

GWANDA STATE UNIVERSITY

Excellence through Esprit De Corps



2024 GWANDA STATE UNIVERSITY ANNUAL REPORT



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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRPER-

SON OF COUNCIL

It is with great pride and a deep sense of responsibility that I share the activities of the year 2024. Following my appointment as the Gwanda State University Council Chairperson, in March 2024, I have had the privilege of witnessing first-hand, the unwavering commitment, resilience, and innovation that define Gwanda State University. The year 2024 has presented both challenges and opportunities. Though limited and late disbursement of operational funds, evolving customer (staff and students) needs, and shifting global trends, the University responded not only with agility but with purpose. We strengthened our governance framework, deepened our culture of transparency, and reaffirmed our strategic priorities to remain competitive and socially responsible.

At the heart of our success lies the dedication of members of Council, University Management, and staff as well as our students. Their passion, ingenuity, and collaboration have powered our performance and positioned us for sustainable growth. I also extend sincere gratitude to our stakeholders which include Government through our parent Ministry (Ministry of Higher and Tertiary Education, Innovation, Science and Technology Development), regulatory authorities such as the Zimbabwe Council for Higher Education (ZIMCHE), and community stakeholders whose trust and engagement continue to guide our decisions.

As we look ahead, the University Council remains focused on long-term value creation, ethical stewardship, and inclusive leadership. We are excited about the future and the role we will play in shaping it.

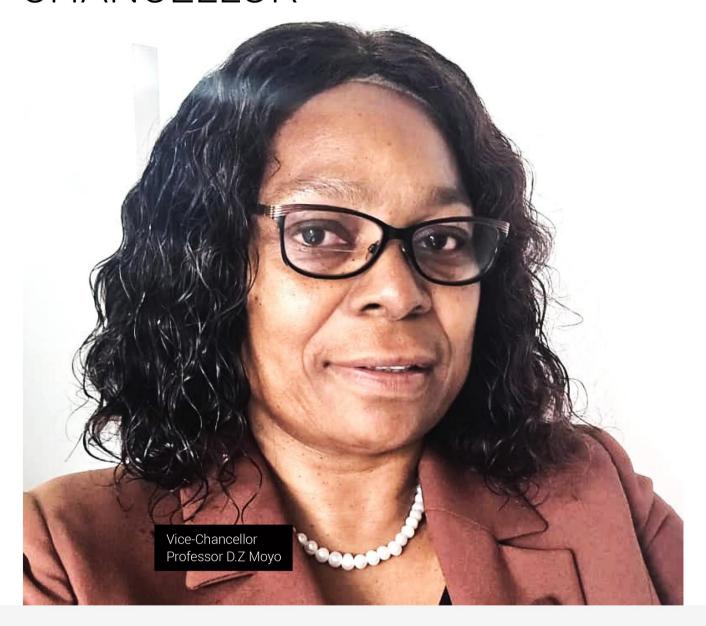
On behalf of the Gwanda State University Council, I thank you for your continued support.

Dr Sheri Nyakudya Council Chairperson



Council Chairperson Dr Sheri Nyakudya

MESSAGE FROM THE VICE-CHANCELLOR



"It is my pleasure to share the 2024 Gwanda State University Annual Report—a reflection of the determination, adaptability, and collective excellence that continues to propel our University forward.".

The past year has tested every organisation around the country, and we were no exception. Yet, through these challenges, as a University we found opportunities to evolve, grow, and reinforce our purpose. Guided by our vision, mission and core-values as well as our commitment to innovation, we made meaningful strides across every facet of our operations—from enhancing the experience of our staff and students to driving sustainability and operational efficiency,

notwithstanding a limited resource base. Continued next page

"

We achieved several key milestones, including executing successfully, the academic programmes, which culminated in the graduation of one hundred and twenty-six (126) students, running a variety of third stream income projects which kept the University afloat, while staying true to the long-term vision we share with our stakeholders. These successes are a testament to our talented team, whose creativity, resilience and tenacity turned possibilities into realities.

Looking ahead, our focus remains clear: to deliver value by way of increasing access to higher education through introducing more academic programmes, expanding our income generating projects to enhance our revenue base, completing the construction and equipmentation of the Engineering Laboratory and Innovation complex as well as the Agro-Innovation Complex, and deepening relationships with communities and partners.

On behalf of the University management team, I thank all our stakeholders especially the parent Ministry, and our staff and students for their trust and belief in our mission. The future holds promise—and we are ready to meet it, together.

Vice-Chancellor

Professor D.Z Moyo



VISION

A globally renowned University driving cutting edge learning, research and innovation for value addition, beneficiation and industrialisation by 2030.

MISSION

To deliver high quality education, cutting edge research and collaborative partnerships while fostering a culture of sustainability, environmental stewardship; and social impact to create a more equitable and resilient future.

CORE VALUES

- INTEGRITY honesty and holding high principles for proper conduct
- EQUITY fairness and impartiality
- INNOVATIVENESS creative thinking
- ACCOUNTABILITY answerability and responsibility
- **EXCELLENCE** quality of being outstanding
- ESPRIT DE CORPS feeling of pride and mutual loyalty shared by members of Gwanda State University
- UBUNTU/UNHU/BOTHO/VHUTHU/UMNTU/BUNHU social compatibility

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE INSTITUTION

Gwanda State University was established in 2016 through an Act of Parliament [Chapter 25:30]. The establishment of the University was in line with the government's policy of establishing a state University in each province. The University started as a college of the National University of Science and Technology (NUST). Gwanda State University has two campuses, the Epoch Mine Campus where the University is currently operating from as well as the Gwanda Campus that is yet to be developed. The Epoch mine campus is located at the 1000-hectare Swaart Spruit Farm.

The mandate of the University is specialisation in animal and veterinary sciences, irrigation engineering and management, mining engineering, environmental engineering and ecosystem restoration. The mandate not only speaks to heritage based Education 5.0 Philosophy but also resonates very well with the location of the University in Matabeleland South, a province hugely amenable to livestock production, dry land crop production and mining. Mining and agriculture are the major contributors towards the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP), hence the university is well positioned to promote and contribute to the economic development of the country.





UNIVERSITY LOGO

Matabeleland South Province can be described as a rainbow province, which is home to a multiplicity of royalty spread across the length and breadth of the province. Some of the prominent chiefdoms in the province include the Mafu Maduna Chieftainship (Insiza North), Nyangazonke Ndiweni Chieftainship (Matobo District), Mathema Chieftainship (Gwanda District), the Bidi Chieftainship (Plumtree District), the Jahana Khumalo Chieftainship (Insiza South), the Sigola Chieftainship (Umzingwane District), and the Sitauze Chieftainship (Beitbridge District).

