

PARENTS VIRTUAL ENGAGEMENT 2021

Presenter: Mosa Moerane

Centre for Universal Access and Disability Support (CUADS)



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The Centre was established in 2001, and has since grown and expanded significantly. Today, it forms part of Student Affairs as an independent entity, with offices at the Bloemfontein, South and QwaQwa campuses.

Supplementary to the academic support offered to students with disabilities, CUADS increasingly plays a vital role in the development of awareness and advocacy for persons with disabilities across all three campuses of the UFS firmly believing in our motto “nothing about us without us”.

The Centre aims to ensure that the UFS increasingly becomes a universally accessible higher education institution which embraces and is welcoming to all students, including students with disabilities.

CUADS SERVICES

Disability Support Programme: entails the provision of specialist and a holistic coordinated approach in student support while also availing information for data collection and reporting purposes. The aim of the programme is to create enabling environments to empower students with disabilities to participate equally.

CUADS SERVICES

Accessible Transport Programme: includes the provision of accessible transport to students with disabilities between Bloemfontein and South Campuses.

Liaison, Awareness and Advocacy Programme for the development of awareness and advocacy for persons with disabilities across all three campuses. Partnerships here are the Center for Teaching and Learning, Student Life and Communities.

CUADS SERVICES

Accessible Study Material Production Programme for the provision of academic support through the coordination and production of accessible learning material and lectures with Academic Departments and lecturers.

Student Academic Support Programme to move away from all academic support services to persons with disabilities predominantly be the responsibility of CUADS in collaboration with the Centre for Teaching and Learning – WriteSite, A_Step Programme.

CUADS SERVICES

Alternative Assessment Programme by facilitating and coordinating alternative assessments options together with the Exam Division and Student Counselling and Development.

Communication Access Programme for the provision of academic support through the facilitation and coordination of communication access together with Interpreter Services.

CUADS SERVICES

CUADS assists students in gaining access to:

- Study courses
- All buildings on campus
- Learning material
- Residences
- Sporting activities
- South African Sign Language Interpreting service for Deaf, hard of hearing and deafened students
- Classrooms
- Computer facilities (the CUADS' computer lab houses assistive technology and software; alternative furniture and adapted hardware for physically impaired and blind students)
- Specialised exam and test venues for alternative test and exam procedures
- Concessions for assessments

CATEGORIES OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

- Specific learning difficulties (e.g. Dyslexia, ADD/ADHD, Hyperactivity).
- Mobility impaired (e.g. wheelchair users, amputees, Cerebral Palsy, Muscle Dystrophy, Spina Bifida, Multiple Sclerosis)
- Visually impaired (e.g. blind, partially sighted). Students receive all their study material and textbooks according to the format of their choice, which includes Braille, Audio (material is read on a digital recorder), enlarged material and E-text.

CATEGORIES OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES (contd)

- **Hearing impaired** (Deaf, hard of hearing and deafened).
- Debilitating **psychological** and other **chronic** conditions (e.g. Schizophrenia, Epilepsy, Panic Disorder).
- **Temporary impairments** (e.g. a broken hand).

CUADS CONTACT INFORMATION



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Thank You!

