
UKZN HOSTS SKILLS DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP FOR NURSING ACADEMICS



Delegates at a Skills Development Workshop hosted by UKZN Nursing academics.

Nursing academics at UKZN hosted colleagues from the KwaZulu-Natal College of Nursing (KZNCN) at a Skills Development Workshop on the Howard College campus.

Themed: "Clinical Education Model: From the Nursing Education, Training and Practice Strategy to Implementation in the KZN Context", the interactive workshop aimed to improve the existing training models and share knowledge on the curriculum.

UKZN Nursing Academic Leader, Professor Gugu Mchunu, said the goal was 'to encourage academics to improve existing training models, motivate each other, implement the current approaches and deliver a relevant clinical teaching curriculum'.

Discussions explored the advancement in clinical teaching and the need for continuous improvement and innovation in clinical teaching methodologies. It also looked at tools, assessment of students and clinical skills training.

Mchunu said objectives included revisiting the existing clinical training model. 'For professional nurses to remain relevant in the KwaZulu-Natal context, it is essential to review the appropriateness of the model and determine how it can be strengthened to prepare nurses for Universal Coverage and Re-Engineering of Primary Health Care and find possible ways of improving the teaching of clinical skills.'

UKZN's Professor Fikile Mtshali said the quality of a nurse in the system depended on the clinical teaching received. 'The proposed clinical education model aims to enhance the correlation of theory and practice. It proposes to establish clinical

teaching and a co-ordinated system of clinical preceptors and clinical education endeavours.'

Mtshali told delegates they needed to conduct research that would enhance clinical teaching, adding that the partnership between the Discipline of Nursing and the KZNCN was a significant and successful one.

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