Matabeleland South Province is also richly endowed with mineral resources and is amenable to livestock production (cattle, goats etc), hence the mandate of the University which seeks to promote the exploitation of the natural resources that are found in the province. The Gwanda State University Logo is an epitome reflection of the culture and natural endowments of Matabeleland South Province where the University is located.

INTERPRETATION OF COLOURS

- Black: Strength and power
- Purple: Royalty
- **Green**: Growth and Environment
- Red: Determination
- Blue: Water and life
- Gold: Minerals
- Yellow: Prosperity
- STAR AND ZIMBABWE BIRD-OUR CULTURE AND HISTORY
- GEAR AND PICK-MINING & ENGINEERING
- **MOUNTAINS**-MOUNTAINEOUS ENVIRONMENT
- **WINDMILL** AGRICULTURE AND FARMING
- GRADUATION CAP-ACADEMIC SUCCESS



THE GSU COUNCIL MEMBERS



Cllr. Dr Sheri Nyakudya Council Chair



Cllr.
Eng. Sijabuliso H. Ncube
Vice-Council Chair



Cllr. Ms. Stella Nkomo



Cllr. Prof. Andrew Siwela



Cllr. Mrs. Tilibali Moyo



Cllr. Mrs. Priscilla Musundire



Cllr. Mr. Cletos Masawi



Cllr. Mrs. Sithembisiwe Mpofu-Ndlovu



Cllr. Eng. Sydney Mandidi



Cllr. Mrs. Verenica Mutiro



Cllr. Mr. Courage Shonhiwa



Cllr. Prof. Godfrey Dzinomwa



Cllr. Dr. Dennis Murekachiro



Cllr. Ms. Priscillar Nkala

CONTINUATION OF THE GSU COUNCIL MEMBERS



Professor Doreen Zandile Moyo Vice-Chancellor



Mr. Mthokozisi NcubePresident:
Workers' Committee



Mr. Makomborero Vushe President: Student Executive Council



Dr. Busani MoyoDean:
Faculty of Natural Resources
Management and Agriculture



Mr Tinashe Mabikire
Acting Dean: Faculty
of Engineering and The
Environment

PRINCIPAL OFFICERS



Professor Doreen Zandile Moyo Vice-Chancellor



Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Vacant)



Mr. Erasmus Mupfiga Registrar



Mr. Pardon Zhira Bursar



Mr. Phillip Ndhlovu Deputy Librarian

PERFORMANCE HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR FOCUSING ON THE STRATEGIC PLAN ACHIEVEMENTS AND GENERAL PERFORMANCE INDICATORS IN HIGHER EDUCATION





PREAMBLE

A harmonious relationship between the leadership, governance and culture is 'sine qua non' for the success of an organisation. Leadership sets the direction, governance ensures order and culture fuels collaborations and commitment among members an organisation. If one of these three fundamental elements is misaligned, the whole system can suffer.

LEADERSHIP

Leadership is the organisation's guiding force which influences the vision and strategy of the organisation and shapes how its members experience the organisational culture through daily decisions and actions.

The year under review saw the appointment of the new University Council led by Dr Sheri Nyakudya. The other members of Council include Engineer S H Ncube (Vice-Chair), Mrs P Musundire, Ms P Nkala, Professor A Siwela, Mr C Shoniwa, Engineer S Mandidi and Advocate C T Masawi. The term of office for the new Council is three (3) years with effect from 1st March 2024 to 28 February 2027.

GOVERNANCE

The governance of an institution is the framework which provides structure, policies and processes for decision making. The governance of the University is predicated upon the Committee system. Council is the principal committee which exercises administrative oversight on the University while Senate under the leadership of the Vice-Chancellor is the key academic committee responsible for the executive management of all academic matters and processes.

During the year under review, the University's committee system was very active. Seventy-eight (78) committee meetings were held during 2024. Sixty-two (62) of these meetings, were scheduled meetings as per the 2024 Diary of Committee Meetings. Of the 62 diarised meetings, forty-five (45) meetings were held on the scheduled dates, while seventeen (17) were rescheduled for one reason or another. Six special committee meetings were convened during the year under review to deal with urgent University business which could not wait for scheduled meetings. The committees which held special meetings include, the Executive Committee of Council (2), the Student Affairs committee (2), the Academic Board (1) and the Research Board (1). The participation of external Councillors in committee meetings during 2024 was very satisfactory notwithstanding their busy schedules at their places of work. The table below shows the pattern of the external Councillors' participation in the major committees of the University.

TABLE 1: COUNCIL MEMBERS ATTENDANCE TO MAJOR COMMITTEES

No.	Councillor Name	Committee											
			I	Financ	Finance		Audit		Nominations & Human Resources		Campus Development		
		21st 12/4/24	22 nd 21/6/24	16 th 9/2/24	17 th 7/6/24	18 th 12/11/24	6 th 2/2/24	1st Special 8/5/24	12 TH 29/2/24	13™ 6/6/24	14 th 11/9/24	15 th 8/3/24	16 th 30/5/24
1.	Dr S Nyakudya	✓	✓										
2.	Eng S H Ncube	✓	✓	√	Apology	Apology		~	~	Apology	~	Apology	~
3.	Eng S Mandidi	✓	✓				✓					√	✓
4.	Mrs P Musundire	✓	✓	✓	√	✓	~	~					
5.	Ms P Nkala	Apology	Apology					~		✓	*		
6.	Mr C T Masawi	✓	✓					~					
7.	Mr C Shoniwa	✓	✓				1	~					
8.	Prof A Siwela	✓	✓		✓	✓		√					
9.	Mrs T Moyo			*									

CULTURE

Culture refers to the institution's shared values, beliefs, attitudes and norms that shape the behavior of people within an institution.

The year under review saw the University's vision, mission, core values and strategic goals being revisited during the institution's inaugural strategic plan review workshop. The vision, mission, core values and strategic goals were reviewed and /or recast to reflect the changes that occurred in the operating environment of the University.

In keeping with the principles of good governance practice and stakeholder engagement, the University also held its 3rd Annual General Meeting on the 18th of December 2024. The event was a resounding success judging by the positive comments passed by all the stakeholders who participated in the meeting.



From right, is the Deputy Minister of Higher and Tertiary Education, Innovation, Science and Technology Development, Honourable Simelisizwe Sibanda, Gwanda State University Council Chairperson Dr. Sheri Nyakudya, Gwanda State University Vice-Chancellor, Professor Doreen Zandile Moyo, Gwanda State University Registrar Mr Erasmus Mupfiga and the Gwanda State University Bursar, Mr Pardon Zhira.



