

# NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

## RESEARCH BOARD REPORT FOR 2014

### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Research Board assists and promotes Research activities at the National University of Science and Technology and thus acts as a conduit between the Bursar's Department and Academics regarding funding. It provides Funds for Research and Travel Grants connected with Research and participation at National and International Conferences.

In 2014, the Board met five times on dates that were published in the University Diary except on special occasions.

### 2.0 FUNDING

The Research Board Budget for 2014 was US\$250 000.00 which was 4% of the University's Operational Budget. The Board allocated US\$103 080.00 towards the Block Allocation Vote which was 41% of the total budget. The total Research Grant Vote was allocated US\$146 920.00 which was 49% of the total budget and was distributed as follows:

a) Research Grant Vote was allocated US\$122 836.00 which was 84% of the total Research Grant Vote. The Research Grant Vote was further divided into Research Grants (US\$95 436.00), Collaborative Grant (US\$25 000) and Research Day Prizes (US\$2 100.00). The collaborative Grant was 10% of the Research Grant Vote.

b) The Travel Grant Vote was allocated \$24 384.00 which was 16% of the total Research Grant Vote. Research Board Allocation and Expenditure is shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Research Board Allocation and Expenditure

	<b>2014 Allocation (US\$)</b>	<b>Payments (US\$)</b>	<b>Balance (US\$)</b>
<b>Block Allocation</b>	103 080.00	20 670.74	82 409.26
<b>Research Grants</b>	95 436.00	95 436.00	Nil
<b>Travel Grants</b>	24 384.00	24 384.00	Nil
<b>Collaborative Research Grant</b>	25 000.00	5 728.20	19 271.80
<b>Research Day Prizes</b>	2 100.00	2 100	Nil
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>250 000.00</b>	<b>148318.94</b>	<b>101 681.06</b>

Of the total Research Board Vote of 2014, there were nil balances from the Research Grant Vote, the Travel Grant Vote and the Research Day Prizes. The Block Allocation Vote had a balance of US\$82 409.26, which was 80% of that Vote. The Collaborative Grant spent was US\$5 728.29, which was 22% of that Vote.

### 2.1 Block Allocation

Table 2 below shows the University staff establishment as in March 2014 and their respective Block Allocations that were awarded to each member per group.

Table 2: Distribution of Block Allocation Funds for 2014

<b>Category of Staff</b>	<b>Professors</b>	<b>Senior Lecturers</b>	<b>Lecturers</b>
<b>Number</b>	48	17	404
<b>Amount</b>	US\$300.00	US\$240.00	US\$210.00

The Faculty of Applied Sciences utilised the highest amount of the Block Allocation (40%) followed by the Faculty of Commerce (17%) as shown in Table 3. The Faculty of The Built Environment utilised the least amount of the Block Allocation (2%).

## **2.2 Research Grants**

In 2014, the Research Board approved 30 applications as shown in Table 3. Of these applications, 9 were from female applicants and 21 were from male applicants. The Faculty of Applied Sciences had the highest number of applications and was awarded the highest amount of the Research Grant Vote (50.64%) followed by the Faculty of Commerce (32.45%) and the Faculty of Industrial Technology (10.96%). The Faculty of Communication and Information Science had the lowest applications (3.42%). There were no applications for Research Grants from the faculties of The Built Environment, Science and Technology Education and Medicine.

## **2.3 Publication Fees**

There were 22 applications for Publication Fees in 2014 as shown in Table 3. All the applications were from male applicants. Of these the Faculty of Applied Sciences had the highest number of applications for Publication Fees (18) followed by the Faculty of Commerce (3) and the Faculty of Industrial Technology (1). There were no applications for Publication Fees from the Faculties of The Built Environment, Communication and Information Science, Science and Technology Education and Medicine.

## **2.4 Travel Grants**

In 2013, 22 applications for Travel Grants to Conferences were approved by the Research Board as shown in Table 3. Of these, 8 were from female Applicants and 14 were from male Applicants. The highest awards were from the Faculty of Applied Sciences (53.61%), followed by the Faculty of Communication and Information Science (29.1%). The faculty of Science and Technology Education had the least number of applications (4.66%). There were no applications for Travel Grants from the faculties of Commerce, The Built Environment and Medicine.

