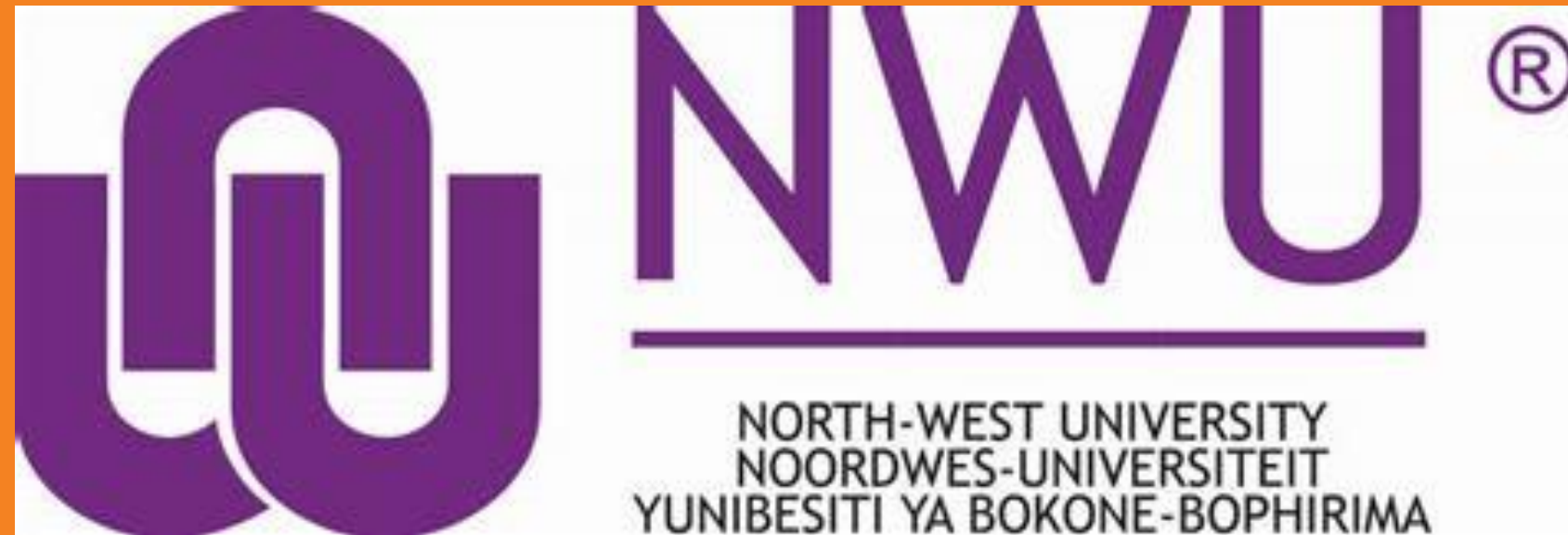




Siyaphumelela  
we succeed



North-West  
University

Mr Rassie Louw

Project manager: NWU  
Student Success project

My institution has **developed annual goals** for student success by improving the following indicators for 3-year and 4-year degrees and 3-year diplomas



Question	Response
First year retention to second year, based on first time entering students	Strongly agree
Success rates of undergraduate study, defined as the completed full-time equivalents expressed as a percentage of the enrolled full-time equivalents	Agree
Qualification completion (throughput) rates within minimum times plus one or two years	Agree
Within the indicators above, my institutions has removed differences based on	Response
Race	Agree
Gender	Agree
School quintile	Agree

# My institution has committed to the following institutional practices



Question	Response
<p>(1) <b>Examine institutional practices</b> that may be inhibiting student success (topics might include, but are not limited to, admissions, financial aid, academic support, non-academic support, academic advising, first-year experience, developmental math or English, student services, etc.);</p>	Agree
<p>(2) <b>Strengthen and integrate data analytics</b> in institutional research, information and communications technology, academic development, planning and academic divisions;</p>	Neutral
<p>(3) Commit to <b>fully participating</b> in activities of the network, including sharing data and experiences with other Siyaphumelela Network 2.0 partners on student success;</p>	Strongly agree
<p>(4) Set in motion plans to <b>scale-up student success efforts</b> across the university based on evaluation and other evidence of effectiveness.</p>	Strongly agree
<p>(5) Establish a broadly representative <b>student success or task force</b> (if not already in-place) that meet at least one a quarter comprising representatives of institutional research, information and communications technology, academic development, student services, planning, academic divisions, students and a senior member of the university's executive team;</p>	Strongly agree
<p>(6) Use data analytics to review the <b>high impact modules</b> in which students fail, withdraw, or receive otherwise unsatisfactory grades to identify opportunities to improve student success, and implement these;</p>	Agree

# Execution of student success institutional practices



(1. a) Student Success workgroup engage with student success through the following workstreams

- NWU student employability and career development (Career centre)
- Student Academic Literacy
- Student wellness (Workwell research focus area)
- Student Academic development and support (CTL)
- Digital Teaching and Learning Environment (CTL)
- Strategic and operational student Success data (Strategic Intelligence)

# Execution of student success institutional practices



(1. b) Determine and develop a Student Success plan that provide for:

- Advocacy on student success and development of staff and students capacity to participate in NWU student success initiatives
- Identify and examine institutional practices that lead to and have an impact on student retention and success, dropout, withdrawal and failure
- Determine, propose and coordinate initiatives to scale-up student success efforts across the NWU.
- Identify and assess the effectiveness of existing student success interventions within and across academic and support divisions with a view to sharing and encouraging good practice
- Identify, collaborate and coordinate collaboration on NWU student success research projects in collaboration with relevant academic, administrative and support stakeholders at the NWU
- NWU participation in the Siyaphumelela Network activities including sharing of data and experiences on student success with network partners and participants.

