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**University Language Planning and
Development Office**

Second Quarterly Report: 2014

INSPIRING GREATNESS



“[...] The outstanding commitment by UKZN not only to teach a compulsory isiZulu module to all undergraduate students beginning January 2014, but to also develop isiZulu as a language of innovation, teaching and learning, science and technology and for use in (Higher) Education is informed by evidence that language plays an important role in the comprehension of complex concepts. It is an indisputable linguistic fact that a child must have a solid educational foundation in their first language. This makes it easier for them to understand scientific and other complex concepts if they are explicated in their mother tongue. Further it gives them confidence, self-affirmation and self-reliance in the production and reproduction of knowledge. UKZN is thus rising to the linguistic challenge that confronts the Africa continent.”

Langa Khumalo, PhD Linguistics.

Director: Language Planning and Development

Second Quarterly Report June – September 2014.

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1. Introduction

The University Language Planning and Development Office (ULPDO) in the Teaching and Learning Portfolio at the University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN) is charged with the onerous task of expanding the profile and role of isiZulu to be at par with that of English in both administrative and academic functions. This is in line with the University's Language Policy and Plan of 2006, which advances functional bilingualism in a multilingual context. The University's Language Policy and Plan (2006) clearly recognizes English as the language of academia and further outlines a clear plan to intellectualize isiZulu as a language of administration, innovation, teaching and learning.

The intellectualization of isiZulu is a complex process that involves the development of accurate and detailed means of expression in the science, technology, politics, culture and all aspects of modern life. To this end, ULPDO has identified terminology development and corpus building as a twin process that will form the basis for fully implementing the University's language policy and plan. The former involves a complex process of terminology creation, verification and standardization with linguists, subject specialists and the statutory bodies such as the Pan-South African Languages Board (PanSALB) and the National Language Board (NLB), UMZUKAZWE. The latter involves developing capacity and storage of a complex body of materials to be accessed electronically for the development of human language technologies (HLTs) such as isiZulu spell checkers, thesaurus and electronic dictionaries and also for the benefit of posterity.

The African continent is home to over 2000 languages. However, the staggering reality is that there seems to be no single indigenous African language that is used as a medium of instruction beyond primary education level in disciplines other than specific language courses. Africa still retains European languages such as English, French and Portuguese as language of instruction in education. Thus Africa is uniquely one of the few continents where her children receive knowledge in foreign tongues. According to numerous scholars, this is the main reason why many children in Africa drop-out from school and why there is such a high failure rate of African learners (Finlayson & Madiba

2002). African scholars such as Alexander (1989), Bamgbose (1991), Heugh (1993), Prah (1995) and others, are advocating for the use of African languages as media of instruction. For African languages to be able to be used successfully as media of instruction an incredible amount of resolve and commitment is needed from African governments, educationists, social and natural scientists together with language experts.

The outstanding commitment by UKZN not only to teach a compulsory isiZulu module to all undergraduate students beginning January 2014, but to also develop isiZulu as a language of innovation, teaching and learning, science and technology and for use in (Higher) Education is informed by evidence that language plays an important role in the comprehension of complex concepts. It is an indisputable linguistic fact that a child must have a solid educational foundation in their first language. This makes it easier for them to understand scientific and other complex concepts if they are explicated in their mother tongue. Further it gives them confidence, self-affirmation and self-reliance in the production and reproduction of knowledge. UKZN is thus rising to the linguistic challenge that confronts the Africa continent.

The vision, mission and objectives of ULPDO were developed in January 2014 as the foundational principles for operationalizing the University Language Policy and Plan.

1.1 VISION

Our vision is to be the centre of excellence in the promotion, development and intellectualization of indigenous languages with specific reference to isiZulu.

1.2 MISSION

Our mission is to embrace and foster functional bilingualism at the University of KwaZulu-Natal through the promotion of equitable use of the English language and isiZulu as provided for in the University Language Policy (2006).

