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University Language Planning and Development Office
Third Quarterly Report: 2018

INSPIRING GREATNESS



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Office

The Language Awareness Campaign has thus far been a huge success. The ULPDO has been engaging staff and students at Westville, Howard College, Edgewood and Pietermaritzburg campuses, in order to make them aware of the UKZN's Language Policy and Plan. The imperative to embark on the awareness campaign was highlighted in the Language Survey Report of 2017. Staff and students have taken to the initiative and are getting increasingly aware of the language services that the ULPDO offers, the human language technologies that are available as enablers in the teaching and learning process, and the various language programmes that are driven by the office internally and externally with various strategic partners.

Third Quarterly Report July-September 2018.

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1. Introduction

The language program is on track. Terminology development is one of the key aspect of the language program at UKZN. The ULPDO continues to cultivate a network of discipline experts who are keen to develop disciplinary terminology in both English and isiZulu in order to foster and embrace bilingualism in teaching and learning at UKZN. In the period under review, the ULPDO managed to successfully take the anatomy terminology to the Pan South African Languages Board (PanSALB's) verification committee. The commitment by the anatomy discipline experts and the language committee is commendable.

The ULPDO has also managed to partner with Dr Mhlongo, of the Mathematics discipline at Howard College campus at UKZN, to initiate the creation of isiZulu terminology for the discipline. Dr Mhlongo and his team are currently harvesting terminology that will go through the terminology development processes. This is an exciting development and ULPDO looks forward to another successful partnership.

The terminology that has been developed, consulted, verified and authenticated is stored and accessed through the UKZN IsiZulu Term Bank. The term bank has recently been populated with more authenticated terminology from the disciplines of psychology, criminology, computer science and research.

The *Bua le nna* (Let'sTalk) program has also proceeded well. This program forms one of the major programs in the ULPDO activity plan. The program is implemented in conjunction with the office of the director of student services through language champions and ULPDO staff, whose objective is to foster social cohesion at UKZN. The program is aimed at teaching conversational Sesotho to non-Sesotho speaking students at UKZN student residences. This program seeks to introduce different indigenous languages to students in a relaxed, cheerful, but informative way. Participating students embrace, appreciate, and respect cultural and linguistic diversity, which is the hallmark of a rainbow nation.

Dr Langa Khumalo
Director: ULPDO

1. Anatomy Terminology Verification Workshop

The ULPDO hosted the Anatomy Terminology Verification Workshop on the 31st of July-02nd of August 2018 at Coastlands on the Ridge Hotel.



A picture taken at the Anatomy verification workshop. The collaborators in the picture are Prof A. M. Maphumulo, Dr N. Sibiya, Dr B. Zungu, Rev. J Mazibuko, Mr. Z. Xala and Mr. B. Nxumalo. PanSALB officials include Mr. J. Simelane and Ms F. Mokoena. The subject specialist is Dr B De Gama and the ULPDO staff members. The terminology development workshops are funded by the University Capacity Development Grant (UCDG).

The verification workshop is the second in a series of workshops in the terminology development processes. The second batch of anatomy terminology was taken through this mandatory and legislated terminology development process. The terms were considered by the PanSALB committee with the discipline expert and the ULPDO staff members in attendance. The verification process was successful. The conclusion of this stage means that the anatomy terminology is now awaiting authentication. 500 anatomy terms were verified and they are ready for standardization.

2. Running Projects

2.1. Bua Le Nna Sessions

In the period under review (July-September 2018) a total number of 8 Bua Le Nna sessions were held at Ansell May and John Bews Residence.



In the picture are the students at John Bews residence, who participated in *Bua Le Nna* session. The ULPDO staff members were also in attendance. The sessions are courtesy of the University Capacity Development Grant (UCDG).

It must be observed that the social cohesion initiative, which recognizes the multilingual character of the University's student body through the championing of the Sesotho language's *Bua Le Nna* 'Let's Talk' sessions, is proceeding very well. The *Bua Le Nna* programme takes place fortnightly in the two residences, namely John Bews and Ansel May, where it has been implemented since its launch in 2016. This project is playing an important role in diversifying the institutional culture at the University of KwaZulu-Natal. The Sesotho language champions have been doing their work with passion and dedication. The students who have been attending these sessions have gained communicative competence in the Sesotho language. The students and everyone who is participating in this project demonstrate excitement and commitment to participate in the *Bua Le Nna* programme until the end of the semester.