GSU Council and University management following proceedings during a Strategic Plan review workshop in Gweru.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Staff Growth

The University realised growth of its staff compliment from 385 to 483, giving a 24% growth.

Critical Posts Filled

A total of Fifty-five (55) permanent posts were filled against a target of one-hundred (100) vacancies.

TABLE 2: SHOWS CRITICAL POSTS FILLED IN THE YEAR 2024

Post	Number of
D D	Positions Filled
Deputy Bursar	2
Director, Monitoring and Evaluation of Performance	1
Contracting	-
Director, Research, Innovation and Industrialisation	
Director, Centre for Wildlife, Research and Conservation	l I
Deputy Registrar, Human Resources and Administration	1
Lecturer	16
Teaching Assistants	7
Senior Assistant Registrar, Human Resources	1
Webmaster	1
Software Engineer	1
Software Development Manager	1
Software Programmer	1
Student Development Officer	1
Accounting Assistants	3
Assistant Accountant	1
Security Officer	1
Quality Assurance Analyst	1
Quality Assurance Officer Sciences	1
Assistant Internal Auditor	1
Counsellor	1
Administrative Assistant, Student Affairs	1
Chief Library Assistant	1
Student Residences and Campus Life Manager	1
Assistant Librarian	3
Stores Officer	1
Assistant Risk Officer	1
Procurement Officer	1
SHE Officer	1
Fashion Designer	1
Total	55

Staff Development

Fifteen (15) Academic staff members and four (4) Non-Teaching staff members benefitted from the institution's Staff Development Policy.

Non-Teaching Staff Appointments and Tenure

Seventy Six (76) employees were tenured during the year under review.

Resignations

A total of thirty-one (31) resignations were received in the year 2024, representing a 7% attrition rate, indicating a 2.8% rise from the year 2023. This attrition rate is however, below the acceptable rate of 10% symbolising a healthy situation.

Policies Developed

The following policies and SOPs were developed in the year under review:

- Housing Policy
- Drug and Substance Abuse Policy
- Ethics Policy

Industrial Relations

Five (5) disciplinary hearings were conducted during the year, and two employees were dismissed. A new Workers' Committee was put in office in August 2024.

Staff Welfare

The following initiatives were implemented in respect of staff welfare:

- Employees were paid a once-off cushion allowance of USD50.00 in March 2024.
- Employees' salaries were reviewed in March 2024
- The Vice-Chancellor appreciated female employees for their commitment and hard work.
- Employees were given Christmas hampers in December 2024.
- The University made arrangements with a private service provider to ferry staff for the weekend.

Ground Maintenance and Cleaning Services

The University's grounds, offices, lecture rooms and students' hostels were very well maintained and kept in a good state of cleanliness and repair throughout 2024.

ACADEMIC REGISTRY 2024 PERFORMANCE HIGHLIGHTS

Registry

Academic Registry offers strategic support to the teaching and learning key result area through the recruitment, registration of students and the administration of examination processes and procedures. During the year under review, Academic Registry scored notable achievements under very difficult circumstances.

ADMISSIONS AND STUDENT RECORDS

Recruitment of New Students

A total of **one hundred and six (106)** new students were recruited across all faculties. Of these, **seventy-nine (79)** were males while **twenty-seven (27)** were females.

TABLE 3: SHOWS A SUMMARY OF 2024 STUDENT RECRUITMENT.

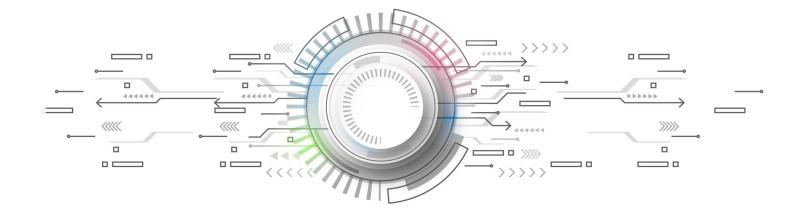
FACULTY	CONVENTIONAL	BLOCK	TOTAL
Faculty of Engineering and the Environment	35	44	79
Faculty of Natural Resources Management and Agriculture	14	4	18
Faculty of Business Sciences and Management	4	5	9
TOTAL	53	53	106

Returning students in the 2024-2025 session were **four hundred and sixty-two (462**). **Ninety-six percent (96%)** of the students registered at the close of the registration period while **eight (8)** students were presumed withdrawn.

A total of **one hundred and twenty-six (126)** graduands graduated during the 3rd Graduation Ceremony and of these, **thirty-one (31)** were females while **ninety-five (95)** were males.

Examinations

The University administered four (4) regular examination sessions during the months of February, June, September and December. One supplementary examination session was administered in September 2024. All examination sessions were administered in line with modularisation and as per the provisions of the 2024 GSU Academic Calendar of Events.



INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

Student Management System

A major milestone was the refactoring of the Student Management System (SMS) to improve its overall performance, security, and user experience. This included the development of a modern user interface (UI) with an intuitive design, streamlined navigation, and enhanced functionalities. Additionally, improvements to access control were implemented to enhance system security and protect student records from unauthorised access. These enhancements have significantly increased the efficiency of both administrative and academic processes.

The University has developed a Student Verification System to enhance student identification and security. This system ensures that only bona fide students are recognised within and outside the University through a QR code-based verification process. Currently, the system only supports student verification. However, plans are in place to integrate access control features, allowing students to use their identity cards for secure entry to University facilities and access to various services.

INTERNAL AUDIT

The internal audit unit is an independent, objective assurance and consulting function designed to add value and improve the institution's operations. It assists the institution in accomplishing its objectives by bringing a systematic, disciplined approach to evaluating and improving the effectiveness of risk management, control, and governance processes.

Mandate and scope

The internal Audit function operates under the approved Internal Audit Charter, which is aligned with the International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing (IIA Standards). The internal Audit reports functionally to the Audit Committee and administratively to the Vice-Chancellor. The 2024 audit coverage was guided by the Annual Risk-Based Audit Plan, which was approved by the Audit Committee at the beginning of the year.

Key Areas Audited in 2024

During the reporting period, a number of audit assignments and reviews were conducted.

TABLE 4: SHOWS KEY AREAS AUDITED IN THE YEAR 2024

AUDIT AREA	TYPE OF AUDIT	STATUS	KEY FINDINGS/OUTCOME
Procurement Processes	Compliance and Process	Completed	Identified control weaknesses in the procurement processes. Recommendations issued and management correction underway
Agro-Innovation Hub and Industrial Park	Compliance and operational	Completed	Control weaknesses identified and recommendations issued.
Information and Communication Technology Services (ICTS)	Compliance	Completed	The high-risk areas identified. The recommendations issued in order to improve the internal control system concerning compliance issues.
Library	Compliance and operational	Completed	The gaps have been identified and recommendations issued. Management corrective action underway.
Stores	Compliance and operational	Completed	The high-risk areas identified. The recommendations issued in order to improve the internal control system concerning compliance issues.

