

## Siyaphumelela Workshop (6-7 Dec)

### Rhodes University

Looking backwards and forwards

Karen Ellery

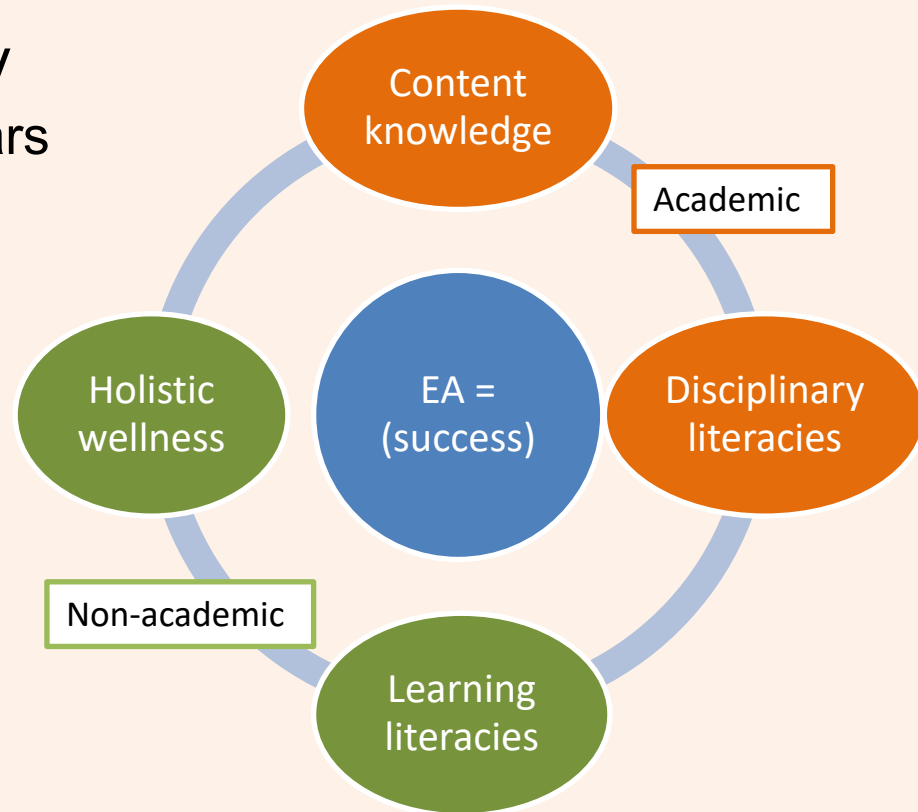


**RHODES UNIVERSITY**  
*Where leaders learn*

# Rhodes University

## Context

- Small, residential university
  - 8000 students, 1700 first-years
- Student success: IDP
- Epistemological access



- SASSE, NBTs, surveys: students need more support

# Rhodes University

## Siyaphumelela

- Joined 2 years ago
- Peripheral commitment

## This presentation: UCDG

- Project: Student support and development
- Goal: To improve quality of learning and throughput, RU undergraduates
- Target: RU undergraduate student population
  - 2023 programme
  - success/not
  - why
  - 2024

# UCDG 2021-2023

## Student Academic Development Coordinator

- Academic focus, 6 faculties, embed literacies, O-week, resource materials

## Augmenting lecturers

- High impact courses, 6 departments, 600 students, CoP, improve mainstream

## Student tracking and learning case management system

- Developed in 2023

## Tutor training

- Semester-long course, 25 certified small group facilitators

## Writing respondent training

- Working with staff coordinators

## Mentoring programmes

- TAI: Extended curriculum students; 58 mentors, 297 mentees
- RU Mentoring: Rest first-year students; 961 mentors, 1457 mentees
- Ncedana: second- and third year students (pilot); 29 mentors, 79 mentees

# UCDG 2023: Success/not- and why?

Student Ac. Dev. Coordinator

✓ Disciplinary literacies integration  
? Early days

Augmenting lecturers

✓ Improved success rates  
X Need employment security

Student tracking and LCMS

✓ Pilot in 2024  
X Poor buy-in, no driver

Tutor training

✓ Certification  
X Reach too small

Writing respondent training

✓ Excellent materials developed  
X Reach too small

Mentoring programmes

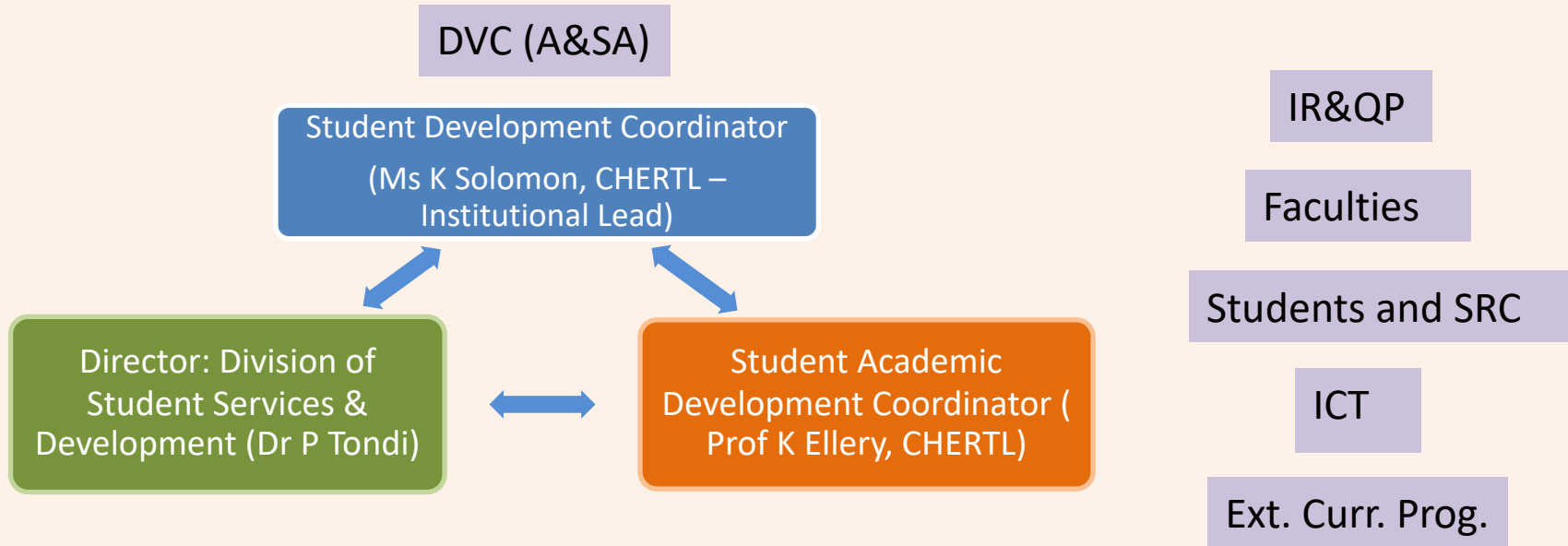
✓ RU Mentoring: Good reach initially  
X RU Mentoring: Needs structure and focus