3. ULPDO HLT's

3.1 Term Bank, Spellchecker, Zulu lexicon and Corpus Project

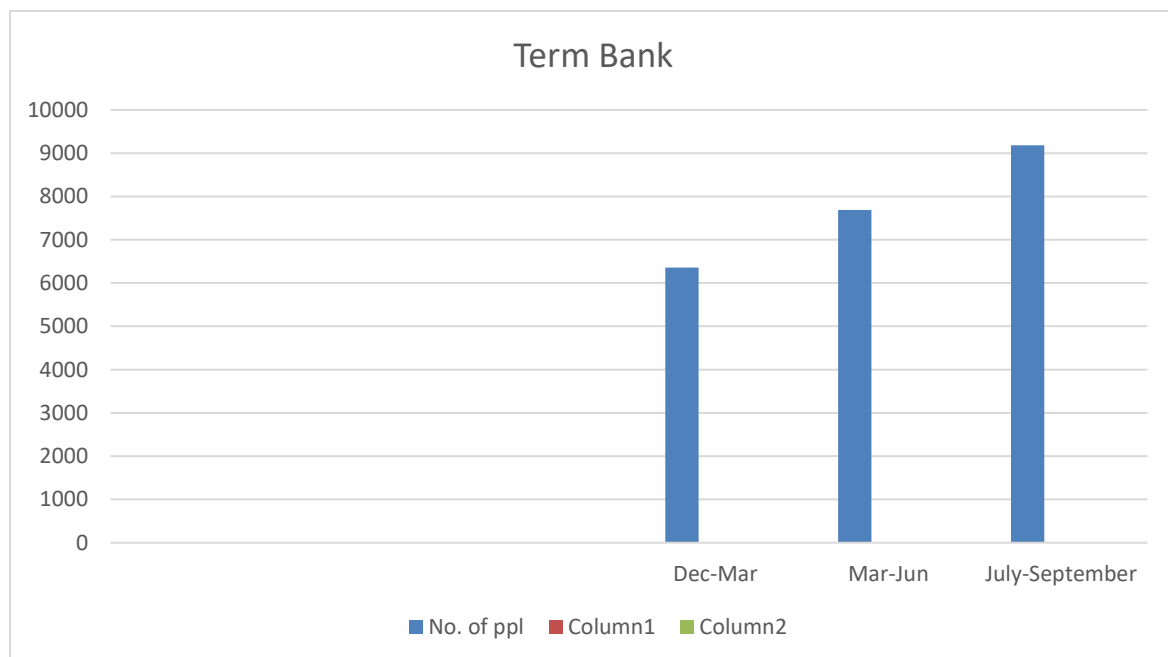
The beginning of 2018 saw the launch of the ULPDO awareness campaigns (reported in detail below). The ULPDO awareness campaigns have had a real and demonstrable impact in the access and uptake of our digital language technologies. This has been observed through monitoring records of systems downloads and/or portal visitations, a clear indication that end-users are indeed increasingly using the technologies. So far 9179 people have visited the terminology bank, up from the 7 690 reported in the previous quarter.

The Zulu Lexicon mobile application and the spell checker are continuously being downloaded by different institutions and stakeholders. So far the people in the region of ca. 5000 have downloaded the Zulu Lexicon App.

The work on corpus development has mainly been limited to the cleaning and processing written text files and encoding oral/spoken corpus files. While the process is slow, it is however progressing well and a large number of files are being cleaned weekly.

Figure 1

People accessing the Term Bank



The graph in Figure 1 shows that in the first quarter of this year (that is January – March) the visitors to the isiZulu Term Bank grew to 6358 and in the period between April - June 2018 the visitors grew to 7690. This is impressive

encouraging. The third quarter saw the numbers grow again exponentially to 9179 visitors. The latter growth was boosted by the implementation of the campaign programme that took place in Edgewood and PMB Campuses respectively. The office expects that this tool will contribute immensely in facilitating bilingual teaching and learning, and ultimately the intellectualization of isiZulu.

4. The Language Awareness Campaigns



The picture shows the venue where one of the campaigns was hosted at Edgewood Campus.

As reported in the previous quarterly report, the University Language Planning and Development Office organized a university wide campaign to visit all the University of KwaZulu Natal campuses. The aim of the campaign is to create awareness about the programmes, technologies and services that are offered by the Language Planning and Development office. The campaign also includes informing the university community, both staff and students, about the university's language policy and plan. Its objectives, targets, and the milestones that the university has achieved to date towards fulfilling the spirit and letter of the university's language policy. The office has a variety of programmes that include:

1. The Terminology Development Program
2. The IsiZulu Corpus Development Program
3. The Human Language Technology Development Program
4. The Bua Le Nna (Sesotho) Program
5. Translation and Interpreting Services
6. Research on the Intellectualization of isiZulu

All these programs are designed to cultivate and develop isiZulu in order to make it the language of teaching and learning, technology and research. In the period under review we resumed the awareness campaign at Edgewood campus on the 16th of August 2018, and the campaign proceeded to PMB campus on the 23rd of August 2018. Both students and staff welcomed the campaign in these two campuses. It is notable that very keen interest and much appreciation was shown by students at the Edgewood campus. The campaigns were very successful and encouraged the office to work even harder to implement its programs which are to deepen and strengthen the understanding and implementation of the UKZN language policy and plan. It is worth noting that during the campaign students and staff downloaded the ULPDO HLTs, in particular the Zulu Lexicon mobile application. The last campaign is scheduled to take place in Medical School Campus before the end of this semester.

