

MOU BETWEEN UKZN AND OPEN UNIVERSITY IN MAURITIUS TO STRENGTHEN RESEARCH COLLABORATION



Dr Upasana Singh with academics from the Open University in Mauritius after signing the MOU.

UKZN and Mauritius's Open University have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) which will strengthen collaboration between the two universities.

The collaboration came about after School of Management, Information Technology and Governance and academic champion, Dr Upasana Singh, discussed the possibility of the arrangement with Open University academic, Mr Perienen Appavoo, at an IT conference in Mauritius last year.

'Mr Appavoo and I shared common areas of research interest, and I suggested to him that we should try to get an MOU between our two universities to promote better collaboration. It has been a long journey since July 2015, with numerous versions of the agreement being edited, but it was finally approved and signed earlier in April,' said Singh.

Singh added that the joint venture is open to any UKZN and Open University academic who has interest in being part of its efforts to promote co-operation in the following:

- Research collaboration between staff
- Participation of students in collaborative research projects
- Exchange of academic materials and academic publications
- Co-operation in developing and supervising new research projects
- Co-operation in joint supervision of master's and PhD students

'The MOU permits any academic at these two universities to participate in joint collaboration over the next three years. UKZN academics wanting to participate in collaborative projects are requested to contact me to facilitate this process,' she said.

Thandiwe Jumo