Audit Committee

The Audit Committee is a subcommittee of Council charged with providing independent oversight role of the institution's financial reporting, internal control systems, risk management, and compliance. The Committee reviewed the Annual Financial Statements and quarterly internal audit reports as shown in the above table. The Committee also approved the Annual Risk based Audit Plan for 2024.

TABLE 5: AUDIT MEETINGS HELD DURING THE YEAR UNDER REVIEW

Council Members	1 st Quarter	2 nd	
			Quarter
	1 st	2 nd	
	meeting	meeting	
Mr C. Shoniwa- Chairperson	✓	√	✓
Ms P. Nkala		~	√
Eng. S. Mandidi	√		
Mrs P. Musundire	√		
Mrs V. Mutiro	√		
Adv. T.C Masawi			V

Key

√ the Council member attended

---- Reassigned to/ from

Risk Management

Risk management is critical for the achievement of the University's strategic objectives and the protection of its assets, reputation and stakeholders. The Risk Management Unit operates under the guidance of the Risk Management Policy approved by the Council. The University adopted an Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) approach in line with ISO 31000 standards as a way of aligning itself to the international standards.

Risk Governance Structure

TABLE 6: SHOWS THE RISK GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

Level	Responsibility
Council	Overall oversight and approval of risk strategy
Risk Committee	Monitoring and review of risk exposure and mitigation
Senior Management	Risk ownership and implementation of mitigation strategies
Risk Management	Facilitation, training, risk identification, and reporting
Departments/ Faculties	Identification and management of operational risks

Risk Management Committee

The Risk Management Committee is a subcommittee of Council responsible for providing oversight of the University's risk management framework, including the identification, assessment, mitigation, and monitoring of strategic and operational risks.

Key areas covered in the year 2024 were;

- Departments risk registers
- University register

TABLE 7: SHOWS THE RISK COMMITTEE ATTENDANCE REPORT

TITLE	NAME(S)	4 TH QUARTER
Chairperson	Ms P Nkala	√
Council Member	Mr C Shoniwa	✓
Vice-Chancellor	Prof. D.Z Moyo	√
Registrar	Mr E. Mupfiga	√
Bursar	Mr P Zhira	√
Dean Natural Resources Management and Agriculture	Dr B Moyo	✓
Acting Dean, Faculty of Engineering & the Environment	Mr T. Mabikire	×
Dean of Students	Mrs S. Ncube	✓
Director Quality Assurance	Dr S. Moyo	×
Deputy Librarian	Mr P. Ndhlovu	✓
Director: Information, Marketing and Public Relations	Ms M. Ndhlovu	✓
Director: Information and Communication Technology Services	Mr O. Munemo	√
Director Wildlife Conservation and Research	Dr A. Banda	×
Director Physical Planning Works and Estates	Eng. E. Mabasa	√
Deputy Registrar	Mr S. Ndlovu	√
Business Development Manager	Mr C Mukuni	√
Procurement Superintendent	Mr L. Magadlela	✓
Farm Superintendent	Mr E. Mpofu	√
Sub-Librarian	Ms D Gudoshava	√
S.H.E Officer	Mr M. Moyo	✓

Key

✓ Present★ Absent

PROCUREMENT

eGovernment Procurement (eGP) system

In October 2023 the Government of Zimbabwe officially launched the eGP system as part of the computerisation of public procurement. Some of the functions that the system can perform online are:

- (i) Submission of bids by bidders
- (ii) Bid opening(iii) Bid evaluation
- (iv) Annual Procurement Plan preparation and submission
- (v) Generation of transaction reports.

The implementation of the system has been done in the year 2024. According to section 22 of the Public Procurement and Disposal of Public Assets Act (PPDPA) [CHAPTER 22.23], every public procuring entity is required to prepare a Procurement Plan for each financial year in accordance with the template provided by the regulator. The Unit successfully compiled the plan and it was approved by the Procurement Regulatory Authority of Zimbabwe (PRAZ) during the year 2024.

2024 Major Tenders

The PMU was involved in various procurement activities. Below is the list of major tender processes that were carried out during the year.

TABLE 8: SHOWS MAJOR TENDERS AWARDED IN THE YEAR 2024

NOTICE TITLE	PUBLISH DATE	SUPPLIER	AMOUNT
Revaluation of Assets	11 Nov-	Knight Frank	USD 10 000.00
	2024		
ICT Equipment	12-Jul-2024	Not Awarded	N/A
Library Books	06 Sep-		
	2024		
Supply and Delivery of	14 Jun-	Not Awarded	N/A
Construction Hardware	2024		
Fuel For University Use	20 Aug-	Not Awarded	N/A
	2024		
Supply And Delivery of Office	12-Jul-2024	Seabourn	USD 16 928.00
Furniture		Investments (Pvt)	
		Ltd.	
Bulk and Cargo	12 July	Not Awarded	N/A
transportation services.	2024		
Procurement Of Graduation	12 July	Royal Flair Events	USD 40 382.25
Tents and Decoration	2024		
Services			
$\label{prop:continuous} FrameworkAgreementforthe$	12 July	Not Awarded	N/A
Procurement of Cleaning	2024		
Materials.			
Procurement Of Goods:	12 July	Not Awarded	N/A
Stationery through	2024		
Framework Agreement			
Procurement of Personal	12 July	Sword Wear (Pvt) Ltd.	USD 104 613.55
Protective Equipment	2024		
Supply And Delivery of Toners	24 June	Not Awarded	N/A
Through Framework	2024		
Agreements			
Supply and Delivery of	14 June	Not Awarded	N/A
Groceries Through	2024		
Framework Agreements			
Provision Of Vehicle	14 June	Not Awarded	N/A
Maintenance and Towing	2024		
Services			
Supply And Delivery of Pool	14 June	Not Awarded	N/A
Vehicles	2024		
Provision Of Medical Aid	14 June	Calm Health	USD 13 398.00
Services to Students	2024	International Medical	
		Aid Society	
Supply And Delivery of a Bus	14 June	Vordim Trading (Pvt)	USD 170 000.00
	2024	Ltd	

Monthly Returns

The Unit managed to submit all 12 monthly and 4 quarterly reports to PRAZ for evaluation. The feedback from PRAZ was positive, recording a 94 percent performance rating.



