

Voting : 28 August 2025  
08:00 - 16:00

# WSU 2025 INSTITUTIONAL GOVERNANCE ELECTIONS

## NON-ACADEMIC EMPLOYEES Institutional Forum Representative



### Buqa Xolani

Our university must not only reflect the aspirations of our society, but it must also shape them. We must dismantle barriers to access, challenge outdated systems and build campuses that are inclusive, dynamic, sanctuaries of critical thought, vessels of innovation and future ready. The Institutional Forum is not a passive advisory body; it is a living engine of change. As an agent for transformative change these are the focal points I will espouse should I be elected:

- Promote Institutional culture that embraces diversity, respect and human dignity through policies.
- Promote gender and racial inclusivity in senior management and decision-making structures.
- Infrastructure Development\ On campus accommodation, Proliferation of office space, Special commercial zones, Recreational facilities.
- Proponent of Artificial Intelligence (AI) infused environment/curriculum that is relevant and responsive to the country's developmental needs.
- Ensure that mediation and dispute resolution procedures are fair, accessible, and effective.
- Advocate for commuting aid for staff in scattered campuses.
- Staff empowerment through skills development enabling intentional succession.
- Stimulate collaboration with Industry for diversification of revenue\ third stream income for financial stability.
- Digital transformation for streamlined business processes.
- Positioning of the institution as a driver of regional development through deliberate community engagements.
- Internationalization of staff and students for global competitiveness.

Together, we can build an institution that is not only academically strong, but socially responsive, ethically grounded, and globally connected.



### Kalake Thabang Rosa

I am a psychology graduate of this institution. I furthered my studies to understand the higher education space. I have a Bachelor of Psychology and a postgraduate diploma in higher education. I am currently studying towards a Master's in higher education.

As a postgraduate diploma in higher education, I learned that Higher education in South Africa has undergone significant transformation. The transformation has aimed to address historical inequalities, increase access to education for previously marginalised groups, and enhance the quality and relevance of higher education institutions. At WSU, we have just gone through Rationalisation and Consolidation. Therefore, the impact of Rationalisation and Consolidation needs to be looked at in all spheres of the institution.

My role as a non-academic staff member would be as follows:

- Support the vision, mission and strategic goals of WSU.
- Support policies that promote equity and access, particularly among the support staff and students with disability. Our institution needs to do more on inclusivity and transform teaching and learning spaces to be accessible to all.
- Participate in advising the Council effectively on the matters that rebuilt WSU.
- Promote programmes encouraging non-support staff to study and enrol in developmental programmes that enhance their skills in their prospective portfolios.
- Support and promote programmes encouraging robust engagements among all university stakeholders to promote social cohesion and culture and avoid unnecessary conflicts that delay teaching and learning.
- Promoting policies on gender equity in the institution to create an inclusive and supportive environment where individuals of all genders have equal opportunities to thrive academically, professionally, and personally.
- Support policies that address Gender-Based Violence and LGBTI+ to promote a non-discriminatory environment within the institution and inculcate the spirit of ubuntu.

# NON-ACADEMIC EMPLOYEES

## Institutional Forum Representative continues



### Mzaza Ndileko Zizo

Ndileko Zizo Mzaza is standing as a candidate for the Institutional Forum Support Staff, Mzaza has a strong record of service, leadership, and commitment to institutional progress. Holding a Master of Public Administration, he combines academic knowledge with practical experience gained through years of student representation, labour activism, and administrative service.

From his early leadership as SRC leader at the Mthatha Campus, where he championed student rights and welfare, to his role as a shop steward advocating for fair treatment and labour rights, and now as Administrator in the Department of Management Accounting and Finance, where he ensures efficient and accountable administration, Mzaza has consistently demonstrated integrity and dedication to service.

He has further sharpened his leadership and policy insight by attending the South African Association of Public Administration and Management Conference, which strengthened his understanding of governance, public sector reform, and higher education transformation.