## **2.5 Externally Funded Projects**

Altogether, there were 12 externally funded projects as shown in Table 4. Of these, 2 recipients were female and 10 recipients were male. The Faculty of Applied Sciences sourced most funds making up 51.55% of the total funds followed by the Faculty of Commerce with 37.77%, the Faculty of Medicine (9.77) and the Faculty of Communication and Information Science (0.91%). The major external funder was the European Union (Gender Mainstreaming) which contributed 21% of the total funds received at NUST. There were no externally funded projects from the faculties of The Built Environment, Industrial Technology and Science and Technology Education.

## **3.0 CONCLUSION**

Altogether, 74 applications were approved by the Research Board in 2014. The 2014 applications had decreased by 9.8% as compared to those of 2013. The decrease in applications was due to the shortage of cash in the Bursars Department which discouraged researchers from applying for funds. The top ceiling for Research Grants and Travel Grants remained the same as those of 2013 (US\$5 000.00 and US\$2 500.00 respectively). However, despite the shortage of cash in the University as a whole, Research Board Funding contributed in promoting the research culture at NUST.

**Table 3: Distribution of Research Board Funds for 2014**

<b>RESEARCH GRANTS</b>				
Faculty	No. in Post*	No. of Applications	Amount Disbursed	Percentage Disbursed
Applied Sciences	110	12	\$68 069.39	50.64
Commerce	94	11	\$43 619.19	32.45
Com & Infor Science	40	3	\$4590.00	3.42
The Built Environment	18	-	-	0
Industrial Technology	44	3	\$14 738.00	10.96
Science and Technology Education	10	-	-	0
Medicine	30	-	-	0
VC'S Office	6	1	\$3 402.00	2.53
Library	2	-	-	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>354</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>\$134 418.6</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>TRAVEL GRANTS</b>				
Faculty	No. in Post*	No. of Applications	Amount Disbursed	Percentage Disbursed
Applied Sciences	110	10	\$17 571.09	53.61
Commerce	94	-	-	0
Com & Infor Science	40	9	\$9 537.00	29.1
The Built Environment	18	-	-	0
Industrial Technology	44	-	-	0
Science and Technology Education	10	1	\$1 527.00	4.66
Medicine	30	-	-	0
VC'S Office	6	2	\$4 140.00	12.63
Library	2	-	-	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>354</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>\$32 775.09</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>PUBLICATION COSTS</b>				
Faculty	No. in Post*	No. of Publications	Amount Disbursed	Percentage Disbursed
Applied Sciences	110	18	\$6196.10	83.88
Commerce	94	3	\$777.50	10.52
Com & Infor Science	40	-	-	0
The Built Environment	18	-	-	0
Industrial Technology	44	1	\$415.00	5.6
Science and Technology Education	10	-	-	0
Medicine	30	-	-	0
VC'S Office	6	-	-	0
Library	2	-	-	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>354</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>\$7 386.60</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>BLOCK ALLOCATIONS</b>				
Faculty	Establishment*	No. of Applications	Amount Disbursed	Percentage Disbursed
Applied Sciences	125	30	\$8 778.59	40.37
Commerce	121	19	\$3 652.00	16.79
Com & Infor Science	48	4	\$2 908.00	13.37
The Built Environment	29	2	\$150.00	0.69
Industrial Technology	54	13	\$2 358.00	10.84
Science and Technology Education	25	4	\$1801.00	8.28
Medicine	59	4	\$1 800.00	8.28
VC'S Office	6	-	-	0
Library	2	1	\$300.00	1.38
<b>Total</b>	<b>469</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>\$21747.59</b>	<b>100</b>

**Table 4: Externally Funded Projects for the year 2014**

Faculty	No. in Post*	No. of Recipients	Amount Awarded	Percentage Awarded
Applied Sciences	110	6	\$146 308.20	51.55
Commerce	94	3	\$107 200.00	37.77
Com & Infor Science	40	1	\$2 614.00	0.91
The Built Environment	18	-	-	0
Industrial Technology	44	-	-	0
Science and Technology Education	10	-	-	0
Medicine	30	2	\$27 720.20	9.77
VC'S Office	6	-	-	0
Library	2	-	-	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>354</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>\$283842.40</b>	<b>100</b>

NB: No. in Post\* and Establishment\* refer to those members of staff that are eligible to Research Board Funds (Professors, Senior Lecturers and Lecturers).

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