PREAMBLE

The Department of Physical Planning, Works and Estates (PPWE) is responsible for overseeing infrastructure development projects at the University. This includes new constructions, routine maintenance, and renovation works across both campuses: Epoch Mine and Gwanda Town. In 2024, significant progress was made in various projects, particularly at the Epoch Mine campus, which included the construction of critical facilities and the renovation of existing structures.

INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT - NEW PROJECTS

Engineering Laboratory and Innovation Complex (98%)

As at 31December 2024, the building project had achieved significant milestones, including the completion of the substructure, superstructure, roofing, aluminium works, and entrance cladding. While these foundational elements were finalised, several outstanding tasks will be done in 2025.

Progress Overview:

- o 1st Quarter: Finishes were completed; progress on specialist services (Tiling, Terrazzo, Epoxy flooring) were done.
- o 2nd Quarter: External paving, retaining walls, embankments were done.
- o 3rd Quarter: Entrance cladding was done.
- o 4th Quarter: Final touches on specialist services were done.







Pictures showing exterior of the Engineering Laboratory and Innovation Complex







Pictures showing interior of the Engineering Laboratory and Innovation Complex

Agro-Innovation Complex

The Agro-Innovation Complex superstructure and roofing were completed in the year under review. Aluminium works were in progress as at December 2024. However, several key outstanding tasks are expected to be completed in 2025.

- Progress Overview:
- o 1st Quarter: Brickwork to wall plate were completed.
- o 2nd Quarter: Plastering was done.
- o 3rd Quarter: Roofing and aluminium works were completed.
- o 4th Quarter: Completion rate of roofing were completed.



The above picture shows the roofing of the Agro-Innovation Complex



The above picture shows the roofing of the Agro-Innovation Complex



The above picture shows completed roofing works of the Agro-Innovation Complex

MAINTENANCE AND RENOVATIONS

In 2024, various projects were undertaken to enhance staff and student accommodation, as well as to renovate critical infrastructure. These efforts aimed at improving living conditions, providing modern amenities, and ensuring the longevity of University facilities.

Staff Accommodation

- D Section: All four blocks that were on target were completed in 2024 (100% occupancy).
- F Section: One block was completed (100% occupancy) and three other blocks were still under renovation and were at varying completion percentages by end of 2024:
- A Section: Renovation of two blocks for staff offices were at 35% overall completion by December 2024.

Student Accommodation

Five additional blocks were fully renovated and occupied in 2024.

Construction of Chalets

• Four chalets (2 x 2-bedroom and 2 x 1-bedroom) were at 50%, overall completion as at December 2024.



Two bedroom chalet at 50% completion

Construction of Palisade

An additional 250m of palisade was constructed by the end of 2024 to enhance security.





The above pictures show the construction of the palisade fence

Jahunda Hall Renovations

The renovations were at 60% completion by the end of 2024. The work done included partitioning and repainting to create additional student learning space.





The above pictures show the renovations underway at Jahunda Hall, Gwanda

Water and Sewer Section

In 2024, the University undertook essential repairs and maintenance to enhance the reliability and efficiency of water supply and wastewater management systems. Key achievements included:

- Sewer Line Repairs: Achieved 95% completion, with minor patching and manhole construction pending to ensure system integrity.
- Water Supply Line Repairs: Maintained a 95% operational capacity despite challenges posed by vandalism.
- · Cleaning Initiatives: Successfully cleaned the clarifier and raw water tank, improving water quality and reducing sludge levels.
- Borehole Development: Drilled and registered eight boreholes to bolster water supply.
- Pump Maintenance: Conducted routine maintenance on multistage pumps hence ensuring optimal performance.

These initiatives aimed at securing a sustainable and efficient water and sewer system, crucial for the University's operations.



Before repairing of burst pipe



After repairing of burst pipe



Before Cleaning of Raw Water Tank



After Cleaning of Raw Water Tank





Effluent entering the sewer ponds

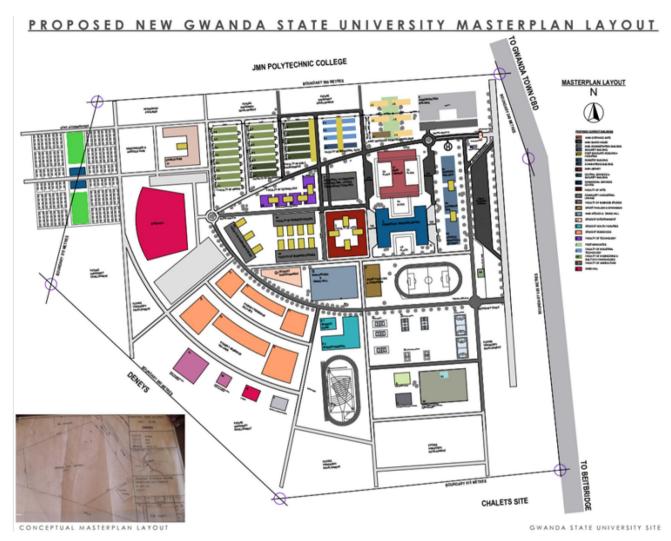


Flashing of first borehole at the Agro-Innovation Hub and Industrial Park

GWANDA TOWN PROJECTS

New Site

The Gwanda Town Campus Master Plan layouts were approved by the Municipality of Gwanda in December 2024. Civil works such as roads and servitude clearance to commence once funding is available.



The picture shows the approved Gwanda Town Campus Master Plan



The picture shows the envisaged 3D multi-purpose building to be constructed at the Gwanda Town Campus



INFORMATION AND COMMUNI-CATION TECHNOLOGY SERVIC-ES INFRASTRUCTURE

Internet

Following the installation of a fibre optic link in 2023, internet uptime significantly improved, enhancing efficiency in online learning, research, and administrative operations. Despite this progress, the cost of internet services remained high. To address this challenge, the University set up a plan to on board UbuntuNet Alliance Internet Service through the National Research and Education Network (NREN), with full implementation expected in 2025. This transition of engaging these internet service providers aimed at reducing costs while ensuring high-speed and reliable internet access for the University community.

Online Payment Platforms

To improve financial transactions for students, the University successfully added a new payment channel to complement the existing platform. This has provided students with more flexibility and convenience in paying tuition and other fees. Looking ahead, plans are in place to introduce a third payment channel in the coming year, further streamlining the payment process and enhancing service delivery.

Opportunities

- To further improve uptime and service availability, the University is exploring the use of Low Earth Orbit (LEO) satellite technology for broadband internet access. Given the University's geographical location, this solution aims to enhance connectivity, ensuring more reliable internet for both students and staff.
- The University is also planning on implementing key digital systems in 2025 to enhance student services and streamline campus operations. These initiatives aim to improve efficiency, accessibility, and the overall student experience.
- The systems earmarked for development include a voting system, an accommodation system, and a dining hall meal system.