His vision is to build an institution where support staff are fully recognised and empowered as part of implementing higher education policy. As a past student of Walter Sisulu University, he brings a deep understanding of its culture and is committed to advancing race and gender equity, fairness in recruitment, and transparent governance. He seeks to foster a positive institutional culture through respect, accountability, and open communication, while strengthening dispute resolution and ensuring that staff welfare and recognition remain central to institutional excellence.

With his proven track record, academic grounding, and unwavering dedication, Ndileko Zizo Mzaza offers himself as a committed servant and a strong voice for support staff, ready to bridge divides and ensure that their role in shaping the future of the university is valued and strengthened.

Vote for Ndileko Zizo Mzaza – A Proven Leader, A Committed Servant, A Voice for Support Staff.



### Mzileni Nomawethu

Nomawethu Mzileni is a dedicated administrator, academic mentor, and engaged community leader who has committed her career to advancing inclusive education and strengthening student development at Walter Sisulu University.

With a strong multidisciplinary background in the sciences and education, she combines academic excellence with a passion for student support, collaboration, and institutional transformation.

At WSU, Ms. Mzileni has been a pillar of both academic and community engagement. She mentors students in the Physical and Natural Sciences, supports teaching and learning initiatives, and promotes teamwork among staff and students. Beyond the classroom, she leads the SciMat Project, assisting learners from grades 8–12 in eZibeleni with Maths and Science.

Her contributions extend to research and innovation as Administrative Editor of the Innovative Journal of African Education and as 2025 HELTASA (Un)Conference Secretary. She has co-authored scholarly work on competency development among peer learning leaders and is currently pursuing her Master of Education, focusing on strategies to strengthen teacher preparedness in under-resourced schools.

Her leadership journey spans from serving as SCO Arts and Student Affairs Director and member of the first WSU Student Parliament, to her current roles as APSA Shop Steward, Executive Member of the Education Advisory Board, and member of the Staff, Social and Welfare Task Team. Her vision for the Institutional Forum is to embed inclusive education, expand student support, strengthen partnerships, and position WSU as a leader in innovation and transformation. Nomawethu Mzileni is ready to bring dedication, leadership, and integrity to the Institutional Forum.

# NON-ACADEMIC EMPLOYEES

## Convocation Representative



### Giba Dina

- > Advocate for the establishment of a National Convocations Forum/Structure to address graduate debt and other shared interests.
- > Develop partnerships and networks with industry, government, and NGOs to support unemployed graduates in their job search.
- > Maintain and safeguard accreditation of WSU academic programmes.
- > Play a transformative and independent oversight role in university structures.
- > Provide mentorship and support to help students transition from academic success to the workplace and business world.
- > Advocate for the establishment of a Bizana campus and the expansion of the Komani campus.
- > Promote the renaming of university properties to reflect authentic African identity.
- > Expand WSU's global footprint by establishing chapters worldwide.
- > Strengthen and enhance the WSU brand and image.



### Socam Fundisile

Mr. Fundisile Socam has served Walter Sisulu University with dedication for over twenty years, combining his experience as a graduate in Local Government Finance, Marketing, and Public Management with his current pursuit of an Honours Degree in Public Administration. He knows the realities faced by WSU students, especially in the Eastern Cape, where poverty and inequality make access to education a daily struggle.

From 2023 to 2025, he served as a Convocation Executive Member representing support staff, a role he carried out with professionalism and resilience. During his tenure, he helped establish convocation chapters in the Eastern Cape, Western Cape, Gauteng, and KwaZulu-Natal, aligned the constitution with the university statute, and played a vital role in enhancing the image of WSU. Most significantly, he championed the Graduate Debt Clearance Fund, which freed more than 2,000 graduates from debt and restored their opportunities for the future.

Building on these achievements, Mr. Socam's vision is to strengthen inclusivity, empowerment, and transformation within the convocation. He is committed to advancing gender and disability inclusion through bursary trusts and employment opportunities, prioritising graduate employment, and ensuring that the voices of support staff are fully represented. He will advocate for transparency in the university's new organogram, fair promotion policies, digitalised staff services, affordable housing, and comprehensive wellness programmes. His record proves his ability to deliver, and his vision speaks to the real needs of graduates, staff, and the communities WSU serves.

