
tokens (running words) in text	22 734 068	13 109	13 542	8 734	11 356	16 152	22 436	9 093	4 165	15 391	15 204	11 301	10 391	10 973	23 781	8 404	12 106
tokens used for word list	21 636 864	12 333	12 748	8 287	10 621	15 501	20 146	8 655	3 999	14 581	14 381	10 701	9 472	10 431	21 171	7 789	11 106
sum of entries																	
types (distinct words)	2 526 186	7 224	7 471	5 112	6 542	8 923	8 465	5 609	2 584	8 425	7 957	6 511	5 552	6 073	9 122	4 991	7 106
type/token ratio (TTR)	11,68	58,57	58,61	61,69	61,57	57,54	42,02	64,81	64,62	57,78	55,33	60,81	58,61	58,20	43,08	64,08	60,10
standardised TTR	69,79	72,09	73,65	72,88	73,09	75,78	53,70	75,71	73,57	73,49	72,07	73,58	69,35	72,50	55,42	73,30	74,10
STTR std.dev.	30,73	24,91	24,56	24,27	25,25	22,94	37,90	21,96	20,72	25,29	26,20	23,99	28,63	24,54	38,90	23,76	24,10
STTR basis	1 000	1 000	1 000	1 000	1 000	1 000	1 000	1 000	1 000	1 000	1 000	1 000	1 000	1 000	1 000	1 000	1 000
mean word length (in characters)	6,80	6,89	6,87	6,90	6,89	6,82	6,67	7,07	6,56	6,60	6,98	6,93	6,49	7,01	6,66	6,73	6,10
word length std.dev.	3,23	3,29	3,20	3,17	3,24	3,09	3,28	3,15	3,23	3,16	3,25	3,16	3,34	3,19	3,26	3,34	3,10
sentences	1 786 039	845	840	578	711	1 038	1 489	609	260	890	1 002	743	621	753	1 833	522	1 106
mean (in words)	12,37	14,60	15,18	14,34	14,95	14,94	13,53	14,21	15,38	16,38	14,35	14,41	15,25	13,86	11,55	14,92	11,10
std.dev.	232,06	12,24	13,84	12,41	13,36	11,37	10,87	12,72	13,28	13,59	12,13	11,45	16,14	11,63	10,30	12,81	11,10
paragraphs	98 629	110	82	62	73	71	35	61	19	55	166	43	196	92	31	112	110
mean (in words)	219,38	112,12	155,46	133,66	145,56	218,45	575,61	141,81	210,41	265,11	86,63	249,01	48,33	113,41	683,01	69,54	59,51
std.dev.	2 085,13	268,98	293,43	239,75	285,91	482,61	1 011,27	277,61	293,31	665,71	226,41	546,71	144,81	242,51	1 048,18	183,01	83,01
headings																	
mean (in words)																	
std.dev.																	
sections	2 183	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
mean (in words)	9 911,53	12 333,1	12 748,1	8 287,0	10 621,1	15 501,2	20 146,1	8 655,3	3 999,1	14 581,1	14 381,1	10 701,1	9 472,1	10 431,1	21 171,1	7 789,1	11 106,1
std.dev.	16 962 40																

frequency alphabetical statistics filenames notes

77 entries Row 3 0% T S 22 734 068

The corpus building exercise continues, and a total of 891 544 tokens have collected during this second quarter of 2017, which contributed to a current total of 22 734 068 tokens. The office is vigorously doing corpus cleaning, which is one of the important stages in the corpus building. The office continues to unlock new relationships, which are to contribute immensely in the isiZulu corpus. In this regard, the office is currently engaging Mazisi Kunene Foundation to avail isiZulu materials.

6.2 Term Bank, Spellchecker and Zululex

The office continues to monitor the utilization of technologies that were launched in November 2016. The records are indicating that people are indeed using them and their usage is gradually increasing every day. So far, 2472 people have visited the terminology bank and a large number of people from different departments including eThekweni Municipality, KZN legislature, KZN DAC, DUT, Ukhozi FM, isiZulu News Papers etc. have downloaded the Zulu

Lexicon mobile application, and the spell checker. In this regard, the office has steadfastly received compliments from these institutions. Overall, the technologies are being used as expected and their utility is gradually increasing UKZN stature as an epicenter for language development and human language technology innovation.