# Execution of student success institutional practices



(2.a) Data Analytics workgroup - coordinate student success data and data analysis and provide data analysis related support to DVC TL portfolio and NWU UCDG projects. 2022 workgroup KPA's include support with the review and design of survey instruments, data collection, data analysis, writing of data reports w.r.t:

- Faculty survey on implementation of language plans for multilingual learning and teaching (LMPE)
- Institutional LMS satisfaction survey
- Student Lecturer experience survey (STLES)
- SASSE survey
- BUSSE survey
- Work integrated service learning (WISL) survey

(2.b) New NWU Student Information System

(2.c) Institutional data dashboard

# Execution of student success institutional practices



- (3.a) Regular meetings with the Siyaphumelela network coach - discuss completion of the NWU Student Success plan, the administration of the Institutional Capacity Tool survey
- (3.b) Five NWU staff virtually attended the annual 2022 International Dream Conference. Links to proceedings and recordings of conference sessions shared with all Student Success stakeholders at NWU to view at their own time
- (3.c) 20 NWU staff and 10 NWU students virtually attended the 2022 annual Siyaphumelela network conference. Two of the staff presented
- (3.d) 106 NWU staff involved in the NWU Student Success project attended virtual Siyaphumelela network facilitated capacity development workshops/ webinars/ training events
- (3.e) NWU staff attend one Regional Student Success Forum meeting: Reflect on how to scale student success efforts (reaching more students) and measuring of impact of such efforts; Discussion on data analysis challenges and solutions
- (3.f) Implement ICAT survey (important data set - mapping of the student success plan)

# Execution of student success institutional practices



- (4.a) Student Success researcher: Appoint a student success researcher to establish a researched-based approach to analysis of student success data when support is rendered to NWU UCDG projects
- (4.b) NWU Student Success plan: Started with the research-based and data-informed mapping of a Student Success Plan that will guide and inform student success initiatives at the NWU. The plan will be finalised in 2023 to inform the submission of student success related UCDG projects for the next 2024 – 2026 UCDG cycle
- (4.c) Student success project ethical clearance: Applied for ethical clearance of the NWU student success project to provide for a researched-based approach to student success and publication on NWU student success related activities/ initiatives (including student success data).
- (4.d) NWU Teaching and Learning transformation project: Teaching and Learning transformation with student success approach to across TL domains (CPD; TLE; SADS; LD)



# Execution of student success institutional practices



(5.a) NWU Siyaphumelela Institutional lead; UCDSG Student Success project lead

(5.b) UCDSG Student Success project team

(5.c) Student Success workgroup

(5.d) Data analytics workgroup

(5.e) Academic Literacy and Student Success Committee (ALSSC) senate sub-committee

(5.f) Senate Committee for Teaching and Learning (SCTL)

(5.g) Student Success functional lead; member of NWU executive management DVC T L

(6) The NWU submitted the review of high impact modules as a UCDSG project in the current (2021 – 2023) UCDSG cycle. Complete report with recommendations on practice and research will be able end of 2023.

# Highlights of participating in the Siyaphumelela Network 2.0 activities



- (a) Siyaphumelela network facilitated workshops/ webinar/ training events- provided for student success related capacity development of 106 NWU staff and students and contributed to a better understanding of student success and establishment of a student success culture at the NWU.
- (b) Dream and national Siyaphumelela conferences - (20 staff and 10 students) contributed to a focussed perspective on student success, a better understanding of the importance of student data and related analytics and the opportunity to collaborate with colleagues and peers at a national level.
- (c) Siyaphumelela network coach – advice and guidance on NWU Student Success plan, implementation of ICAT survey, student success research – being the committed wise mentor and guide
- (d) Access to Siyaphumelela network resources (ICAT, SASSE, BUSSE, Autoscholar, Open textbook development)
- (e) Regional Student Success Forum (RSSF) – Collaboration on how to scale student success efforts (reaching more students) and measurement of impact, data analysis challenges and solutions

# Highlights of impactful student success interventions



- (a) NWU First year navigator - LMS based guidance and training solution. Provide academic advising/ referral, skills development and information to engage effectively with the NWU Teaching and Learning environment
- (b) Open textbook – students co-created Communication studies textbook
- (c ) Mahikeng Makerspace – students gather to work on projects while sharing ideas, equipment, and knowledge – develop
- (d) STLES survey – provide data to inform learning resources and environment design
- (e) Development of data dashboards – provide actionable data
- (f) Data analytics workgroup – Data analysis support - institution wide data advocacy