



**DEPARTMENT OF RESEARCH
DEVELOPMENT AND
ADMINISTRATION (DRDA)**

RESEARCH STRATEGIC PLAN

2014-2016

STRATEGIC PLAN: RESEARCH (UL2020)

Department of Research Development and Administration (DRDA)

1. Introduction

UL2020 is the University of Limpopo's Strategic Plan which covers a seven year period. The five existing national priorities of: Improving the extent and quality of health services; Providing improved educational services and opportunities; Rural development; Improved food security and land reform; Creation of jobs and sustainable livelihoods; and Improved security coupled with decreasing levels of criminal activity and corruption, all apply to a greater or lesser extent to the regions mainly served by UL.

In relation to these five priority areas UL will as part of UL 2020 particularly focus on the following four priority areas:

Priority 1: Improved levels of health and well-being

An extension of: Postgraduate academic and research related programmes aimed at providing professionals trained at advanced levels of health services provision.

Priority 2: Improved and expanded provision of educational services and opportunities

An emphasis on: Increasing the region's teacher capacity in order to improve rural schooling.

Priority 3: Rural development, improved food security and land reform

An emphasis on: Improving rural development, increasing levels of food security, and hastening land reform by means of appropriate higher education programmes in the field of agriculture.

Priority 4: Creation of jobs and sustainable livelihoods

An emphasis on: Increasing managerial and entrepreneurial capacity particularly in the regions served by UL.

To realise the vision and mission, some targeted and systematically planned interventions have been planned. These interventions first define a clear goal, thereafter associated objectives and finally some projects aimed at achieving the set goals and objectives. The achievement of the objectives is in relation to measurable targets. The identified goal for research is goal 8.2:

Goals, objectives and projects in the field of research and research support as well as community engagement

In particular, 8.2.2 relates directly to research:

Improving the University’s research standing and status

IMPROVING THE UNIVERSITY’S RESEARCH STANDING AND STATUS		
GOPs	DESCRIPTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON
❖ Goal	✓ Improve the University’s research standing and status	DVC: Academic and Research and Executive Deans
❖ Objectives	✓ Achieve a significantly expanded involvement in research of UL’s academic staff resulting in increased research outputs	Executive Deans and Research Development and Administration
❖ Projects	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop and initiate a variety of research capacity building programmes for advanced post graduate students and academic staff 2. Evaluate the research supervisory capacity of UL’s academic staff and institute ‘gap-filling’ measures in order to increase its research supervisory capacity 3. Review and implement research output incentive policies and practices through bench marking with other universities 	<p>Research Development and Administration</p> <p>Research Development and Administration and Executive Deans</p> <p>Research Development and Administration and Executive Director: HR</p>

Strategic Objectives	Projects/Activities (KPA)	Performance Indicator (KPI)	Base- line 2013	Target 2014	Target 2015	Target 2016	Monitoring Mechanism	Responsibility	M&E
Achieve a significantly expanded involvement in research of UL's academic staff resulting in increased research outputs	Develop and initiate a variety of research capacity building programmes for advanced post graduate students and academic staff	No of capacity building workshops, seminars and training courses 80% of staff and 70% of postgraduate students trained	Ad hoc capacity building initiatives N/A	At least two capacity building events 60% of staff and 70% of students trained	At least two capacity building events 70% of staff and 80% of students trained	At least two capacity building events 80% of staff and 90% of students trained	Quarterly and annual performance reports	DVC	VC
	Evaluate the research supervisory capacity of UL's academic staff and institute 'gap-filling' measures in order to increase its research supervisory capacity	80% of staff with postgraduate supervision capacity	22.4% PhDs	Improved staff qualifications Two research workshop and seminars	Improved staff qualifications Two research workshop and seminars	Improved staff qualifications Two research workshop and seminars	Quarterly and annual performance reports	Executive Deans	DVC
	Review and implement research output incentive policies and practices through benchmarking with other universities	Approved reviewed report	Current Policy	Develop and approved ToR Review Policy and consult	Approval of reviewed & updated policy	Implement	Quarterly and annual performance reports	DRDA	DVC
<i>Resources/Inputs:</i>	Relevant financial, physical and human resources								
<i>Impact:</i>	Improved National and International reputation								