PREAMBLE

Education 5.0 is premised on 5 pillars which are teaching, research, community engagement, innovation and industrialisation. Outside the mainstream teaching and learning activities, the academic departments were involved in field visits aimed at equipping students with hands on experience. Students were involved in extra mural activities and excelled in some discipline.

FACULTY OF ENGINEERING AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Departments

There were five (5) departments under the faculty namely Department of Mining Engineering, Department of Metallurgical Engineering, Department of Geography and Environmental Science.

Teaching and Learning

Teaching and learning are fundamental pillars of Education 5.0. Through these processes, the University generated and disseminated knowledge to address national development needs. The University made significant progress in teaching and learning service delivery, particularly through blended learning.

Staffing

TABLE 9: SHOWS THE FACULTY STAFFING FIGURES

Post	Staffing Beginning 2024	Joined in 2024	Resigned in 2024	Staffing End of 2024
Dean	0	0	0	0
Senior Assistant Registrar	1	0	0	1
Chief Secretary	1	1	1	1
Secretaries	0	0	0	0
Senior Lecturers	1	0	0	1
Lecturers	19	5	1	23
Teaching Assistants	8	2	1	9
Technicians and Instructors	3	0	0	3
Total		,	,	38

TABLE10: SHOWS YEAR 2024 STUDENT ENROLMENT FIGURES

Department	1 st year	2 nd year	3 rd year	4 th year	5 th year	Graduating
Mining Engineering	45	33	28	38	29	66
Metallurgic al Engineering	35	35	27	13	24	28
Geomatics and Survey	13	13	16	5	14	18
Geography and Environmen tal Science	2	0	0	0	0	0
Mathematic s and Statistics	2	0	0	0	0	0
Total			4	6		112

FACULTY OF NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT AND AGRICULTURE

Academic Departments and Programmes

The Faculty comprised of 3 departments:

- Department of Horticulture and Crop Production Offers BSc (Hons) in Crop Science, Horticulture and Crop Production.
- Department of Animal Production and Health Offers BSc (Hons) in Animal Science and in Animal Production and Health.
- Agricultural Economics Offers BSc (Hons) in Agricultural Economics.

FACULTY OF BUSINESS SCIENCES AND MANAGEMENT

Academic Departments and Programmes

The Faculty comprised of 2 departments:

- Department of Accounting Offers Bachelor of Commerce in Accounting.
- Department of Marketing Offers Bachelor of Commerce in Marketing.

Student Practicals

Students were involved in hands-on learning experience through carrying out of practicals at the University farm. These learning experiences (crop and livestock practicals) further aided classroom learning experiences.

Field Trips

Students visited:

- Matopo Research Station, where they toured the biochemistry lab and learnt about feed formulation and goat breeds.
- International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics, where they explored the Gene Seed Bank and the Soil Science Laboratory.

These field trips provided experiential learning through observation and interaction with industry professionals.

LIBRARY

The Library department remained committed to its mandate of supporting teaching, learning, and research through the provision of high-quality information resources, innovative services, and a conducive learning environment.



GSU Students at the Library

Open Educational Resources

The GSU Open Educational Resources (OER) Policy was approved by the Senate, underscoring the University's strong commitment to promoting open access to learning materials. By embracing OERs, GSU aimed at enhancing teaching and learning through the provision of high-quality, freely accessible educational content. The policy supported academic freedom, encouraged the adaptation and localisation of materials to suit the Zimbabwean context, and reduced the cost burden on students. Furthermore, it fostered collaboration among educators, promoted equity in education, and improved the visibility and impact of scholarly outputs produced within the University.

Library Services Enhancement

To enhance service delivery and strengthen the library team, 3 Assistant Librarians were recruited in 2024. This expansion enabled the extension of library operating hours, ensuring greater accessibility for students and staff. Additionally, four specialised units were established to better serve the academic community:

- Client Services: Focused on improving user experience and providing personalised assistance for library users, including help with resource discovery and access.
- Content Management Services: Dedicated to organising, maintaining, and curating digital and physical resources thereby ensuring that content was easily accessible and up to date.
- Research Support Services: Aimed at providing comprehensive support for researchers, including assistance with data management, publication strategies, and navigating academic databases.
- Scholarly Communications: Focused on advancing open access, promoting research visibility, and supporting faculty and students in disseminating their scholarly work effectively. These new services were designed to meet the evolving needs of the University community and improve overall library operations.

Book Acquisitions

In 2024, a total of 639 books were acquired:

- 36 books were purchased for the Faculty of Engineering and the Environment.
- 603 books were donated by Book Aid International, covering all disciplines at GSU.

As at 31 December 2024, the library's total book collection reached 4,351.

Enhanced Access to Electronic Databases

In 2024, the library expanded its digital resources by adding several new licensed databases to enhance access to scholarly materials across various disciplines. These additions included:

- ProQuest E-book Central: A comprehensive platform providing access to a vast collection of e-books across a wide range of subjects.
- Mathematical Sciences Publishers: A platform offering access to research journals and books in the field of mathematical sciences.
- Scite: A cutting-edge tool that enables users to discover relevant scientific papers and understand the context of research citations.
- · JSTOR: A leading digital library providing access to scholarly journals, books, and primary sources in various disciplines.
- ASTM Compass: A database offering access to comprehensive standards, technical papers, and research in engineering, materials science, and industrial fields.
- ACM Digital Library: A resource providing access to computing and information technology research, including journals, conferences, and books published by the Association for Computing Machinery.
- DeGruyter: A comprehensive collection of academic journals, e-books, and databases in the humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences.
- The Company of Biologists: A publisher offering access to journals focused on biological research and life sciences.
- IWA Publishing: A platform dedicated to scientific publications in the fields of water, wastewater, and environmental management.
- Elgar Online: A digital platform providing access to scholarly books and journals in the fields of economics, business, law, and public policy.

These additions significantly expanded the library's electronic resources, providing students, faculty, and researchers with enhanced access to high-quality content in a variety of fields.

Institutional Repository Content Recruitment

The Institutional Repository (IR) saw a significant growth of 75% in the year under review, with total items increasing from 288 in 2023 to 504 in 2024. This was driven by 216 new uploads, comprising of 14 intellectual outputs (research articles and conference papers) and 202 past examination papers to support student learning. The library remained committed to expanding the IR, promoting open access, and increasing the visibility of institutional research.

The Library also made significant strides in expanding its IR by collecting a total of 136 student research projects in 2024. This initiative was part of the library's ongoing efforts to preserve and showcase the academic work of students, resulting in their research work being easily accessible to both the University community and the broader global audience.