5. Discussion and Planning Workshop for IsiZulu Orthography

The University Language Planning and Development Office held a workshop on the isiZulu orthography on the 26th of June 2018. The orthography workshop was facilitated by renowned academic, Professor DBZ Ntuli. The workshop was a culmination of the close strategic partnership between the ULPDO and the Pan South African Languages Board (PanSALB), a chapter 9 institution whose constitutional remit is to develop all the 11 official languages of South Africa. The PanSALB isiZulu language committee has been revising the orthography of isiZulu culminating in the production of a comprehensive manuscript with 275 pages. Following deliberations with PanSALB isiZulu language committee, ULPDO hosted the workshop in order to provide academics and other language practitioners an opportunity to provide insights that would improve the quality of the manuscript.



The above picture shows some of the delegates who attended the workshop. The workshop was funded by the University Capacity Development Grant (UCDG).

Thematic discussions were led by academics Professor Mandla Maphumulo, Dr Makhubu, Dr Dlamini and Mr Xala. The workshop delegates were drawn from different institutions, which included the KwaZulu-Natal Parliament, National Language Board, KwaZulu-Natal Department of Arts and Culture, Language Department from eThekweni Municipality, PanSALB office from KwaZulu-Natal, DUT and UniZulu.

The workshop was a huge success. The recommendations that emanated from the workshop to strengthen the manuscript have since been effected, and the manuscript has been submitted for publication with the UKZN Press.

6. AMS Bilingual Tutorial Training Workshop

The ULPDO hosted the AMS Bilingual Tutorial Training Workshop on the 29th-30th of August 2018 at UNITE Building in Howard College campus. This is a first workshop, which seeks to strengthen the university's resolve to provide a bilingual curriculum. The workshop was provided under the Academic Monitoring and Support (AMS) initiative.



In the picture are tutors from the discipline of Criminology, who participated in this training workshop. The ULPDO Director is welcoming the tutors, and facilitators Dr Gumbi (seated in front), Dr Hlongwa and Professor Buthelezi (out of picture) from the School of Education, UKZN Edgewood Campus.

The AMS Bilingual tutorial programme is a practical step towards the implementation of the UKZN language Policy and Plan. The office, in collaboration with the School of Education, hosted the training of tutors from the discipline of Criminology. The main objective was to train tutors in order for them to be able to conduct tutorials bilingually (in both English and isiZulu). Criminology is one of the discipline that has worked very closely with ULPDO to successfully develop, verify and authenticate isiZulu terminology. As a result the discipline is ready to provide bilingual tutorials.

The facilitators Professor Buthelezi, Dr Hlongwa and Dr Gumbi developed the contents of the training and successfully conducted the training. The trainees indicated through evaluation forms, that the workshop was very useful, informed and informative, and that they now appreciate the pedagogical link between tutorials and bilingualism. In the end a total of 9 students were successfully trained and are now ready to conduct tutorials in bilingually (both in isiZulu and English) in the Criminology discipline.

7. Workshops and Conference attendance

7.1 Director's conference and workshops attendance

This has been the most active period. The Director of ULPDO attended and presented the papers at the following conferences in the period under review:

- **Khumalo, L.** *Towards an isiZulu National Corpus*. The 23rd International Conference on African Lexicography, AFRILEX. University of the Western Cape, Cape Town, South Africa. 27 June – 1 July 2018.
- **Khumalo, L.** *Corpus development and computational tools for the intellectualization of African languages*. The 20th International Congress of Linguists, ICL20. International Convention Centre, Cape Town, South Africa. 2 – 6 July 2018.
- **Khumalo, L and Ngubane, N.** *Bilingual tutorials as new pedagogies in improving access and success*. ALASA19/SINTU7 Joint International Conference. The River Club, Mowbray, Cape Town, South Africa. 9 – 11 July 2018.

The Director of ULPDO also attended the South African Centre for Digital Language Resources (SADiLaR)'s Scientific Advisory Committee meeting in Pretoria from 29 – 31 July 2018.

He was also invited by Universities South Africa (USAf)'s Transformation Managers' Forum to be a Speaker, Chair and Anchor of the strand: *Language of Teaching and Communication in Higher Education* at the Forum's Colloquium on Social Cohesion and Transformation in South Africa's Higher Education Institutions: Collective Reflections. The colloquium took place on 2-3 September 2018, at Emperor's Palace in Johannesburg.