1.3 Objectives

- To promote the development of isiZulu to be a language of administration, teaching and learning, research and innovation while accentuating the role of English as a primary academic language.
- To promote, facilitate and oversee the adherence to the statutory provisions in the development of technical terminology in isiZulu.

- To monitor and render quality translation, editing and interpreting services to the entire university community.
- To develop an isiZulu National Corpus and isiZulu Term Bank as important reservoirs for the development of robust Human Language Technologies (HLT) and for posterity.

ULPDO is mindful of the the magnitude of the task that lies ahead in the intellectualization of isiZulu. This requires commitment and collaboration with all relevant stakeholders in order for this effort to succeed. Section 6(2) of the Constitution speaks to this imperative “[...] *Recognizing the historically diminished use and status of the indigenous languages of our people, the state must take practical and positive measures to elevate the status and advance the use of these languages [...]*”. The intellectualization process is, in a very important way, a social justice imperative through which the confidence, self-affirmation and self-reliance in the production and reproduction of knowledge is placed firmly in the hands of an African child.

Dr. Langa Khumalo
Director: ULPDO

2. The ULPDO Mid-Term Review



Some of the staff members at the Mid-Term review meeting.

The ULPDO mid-term review meeting was successfully held on the 29th and the 30th of May 2014 at EMakhosini Hotel in Durban. The two day meeting followed a series of terminology development workshops and language work, which had taken place in the first half of the year successfully organized by a staff that was working together for the first time. It was thus vitally important to take stock of the progress thus far and reflect more profoundly on the annual activity plan and to consolidate work ethic and operational procedures. Thus the main objectives of the meeting were:

- To evaluate progress and challenges in executing ULPDO activities as stated in the annual plan in the first quarter and part of the second quarter of 2014.
- To develop better implementation strategies for the successful execution of ULPDO mandate in accordance with the annual plan.
- To develop important documents spelling out clear operational procedures, evaluation instruments and reporting guidelines.

The Director emphasized at the meeting the importance of upholding professional standards in executing our duties in order to satisfy all our office clients and the institutions that we work in collaboration with. He reminded staff of the ULPDO vision, which is to be the center of excellence in promoting and developing all official languages (particularly English and isiZulu as demanded by the University policy) and most important, to lead in the process of intellectualizing isiZulu to be a language of science, technology, innovation, teaching and learning. This requires exemplary use of both the official languages of the University and rendering quality translation and interpreting services when called upon to do so. Further, it requires a clear and well considered language implementation plan and our office is expected to provide leadership in this.

The Language Coordinator, Mr. Mngadi presented on the functions and operational procedures of a language office, which provided staff members with the understanding of what is expected of them. The staff members also presented their individual reflections from the presentation by the coordinator.

The draft document of the first quarterly report was presented during this meeting for adoption before publication. The report covered all the activities implemented by the office since the beginning of the year (2014) up till the end of April. It also briefly discussed the status of 2013/2014 ULB funded projects.

The meeting reviewed all the upcoming activities and finally developed a working document to regulate them. This document included the organizing strategy and the time frames against each activity.