With experience, dedication, and a track record of transformation, Mr. Fundisile Socam stands ready to lead the convocation into a future where all its members are empowered and valued.

Vote for Mr. Fundisile Socam – Experience, Dedication, Transformation.

# ACADEMIC EMPLOYEES

## Institutional Forum Representative



### Kasa Luvo

As a candidate for the Institutional Forum (IF) academic representative, I am committed to upholding the WSU Statute's principles of fairness, transparency, and institutional advancement. My vision for the IF is to strengthen its role as an advisory body that promotes unity, equity, and academic excellence across WSU's four campuses—Mthatha, Butterworth, Buffalo City, and Komani.

Key Priorities:

1. Advancing Academic Excellence: Advocate for enhanced teaching and learning resources, including technology integration and problem-based learning initiatives, to support WSU's mission of academic innovation.
2. Promoting Equity and Inclusion: Ensure fair representation of academic staff in decision-making processes, addressing concerns such as workload balance, professional development, and diversity.
3. Strengthening Governance: Work collaboratively with WSU management, Senate, and Council to align IF recommendations with the university's Vision 2030, focusing on sustainable education and community engagement.
4. Supporting Staff Welfare: Champion policies that enhance working conditions, professional growth, and mental health support for academic staff, fostering a conducive environment for teaching and research.
5. Engaging the Academic Community: Facilitate open communication channels between the IF and academic staff to ensure their voices shape institutional policies.

My approach is rooted in WSU's commitment to rural development and socio-economic impact, ensuring that our academic community thrives in an environment of collaboration and innovation.



### Nciweni Nelson

Nelson Nciweni is a dedicated academic, researcher, and community advocate, standing for election to represent academic staff on the Institutional Forum. He currently lectures in the Department of Marketing, Public Relations, and Communication at Walter Sisulu University, focusing on digital technologies in higher education and student support initiatives. Nelson holds National Diploma and B-Tech degrees in Public Relations Management and Public Management, a Master's in Public Relations and Communication Management, and a Postgraduate Diploma in Higher Education (Cum Laude). He is also a PhD candidate and pursuing another Master's in Higher Education.

Nelson has made significant contributions to scholarship, presenting at national and international conferences on topics including student progression in TVET institutions, digital privacy in universities, and leadership in municipal transformation. He has published several research papers and received a Recognition Certificate at the Learning and Teaching Conference for his presentation "Unleashing the Potential of Digital Technologies in Higher Education."

He also earned a Certificate of Service in Administration and Hospitality Management. A committed leader, Nelson is the former Chairperson of the Library Committee under the Faculty of Administration and Hospitality and currently chairs Student Support Services in his department. Beyond academia, he founded the Guiding Light Foundation, uplifting communities through education, mentorship, and leadership programs. He is also the author of three books: Means of Faith, Intimacy with God, and Power and Purpose of Faith.

Nelson Nciweni is committed to championing the interests of academic staff, advancing student support services, fostering research and professional growth, and promoting transparency, collaboration, and active engagement across the university. Proudly rooted in Lusikisiki, Eastern Cape, he embodies the values of faith, service, and empowerment in every aspect of his work.

Nelson Nciweni is ready to serve as a dedicated, visionary, and effective representative on the Institutional Forum.

# ACADEMIC EMPLOYEES

## Institutional Forum Representative continues



### Nokwali Zinzisa

Zinzisa Nokwali is a proud daughter of Mthatha and a product of Walter Sisulu University, where she received her training and continues to serve with passion, dedication, and a deep commitment to academic excellence. A Marine Scientist holding a Master's degree in Marine Zoology and currently pursuing her PhD in Marine Studies, Ms Nokwali has devoted the past nine years to lecturing, mentoring, and inspiring students within the Faculty of Natural Sciences.

Beyond teaching, she is actively involved in supervising postgraduate research, guiding emerging scholars to reach their full potential. Her journey reflects both the challenges and triumphs of an emerging academic at WSU, giving her a profound understanding of the realities faced by staff and students alike. She knows firsthand the importance of support, mentorship, and opportunities for growth.

