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## UKZN DEVELOPING SPECIALISED ISIZULU-ENGLISH DICTIONARIES



**Panelists at the dictionary workshop engaged in robust discussion.**

UKZN's vision is for all its students to have isiZulu-English dictionaries when attending lectures and with this goal in mind a pocket-sized, specialised edition is being developed.

To assist with this process, the University Language Planning and Development Office (UPLDO) hosted an isiZulu dictionary manual workshop on the Westville campus to create a set of guidelines for various disciplines, including Nursing and Architecture.

The workshop was facilitated by Mr Mpume Mbatha, a leading isiZulu lexicographer with over 30 years of experience in the field. Mbatha highlighted the importance of planning before a dictionary is compiled, stressing how vital it is to formulate a style guide which clearly states how the central lists, the core of the dictionary, should be handled.

Mbatha, who is head of the national isiZulu Lexicography Unit, says more than 80 percent of the people in KwaZulu-Natal speak isiZulu.

The workshop included a roundtable discussion chaired by Professor Abednego Maphumulo, who led the process of drafting the set of guidelines for the discipline specific style manuals.

Director of ULPDO, Dr Langa Khumalo, said the University had embarked on a systematic process of developing technical terminology. 'Language experts and subject specialists spend a long time carefully considering each and every term in both English and isiZulu in a sequence of meetings convened by ULPDO.' This is done in collaboration with the KZN Pan-SALB office.

Khumalo thanked the participants and Mbatha for attending the workshop.