3. ULPDO 2014 Activities

3.1 ULPDO isiZulu Terminology Development

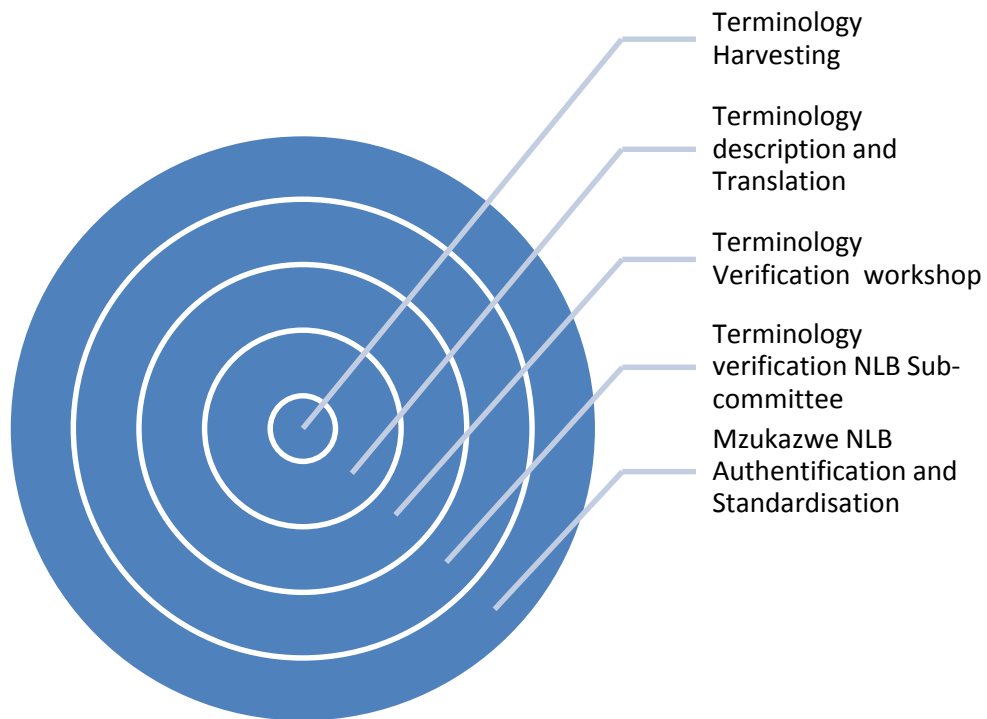
One process that is crucial in the intellectualization of a language is the development of discipline specific terminology. The paucity of such specialized terminology is often cited as the reason why African languages cannot be used as languages of teaching and learning. The process of developing terminology is a complex and arduous one, which has to be managed carefully and competently.

Subject specialists and language practitioners go through weeks on end carefully considering each and every term in both English and isiZulu in a series of workshops organized by the ULPDO. Just to clarify how complex the processes are, terminology development is governed by statutory processes. To this end the ULPDO has created synergistic relations with statutory bodies such as the Pan South African Languages Board (PanSALB) and UMZUKAZWE. After a project sponsored by the ULB has generated at least 250 specialized isiZulu terms with their corresponding English equivalents an initial consultative workshop at the request of the subject specialists and a panel of language experts is convened by the ULPDO. Once the panel of language experts and the subject specialists are satisfied with the outcome of the initial process, PanSALB convenes first the verification and then standardization and authentication workshops at the request of the ULPDO to take the process through mandatory statutory channels. It is only after UMZUKAZWE has authenticated the terms that ULPDO officially hands back the standardized terminology to the discipline concerned so that these terms can start being used as official terms in teaching and learning.

To complete the process of terminology development and its subsequent dissemination, ULPDO is developing an isiZulu Term Bank wherein all the standardized terms, complete with their annotated discipline, will be electronically stored for easy of retrieval and dissemination. Further, the ULPDO is helping the subject specialists to publish these standardized terms as specialized glossaries or LSP dictionaries through the UKZN Press so that they are used as teaching and learning tools.

These processes are illustrated in a Fig. 1.

Fig.1. Terminology development processes



Meanwhile the ULPDO is hosting workshops to observe the above mentioned terminology development processes. Thus far the office has successfully managed to host six terminology development workshops (two consultative and four verification workshops) during this quarter. The brief synopsis of each workshop is discussed below.

3.1.1 The Terminology Consultative Workshop.

a) Anatomy Terminology Consultative Workshop.



The ULPDO successfully hosted the Anatomy Consultative Workshop which, was held on the 18th to the 20th of June 2014. The collaborators for this workshop were, Professor A Maphumulo, Dr. N. Sibiya, Dr. L Makhubu, Dr. B Zungu, Dr. G Mazibuko, Mr. H Gumede, Mr. V Mshengu, Mr. B Nxumalo, Ms. J Ngcobo (PanSALB), Ms. G Mkhize, the subject specialists were, Professor R Haffajee and Mrs. De Gama, and the student (Mr. D Khambule). In the Picture: Dr. L. Khumalo (Director: ULPDO), Professor Haffajee (with hand up).