Library Space Optimisation

The main library was reconfigured to effectively use the space and improve functionality. The total seating capacity increased by 69%, from 36 to 61 seats. Additional furniture was installed for study carrels, the circulation desk was relocated to the stack area, and shelves were rearranged for space efficiency.



Library space before reconfiguration



Library space after reconfiguration

Enhancing Digital Literacy Skills

The library launched its inaugural IDLS (Information and Digital Literacy Skills) training programme to improve students' information literacy and digital competencies. The programme focused on information retrieval, evaluating digital resources, and the responsible use of AI tools. Aimed primarily at first-year students, the programme received positive feedback. However, limited contact time with Block students presented a challenge, which was addressed by offering after-hours sessions.



Students accessing Proquest e-Book Central Database during the Information and Digital Literacy Skills Training

OpenAthens Remote Access Solution

In 2024, the Library was selected to be part of the OpenAthens Connect programme, which provided secure remote access to digital resources for students and researchers. OpenAthens Connect is a low-cost, easy-to-use single-sign-on (SSO) service designed for libraries with limited budgets and fewer resources, helping institutions that lack the technical expertise or time to implement more complex authentication services. The programme allowed the library to provide secure, seamless remote access to digital subscriptions for both on-campus and off-campus users, improving access to essential resources for the GSU community at no cost in 2024. The library plans to subscribe to the OpenAthens service at a cost of USD\$ 800 for the next three years, starting in 2025. This subscription will allow the library to further improve its digital resource accessibility and management, while also providing valuable insights through usage reporting to inform future subscription decisions.

Positive Trends in Library Usage

Library website visits experienced significant growth in 2024, more than doubling from 3,181 in 2023 to 6,460. This surge in online engagement reflected an increased reliance on the library's digital resources and services. Additionally, physical visits to the library also saw a modest increase, reaching 2,591 in 2024, compared to 2,420 in 2023. This growth in both online and physical visits indicated a positive trend in user engagement, highlighting the library's role in supporting the academic needs of the University community through both virtual and in-person services.

International Open Access Week

To commemorate International Open Access Week, the University, in collaboration with Zimbabwe Open University (ZOU) Library, hosted a webinar on October 23, 2024, under the theme "Community Over Commercialisation." A University representative, presented on "Leveraging Rights Retention Strategy (RRS) and Creative Commons (CC) Licenses." The event attracted academics, researchers, and librarians from various institutions.

Leadership and Professional Engagement

In 2024, the University was nominated to be a Secretariat for the Zimbabwe University Libraries Consortium (ZULC). This development highlighted his leadership and commitment to advancing library services in Zimbabwean Universities. Additionally, he was selected to serve as the Chairperson of the Capacity Building and Mentorship Workgroup of ZULC, further demonstrating his dedication to fostering professional development and mentorship within the libraries.

STUDENT AFFAIRS DIVISION

Student Executive Council Orientation

The Division of Student Affairs conducted Student Executive Council (SEC) Orientation on Thursday, 8 August 2024 at the Recreation Centre. This was meant to equip SEC Members with the skills required for their new roles and to be able to cope with the pressures associated with academic work and student leadership.



SEC Members and Facilitators pose for a photo during SEC orientation



Mr J. Garaba delivering a presentation to SEC Members

SEC Inauguration

Newly elected Student Executive Council (SEC) Members were inaugurated on Thursday, 13 June 2024. The occasion was graced by Professor D.Z. Moyo (Vice-Chancellor) who was the guest of honour, Mr E. Mupfiga (Registrar), Mrs S. Ncube (Dean of Students) and Division of Student Affairs Staff Members.



Vice-Chancellor Prof. D.Z Moyo (circled) and Dean of Students (in yellow), posing for a photo moment with the SEC members moments after their orientation.



The Vice-Chancellor, Professor D.Z. Moyo delivering her address to SEC members during their orientation.

Extracurricular Activities



SAYWHAT Debate

Gwanda State University qualified for the SAYWHAT debate semi finals that were held in Harare at the SAYWHAT Studio of Choice from 30 to 31 May 2024.

The following picture shows the Student Development Officer and the two students who attended the competition.

Mr. Nyasha A. Maturure, Mr N. Nyathi (Student Development Officer) and Miss Chelsea Williams pose for a photo

Health Expo 2024

The Health Expo, held on 22 March 2024 was a resounding success attracting a diverse crowd of students, staff and the GSU community. The event offered a wide range of exhibitions, services, and activities catering for physical, mental and emotional well-being. The event enhanced collaboration among stakeholders and increased awareness of health and wellness resources on campus and in the community.











Scenes of staff members and students visiting exhibitors during the Health Expo

Universities National Quiz Competitions

Gwanda State University (GSU) students were privileged to be part of the 14 Zimbabwe National Universities Quiz Competitions that were held in Harare on the 28th to the 29th of June 2024 under the auspices of SAYWHAT.





Prince Ncube and Cynthia Sekete ready for the Quiz Competition

GSU Students amongst other University competitors

Cuisine and Conversations Dinner: "Young People Making Safe Choices" At Gwanda State University

On the evening of 22 March 2024, Gwanda State University hosted a Cuisine and Conversations Dinner, organised by the GSU SAYWHAT Club under the leadership of Merjury Gatahwi, the Gender Secretary for the National Coordinating Committee for SAYWHAT. The event was centred on the theme "Young People Making Safe Choices," aiming to inspire and empower students to make informed decisions. Critical topics such as drug and substance abuse, Umjolo, mental health and sexual reproductive health were deliberated upon.



The dinner was graced by several esteemed guests, including Mrs S. Ncube, the Dean of Students, Counsellor Ma'am R. Ndebele, various Guest Speakers, and a vibrant group of students eager to engage in meaningful discussions.

A highlight of the evening was the panel of 5 talented speakers who gave the best they could. The panel consisted of the Dean of Students (Mrs S. Ncube), Chief Nursing Sister (Mrs T. Dliwayo), Lecturer (Mr A. Sibanda), SAYWHAT Provisional Programmes Officer (Miss E. Sibanda), and Master Coach (Mrs N.E. Maswoswa). They addressed a range of topics, providing valuable insights that motivated students to embrace safe choices and strive for personal growth.





The event featured captivating performances, including a dynamic display by the GSU Gumboot Dance Crew, a thought-provoking poem on drug and substance abuse by Alistair Mashumba, and a musical performance by Panashe Chiwara @PMBC. The entertainment kept the audience engaged and energized throughout the night.