Currently serving as Chairperson of the Student Success Committee in the Faculty of Natural Sciences, Ms Nokwali also plays an influential role in the Community Engagement and Library Committees. Through these positions, she has proven herself to be a tireless advocate for academic excellence, student empowerment, research advancement, and the professional growth of her colleagues.

Her leadership is defined by integrity, collaboration, and a genuine commitment to making WSU a thriving academic environment. Zinzisa's vision is to be a strong, authentic, and fearless voice for academics within the Institutional Forum focusing on championing inclusivity, fairness, and opportunity for all. She believes that WSU can be a place where academics flourish, students are empowered, and research meaningfully transforms communities. Guided by her commitment to education, conservation, and transformation, Zinzisa Nokwali is ready to represent her colleagues with courage, integrity, and hope. She stands prepared to ensure that every academic at WSU has a platform to succeed and a voice that is heard.

Vote Zinzisa Nokwali—for leadership that inspires, represents, and transforms.



### Tshazibana Yanga

Now that the R and C project has been implemented, the University vision 2030 of becoming “an impactful, technology-infused African University is still in motion. The University is gradually transforming, taking a posture of a fully-fledged university of choice in Africa. This change required that all Faculties and their academic programs correspond with the vision across all Four campuses. If this is not implemented with careful consideration, it may yield unpleasant results that may impact negatively to the academics, students and the WSU Community at large.

The Institutional Forum plays a pivotal role in governance, as an important tool for transformation with its influence as the only advisory to the University council recognised by the university statute. As a candidate for the Institutional Forum (IF) academic representative, I will focus all my energies on the following key points.

- 1.Support the vision, mission and strategic goals of vision 2030. “In pursuit of excellent”, Walter Sisulu University seeks to address societal challenges by producing relevant, innovate and impactful research, championing sustainable and just development and graduating versatile individuals.
- 2.Promote Walter Sisulu University core values: Honesty and integrity, quality and excellent, respect and ubuntu.
- 3.Encourage academic collaborations: Work collaboratively with WSU management, Senate and Council to align IF recommendations with the university's vision 2030, focusing on sustainable education and community engagement.
- 4.Equity. Empowered Staff and inclusion; Recognizing the university campus differences and backgrounds from the previous model, ensuring that extra support is extended to faculties that previously produced only vocational qualifications to bring harmonised institutional culture among all academics.
- 5.Support awareness campaigns; (Gender based violence) that address social ills and promote the spirit ubuntu and social cohesion for academic staff to create productive environment for teaching and learning.



# ACADEMIC EMPLOYEES - Council Representative



## Kolosa Mzukisi

Dr. Mzukisi Kolosa offers himself as a candidate for the Non-Senate Academic Seat on Council with a vision to strengthen Walter Sisulu University’s academic project and safeguard the voice of scholars in institutional decision-making. As an academic who combines teaching, research, postgraduate supervision, and professional practice, he represents the values and aspirations of colleagues whose daily work advances WSU’s mission.

His academic leadership is demonstrated across multiple spheres. A medical practitioner and educator, Dr. Kolosa is actively engaged in postgraduate supervision within the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, the Faculty of Education, and the Medical Orthotics and Prosthetics programme. His supervision and mentorship have already produced students whose research has been showcased at national conferences, positioning WSU as a contributor to scholarship of both national and international relevance. His ongoing research in health professions education, curriculum transformation, and decolonial scholarship aligns directly with the institution’s strategic priorities and the national call for socially accountable higher education.

Dr. Kolosa’s contributions extend beyond the classroom and research office into the national academic space. As a Health Professions Council of South Africa panelist, he has evaluated and accredited medical education programmes across the country, ensuring academic standards and accountability. This role reflects the esteem in which his academic judgment is held and his commitment to advancing quality in higher education. Equally significant is his technical service in implementing the Memorandum of Agreement between WSU, the Eastern Cape Department of Health, and the National Health Laboratory Service, where he has supported the establishment of the Joint Staff Establishment. This experience underscores his ability to integrate academic priorities with health system needs in ways that strengthen both governance and scholarship.