The purpose of this workshop was to take the terms that were developed by the subject specialists to the mother tongue speakers of the language ,who are the users and owners of the language as it where, in order to observe the consultation stage of terminology development process, which is the first stage in this lengthy process. ULPDO is proud to have invited students to be part of this workshop. Most of the participants felt that the workshop was well organized and that it went well. The workshop discussed a lot of terms, as a result 673 terms were developed and they are now ready for the second stage.

(b) Literature Onomastic and Research Terminology Consultative Workshop

The ULPDO successfully hosted a two day Literature, Onomastic and Research Terminology Consultative Workshop. This workshop was held at Royal Hotel on the 16th and 17th of July 2014. The collaborators for this workshop were drawn from various relevant stakeholders ranging from language experts, subject specialists, lecturers and students (from DUT and UKZN). The following people were present in this workshop; Professor A Maphumulo, Dr G Mazibuko, Dr S Ntuli, Dr N Sibiya, Dr B Zungu, Mr Z Xala, the late Mr M Hlengwa, Mr B Nxumalo, Mrs F Ngcongo, Ms M Ngongoma, Ms J Ngcobo, Mr S Gumede, Mr S Mthembu, Ms S Radebe, Mr D Khambule, and Mr N Mngwane.



The consultative workshop discussed literature, onomastic and research terms harvested by subject specialist from the Department of African Languages. The terms were discussed extensively and at the end of the workshop 271 terms were certified ready for the verification process, which is led by the Provincial Language Committee (PLC). The involvement of students signified an important transfer of knowledge and sharing of skills from the language experts and subject specialists to them for the future development of isiZulu language.

3.1.2 The Terminology Verification Workshops

a) Architecture Terminology Verification Workshop

The ULPDO also successfully hosted a two day verification workshop for Architectural terminology. This workshop took place on the 8th and 9th of July 2014 at EMakhosini Hotel. The collaborators for this workshop were; Professor A.M. Maphumulo, Dr. B.C. Khuzwayo, Rev. J. Mazibuko, Mr. Z. Xala, the late Mr. M. A Hlengwa, Mr. Simelane, and Ms Ngcobo. The subject specialists was Professor F Frescura (far right).



The aim of this workshop was to table the architectural terms, which had already been consulted, to the Provincial Language Committee for verification. This is the second stage in the terminology development processes. The workshop was coordinated jointly by ULPDO and the KZN PanSALB office. Furthermore, Mr. Simelane (PanSALB Manager) attended and participated in this workshop.

Almost all the participants expressed their satisfaction with the manner in which the workshop was organized and its proceedings. At the end of the workshop a total of 209 terms were verified by the committee.

b) Computer Science Terminology Verification Workshop

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The ULPDO successfully hosted the Computer Science terminology verification workshop. This workshop was held on the 10th of July 2014 at Emakhosini Hotel. The collaborators for this workshop were; Professor A.M. Maphumulo, Dr. B.C. Khuzwayo, Rev. J. Mazibuko, Mr. Z. Xala,, and Mr. M. A Hlengwa, the subject specialist was Mr. S Dlamini. The PanSALB members were Mr. J. Simelane, Ms. Mokoena, and Ms J. Ngcobo;

The terminology verification is a legislated process, which is aimed at verifying the terminology after the consultative stage but before the standardization stage. This workshop continues from the work that started at the beginning of this (20th-21st of February 2014). It is worth noting that the workshop was coordinated jointly with KZN PanSALB.