Broad scale:  
Academic focus  
Working in silos

Lack of:  
Staff capacity  
Funding  
Resource materials

# UCDG (Siyaphumelela) 2024 - 2026

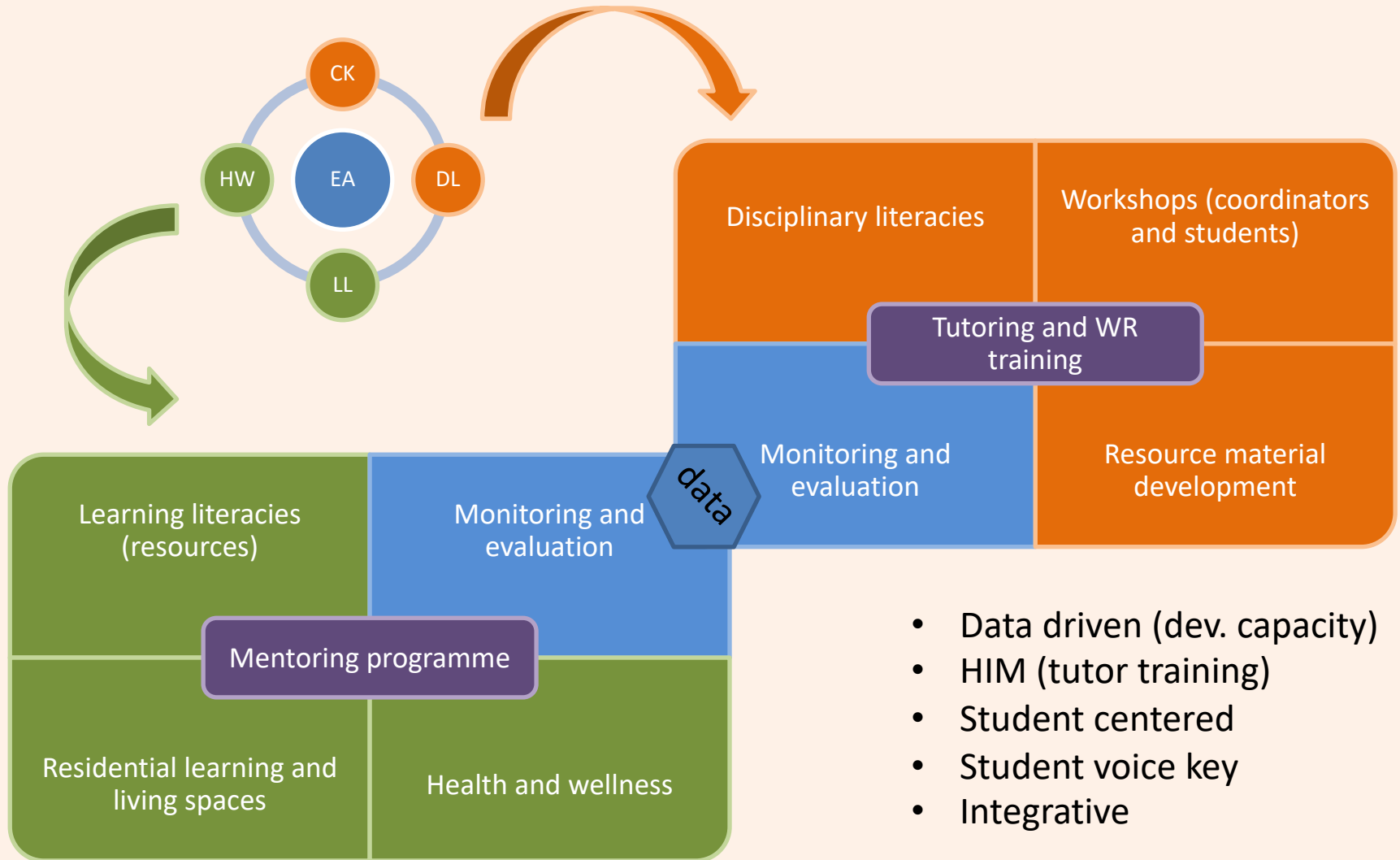
## Leadership Team



## Projects

- Mentoring
- Tutor and writing respondent training

# UCDG (Siyaphumelela) 2024-2026



- Data driven (dev. capacity)
- HIM (tutor training)
- Student centered
- Student voice key
- Integrative