At WSU, his leadership in the admissions reform has ensured a transparent, evidence-driven model, culminating in the development of a three-tiered governance framework which comprises of a Technical Working Group, a Complaints Management Committee, and the Dean’s Advisory Panel. This process has led to the institution producing multiple cohorts of students who embody both academic excellence and WSU’s mission to serve rural and underserved communities. This work demonstrates his capacity to balance equity with standards, and access with quality. His academic development further reflects his dedication to advancing WSU’s mission. Having completed a Postgraduate Diploma in Health Professions Education at the University of Cape Town, and currently pursuing a Master’s in the same field, Dr. Kolosa is at the forefront of debates in curriculum transformation, socially accountable education, and decolonial scholarship.

Dr. Kolosa brings to the table the perspective of a scholar who understands the challenges and opportunities facing academics at WSU. His commitment is to ensure that Council decisions protect academic integrity, promote research productivity, and create enabling conditions for teaching and scholarship. He believes that the strength of any university lies in its academics, and he is prepared to champion their interests with clarity, principle, and vision.

By electing Dr. Mzukisi Kolosa, you entrust Council with an academic voice that is credible, principled, and deeply committed to WSU’s scholarly mission.



## Zoko Mxolisi

In pursuit of excellence, let’s move WSU forward - together.  
My name is Mxolisi Zoko, a lecturer in the Department of Public Management and Governance, Faculty of Management and Public Administration Sciences, and I am honoured to present myself as a candidate for the position of Academic Representative to the University Council.  
I bring a combination of academic experience, institutional leadership. I have taught and supervised at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels, developed curricula, and led academic quality assurance processes as the Chairperson of the Departmental Assessment Committee in the Faculty of Management and Public Administration Sciences.

My earlier roles as a Financial Aid Officer and External Donor Coordinator strengthened my belief in equitable access to education. Played a significant role in historic student debt clearance working closely with university convocation. I worked closely with under-resourced students, mobilised donor funding, and upheld the values of fairness and accountability in financial support systems. These experiences gave me a strong appreciation for the institutional systems that enable success, especially for the most marginalised.

I have served on the University Council before, contributing meaningfully through the Planning & Infrastructure Committee and the Human Resources Committee. Also served on the University Convocation, contributing to the improved stakeholder engagement between our university and its Alumni. This previous governance experience will allow me to hit the ground running and ensure that your voice as an academic is heard at the highest level.

**If elected, I will focus on the following key areas:**

- 1. Championing the Academic Voice**  
Ensuring that academics are fully represented in all policy, planning, and resource allocation decisions. Including reviewing the Academic Workload Policy to ensure it is fair, realistic, and supportive of teaching, research, and service expectations.
- 2. Academic Staff Empowerment and Development**  
Advocating for enhanced development opportunities, career progression, and support systems for academic staff, aligned with Strategic Goal 5 of the University Plan.
- 3. Reflecting Lived Realities in Council Decisions**  
Ensuring that Council decisions account for the genuine pressures of teaching, research, transformation imperatives, and student success expectations.
- 4. Driving Innovation in Teaching and Learning**  
Supporting impactful, technology-infused pedagogies that align with our Vision 2030 to modernise learning and prepare our graduates for a digital future.
- 5. Promoting Relevant and Engaged Research**  
Advancing research that is both locally impactful and globally connected, in line with Strategic Goal 3 of the University Strategic Plan.
- 6. Financial Sustainability of the University**  
Supporting initiatives that ensure long-term financial health, including:  
i.Strengthening Third Income Streams through research commercialisation, partnerships, and innovation hubs.  
ii.Driving University Enterprise Models that create value while advancing our academic mission.  
iii.Supporting Expansion Projects that broaden our reach and improve our infrastructure in line with the university's strategic growth.  
iv.Promoting a Robust Performance Management System to enhance accountability and excellence across the university.

We are a university with a bold mission – to be an impactful, technology-infused African University. We need representation that understands both the academic project and the governance mechanisms that shape our future.

I offer myself as your servant, collaborator, and advocate. Let’s work together to advance the academic heart of WSU.