At the end the workshop completed 222 terms. These terms are ready for the last stage which is authentication and standardization stage.

c) Corporate Relations Terminology Verification Workshop



The ULPDO successfully hosted the Corporate Relation terminology verification workshop. This workshop was held on the 11th of July 2014 at Emakhosini Hotel. The collaborators for this workshop were; Professor A.M. Maphumulo, Dr. B.C. Khuzwayo, Rev. J. Mazibuko, Mr. Z. Xala,, and Mr. M. A Hlengwa. The PanSALB members were Mr. J. Simelane, Ms. F Mokoena, and Ms J. Ngcobo;

This verification workshop continues from the work that started last year. It is important to mention that the objective of this workshop was to ensure that all names of college offices, schools and departments are available in isiZulu terminology. This is the second stage in terminology development processes; therefore these terms are to be taken to the last stage (Authentication and Standardization) and then disseminated for official utilization.

The workshop managed to complete 192 terms. The overall impressions on this workshop were that it went well.

d) Anatomy Terminology Verification Workshop.



The ULPDO successfully hosted the anatomy verification workshop held at Emakhosini Hotel from the 2nd to 5th of September 2014. The collaborators for this workshop were; Professor A Maphumulo, Dr BC Khuzwayo, Dr L Makhubu, Dr G Mazibuko, Dr N Sibiya Mr S Gumede, Rev Mazibuka, Mr Xala, Mr B Nxumalo the PanSALB members were Mr J Simelane and Ms F Mokoena, Subject specialist were; Professor HHafajee and Ms Branda De Gama

The ULPDO successfully hosted the anatomy verification workshop held at Emakhosini Hotel from the 2nd to 5th of September 2014. The collaborators for this workshop were; Professor A Maphumulo, Dr BC Khuzwayo, Rev Mazibuka, Mr Xala, the PanSALB members were Mr J Simelane and Ms F Mokoena

This type of a workshop is organized jointly with the KZN PanSALB office because PanSALB is legislated to oversee the language matters of this country. The workshop was demonstrated the required capacity for coining the terminology and engaged on serious discussions which eventually produced 673 verified terms. These terms are now ready for standardization and authentication which, is the last stage in terminology development processes.

The office evaluation process indicated that most collaborator felt that the workshop went very well hence one of them said “ keep up the good work” and on the question of the most interesting session, they indicated the “all of the were interesting”. However they also raised concerns about the delay of payments, which our office is currently working hard to facilitate.

Table 1

No.	Department/ School	No. of terms developed	No. of verified terms	No. of standardized terms	No. of terms remaining
1.	Anatomy Terminology Consultative Workshop	673	0	0	162

2.	Anatomy Terminology Verification Workshop.	271	0	0	0
3.	Architecture Terminology Verification Workshop	0	222	0	0
4.	Computer Science Terminology Verification Workshop	0	146	0	0
5.	Corporate Relations Terminology Verification Workshop	0	192	0	0
6.	Anatomy Terminology Verification Workshop	0	673	0	0
	Total	944	1233	0	162

4. ULPDO participation in language conferences.

4.1. Corpus Week in Rhodes University

The ULPDO attended a week long corpus week which took place in Rhodes University on the 19th to 21st of June 2014. The workshop was facilitated by renowned scholars namely Dr. Sally Hunt from Rhodes University and Dr. Sylvia Jawarska from the University of Reading in the United Kingdom.

Picture:



In keeping with the language planning processes in particular the Corpus Planning stage, the ULPDO sent three staff members, namely; Mr. Nkontwana (Research Assistant), Ms. Mabuya (Research Intern) and Ms. Thembani (Research Intern) to attend the workshop in order to gather necessary information for developing isiZulu Corpus.

The staff members gained more experience on how to develop a corpus in different tools offered namely;

- AntConc
- WordSmith Tools
- Sketch Engine

There are already three indigenous languages uploaded on Sketch Engine namely; Afrikaans, Setswana and KiSwahili which then makes ULPDO even more determined to build an isiZulu corpus and upload it into sketch engine.

They learned more on how the corpus is going to be utilized in the office. The learning process has helped the office with more skills to be able to mentor our research assistants for the corpus project.

It is noteworthy that other institutions such as the University of North West, Rhodes University and the University of Reading in United Kingdom etc indicated that they are proud of the bold step taken by UKZN on isiZulu development and that UKZN is in the fore front of terminology development.

4.2 Terminology Development Conference in France



The ULPDO participated in the Terminology Development Conference, which took place in France at Savio University on the 12-14 of June 2014. The ULPDO coordinator (Mr Mngadi) represented the office in this conference and presented the paper on the following title:

"Systematic technical terminology development and planning as key strategies to the development of the South African Indigenous Languages".

He reported that the presentation went well and it was well received by the audience. It drew interest from guests in Croatia, Wales and Portugal. He further said the conference went well, however the next step is to explore publication options both internally and externally for the paper was very much appreciated by the international community present at the conference.

Post presentation, the coordinator had one on one discussions with the interested persons most of which have already gone through the same phases in terminology development especially from Wales, Croatia and Portugal. They discussed mainly possible synergies and exchange papers and emails. The communication has already started about possible partnerships and skills transfer. Summarily, the trip was worthwhile and the office will benefit richly from it.

Lessons learnt:

- The office is on the right track, it is following due processes even stricter than some.
- Most developed countries take terminology development seriously
- In some degree, we are lucky that our government have enabling policies that allows us to dream and push the envelop
- International collaborations are crucial in this adventure, especially if one is looking for funding and skills transfer
- We need to invest more on human language technology i.e. corpus, term bank and current technological soft wares.

Attending more of these conferences locally and internationally will help the office shape its developmental goals and specifically isiZulu language development as envisaged in the University Language Policy and Plan.

4.3 Linguistics Conference in North West

4.4 South African Institute of Physics (SAIP) Annual Conference

One of the project leaders (Dr. A Matthews) of the ULB funded project attended a South African Institute of Physics (SAIP) conference held in the University of Johannesburg from 7-11 July 2014. Dr Matthews presented the work done by UKZN particularly in developing and teaching physics in isiZulu. The general purpose of the conference was to assemble physics academics and research students from the entire South Africa in order to present and observe research being undertaken in South Africa in all areas of Physics and to hear plenary talks from national and international experts on current research worldwide. It was also to host meetings of research groupings with the Heads of Physics Departments of South Africa.

The topic of the paper presented is: Physics Education Track: “Teaching Physics in isiZulu”. This talk was well-attended. Some of the usual attendees of the Physics Education track were absent, but a number of people attended specially for this talk, particularly isiZulu-speaking physicists (and other African language speakers), many of them young. The project leader (Dr. A Matthews) got a feedback from the session chair (Dr Dale Taylor, UCT) who said the presentation was good and was among those that generated the most interest.

The conclusion that the presenter reached was that this topic could sustain a workshop of a day or longer. Some of the questions showed how some coined isiZulu terms could be improved, and others showed important problems ahead, like numbers and units. There is considerable interest in this topic, partly because the SAIP has highlighted education as of primary importance, and partly because there is support for development of African languages among African-speaking physicists. After the talk, at coffee and even at the closing banquet, people commended the work and encouraged UKZN to keep it going.

5. ULPDO Stakeholder Training Workshop

5.1. Copy Editing and Proofreading Workshop

The ULPDO successfully hosted a three day workshop on copy editing and proofreading workshop. This workshop took place on the 2nd -4th of July 2014; in UNITE Building Howard College Campus. The facilitator for the workshop was a renowned linguist called Mr. Jonh Linnegar.

Picture:

The Director (Dr. Khumalo) officially opened the workshop by highlighting briefly its objectives, which amongst those was: *to develop/ and or sharpen skills for research student and their supervisors in technical writing, editing and proofreading*. It is noteworthy to mention that the workshop was attended by senior academics, postdoctoral students, post-graduate students, members of the non-academic staff, language practitioners and members of the public.

The workshop discussed better ways to edit and proofread the text. Different exercises were done in order to enhance the participant's skills. Most participants felt that the workshop was informative, therefore one of them said:

"This was an extremely valuable workshop and I would like to thank the Language Planning and Development Office for hosting it"

Furthermore the attendees felt that the office should organize more of these workshops in order to improve students and staff work. The workshop ended on a high note by issuing certificates of attendance to all participants.

6. ULPDO publicizes its activities



Ngonyaka odlule kwasuka umsindo ngesikhathi isikhungo semfundo ephakeme i-University of KwaZulu-Natal, I UKZN simemezela ukuthi kusukela kulo nyaka abafundi abenza iziqu zabo zokuqala kuzomele bafunde isiZulu nokuwumgomo omusha wesikhungo.

Inhloso yalokhu ngukufaka isandla ekuthuthukisweni kwezilimi zesintu eningizimu Afrika nokugqaguzela ukuthi abantu bazo zonke izinhlanga bazazi nezilimi zomdabu

Kuleli sonto uDkt Langa Khumalo, ongumqondisi ehhovisi le-UKZN lokuthuthukiswa nokuhlelwa kolimi, uchaza ngaloluhlelo e-UKZN.

This quarter has unlocked new stakeholder relations between ULPDO and isiZulu newspapers, in order to amongst other thing sure case the work done by UKZN in developing isiZulu and to disseminate the authenticated and standardized technical terminology for public usage. Out of this established relationship, the ULPDO has been awarded a slot in ISOLEZWE every Wednesday to publicize its work and update the public about new authenticated and standardized terminology.

The office is proud to report that it has successfully utilized the slot to the university's advantage. So far, there are three articles that have been published on the following topics:

- The practical step towards develop a language.
- The process of isiZulu intellectualization.
- The Corpus development at UKZN.

The three articles have arguable positioned the university in a strategic position on language matters in the entire country. The government legislated bodies such as PanSALB commended the ULPDO for the job well done and have also shown support to this initiative.

7. The ULPDO 2014 running projects

7.1 Bua Lenna Project

The ULPDO has successfully hosted (DATE) Bua Lenna sessions in two UKZN residences. Present in this workshop were the students, the language champions and the ULPDO staff members.

Picture

The office held a strategic planning meeting at the beginning of this year (2014), which amongst other things endorsed the programme of action for this year. The activities included the Bua Lenna Project. The purpose of this project is to teach the Sesotho language to students who are residing in UKZN residences.

The objectives of this project are separated into two, namely short term and long term objectives. They are summarized below.

a. Short term objectives:

- To teach conversational Sesotho language to non-SeSotho speaking UKZN students
- To strengthen and intensify social cohesion amongst UKZN students
- To mobilize students to take pride in their own languages and cultures
- To popularize UKZN language policy and Plan.

b. Long term objectives

- To create a multilingual community
- To strengthen social cohesion amongst the UKZN community and society in general
- To achieve people's full participation in the UKZN language policy and plan.

The ULPDO is proud to report that this project has successfully started in two UKZN residence situated in Howard College campus, namely Ansell May Hall and John Bews Residences. The classes are proceeding and we envisage the intended outcomes at the end of this year.

Just to share a bit of what students are exposed to, read the following greetings in three languages:

Table B

No.	Sesotho	English	IsiZulu
1.	Dumela Ndate	Hellow Father	Sawubona Baba
2.	Dumela Mme	Hellow Mother	Sawubona Mama
3.	Dumela Awusi	Hellow Sister	Sawubona Sisi
4.	Dumela awuti	Hellow Brother	Sawubona Bhuti

The students and the language champions are very excited for being part of this project and they have also shown their appreciation, hence one of the said:

“Re thabile ho ka nka karolo lenaneong la 'Bua Le nna' mme('me) re thoholetsa junifesithi ka ho ananela boteng ba lipuo tse ding kwano UKZN”.