(Pic 1 and 2) Presentation of certificates by the Dean of Students and the SEC President, Mr M. Vushe



Performance by the GSU Gumboot Dance Crew

GSU-Charity Club in the Community



Some of the beneficiaries of GSU-Charity Club initiatives

Gwanda State University Charity Club initiated a Corporate Social Responsibility drive to contribute positively to Mpumelelo Secondary School in Sukasihambe Village. The Charity Club donated 15 boxes of sanitary pads (360 packets), clothes and foodstuffs to 70 girls on Friday 14 June 2024. The event dubbed "Pad drive" ran under the theme "Restore Girl Child's Confidence" and it aimed at promoting menstrual hygiene management, empowering girls, and providing essential items to less privileged students

The Club also delivered a combined session for both girls and boys, to promote an inclusive and supportive environment. The session allowed for open discussions and questions, breaking down stigmas and fostering a sense of unity and understanding. Among other topics which were discussed were drug and substance abuse, child marriages and teen pregnancies, career guidance and counselling, finding purpose, and sanitary pad use and disposal.



PREAMBLE

In the year under review, the University supported a number of activities including research board funding, innovations, Agro-Innovation Hub and Industrial Park projects and academic publications. However, the greatest limitation to reach the desired targets was funding constraints.

RESEARCH

Research Board

The Research Board served in assisting the execution of the research at the University through administration of internal research funds (supporting research projects by academic staff and researchers in the University Research centers). This support included research grants, registration and attendance fees for conferences, holding conferences and research training workshops. The Research Board met on the dates published in the University Diary, however, the Secretary, with the consent of the Chairperson, would call for special meetings to attend to urgent matters.

TABLE 11: SHOWS RESEARCH BOARD ACTIVITIES FOR YEAR 2024

Item	Quantity	Additional Information
Number of researchers	0	-
who attended		
conferences sponsored		
by the Research Board		
Number of projects	0	-
funded by the Research		
Board		
Number of training	1	Research workshop to train final year
workshops sponsored by		students held on the 09 th of October 2024.
the Research Board		
Ongoing Research Board	2	Solar hydro-power project led by
Funded Projects		Dr K Chiteka
		2. Abundance on free ranging
		Chaema baboons (<i>Papio urinus</i>)
		troops at Epoch Mine, led by Dr A
		Banda

Research Training

A research workshop was held by the Research Innovation and Industrialization Directorate to train all final year students on research methods and finalisation of their research project reports (dissertation). Facilitators were drawn from both Faculties (faculty of Engineering and the Built Environment and Faculty of Natural Resources Management and Agriculture). Topics covered included, the generic structure of the research project report, referencing, avoiding plagiarism, formatting and examination of the research project.



Research Publications

TABLE12: JOURNAL ARTICLES PUBLISED BY GSU SCHOLARS IN 2024.

- 1. Tichaona Chikore, Mwawi Nyirenda-Kayuni, Queensley C Chukwudum, Zviiteyi Chazuka, John Mwaonanji, Meshach Ndlovu, Moster Zhangazha, Fezile Mhlabane, Shaibu Osman, Farai Nyabadza, 2024: Exploring the impact of how criminals interact with cyber-networks—a mathematical modelling approach. Authors: KA Jane White. Journal Research in Mathematics.
- 2. Jean Baptiste Gastinzi, Meshach Ndlovu, 2024. Rational homotopy type of projectivization of the tangent bundle of certain spaces. Arab Journal of Mathematical Sciences
- 3. Zanamwe P, Tembo L, Madzaramba TH, 2024. The effect of pre-soaking common bean (*Phaseolus vulgaris*) seeds in gibberellic acid solution on germination and seedling growth. Afr. J. Hort. Sci. 24:65-76.
- 4. Banda, A., Moyo, D.Z., Ncube, N., Utete, E., Machingura, J., Gumbo, T. and Gandiwa, E. (2024). Gastrointestinal parasites prevalence, diversity and association in free-ranging Chama baboon troops in a semi-arid savanna ecosystem of Zimbabwe. International Journal for Parasitology: Parasites and Wildlife. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijppaw.2024.101012

TABLE 13:BOOK CHAPTERS AUTHORED BY GSU SCHOLARS IN 2024

- N. Muleya. 2024. Genius Loci. Unlocking the particularities and potentialities of Beitbridge in Zimbabwe to enhance public space quality. Chapter 14 of a book: R. Matamamda (eds) Secondary cities and local governance in Southern Africa. Local and Urban Governance.
- Banda, A. & Ncube, M. M. (2024). Alternative Dispute Resolution Techniques for Intertwined Artisanal Mining-Communal Farming Conflict. In J. Garwi, R. Masengu, & O. Chiwaridzo (Eds.), Sustainable Practices for Agriculture and Marketing Convergence (pp. 226-250). IGI Global. https://doi.org/10.4018/979-8-3693-2011-2.ch010

TABLE 14: RESEARCH PROJECTS PRESENTED AT VARIOUS CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS BY GSU RESEARCHERS IN 2024

- 1. Dr. N. Muleya. Genius loci: Unlocking the particularities and potentialities of Zimbabwe human settlements to promote global competitiveness. Presented at the Zimbabwe Institute of Regional and Urban Planners seminar held at Urban Lifestyles Hotel, Masvingo, on the 31st of October 2024.
- 2. Nkomo F. A Unified CFD-DEM Multiphysics Model for Multifaceted Granular Systems. Paper presented at The Academic Seminar of China-Africa Cooperation Alliance on Resource and Environmental Science and Technology Education, Wuhan, China, November 5-7, 2024.
- 3. Nkomo F., Mulenga F. Advancing the Understanding of Wet Ball Mill Loads: A Comprehensive Numerical Simulation Framework. Paper presented at the Global Congress for Chemical Engineering, Cape Town, South Africa, October 6-11, 2024.
- 4. Nkomo S., Nkomo F., Matli W. 2024. Title: The Curriculum Transformation in Southern African Universities in the Digital Transformation Era: A Systematic Review. South African Journal of Higher Education, Accepted Conference papers.
- 5. Mafunga, K, Scholtz, AJ, Dzama, K, Cloete, SWP, (2024). Tree shade alleviates heat stress in adult Dormer and SAMM ewes and their neonatal lambs. Proceedings of the 54th South African Society for Animal Science Congress, Thursday 4 July, East London Convention Centre, South Africa, p 77.
- 6. Mafunga, K, Scholtz, AJ, Dzama, K, Cloete, SWP, (2024). Tree shade reduces heat stress in pregnant ewes. Proceedings of the 75th Annual Meeting of European Federation of Animal Science, Concurrent Session 79, Wednesday 4 September, Florence, Italy, p 866.
- 7. Leonard Maposa, (2024). Enhancing Veterinary Service Provision for Smallholder Farmers in Zimbabwe: An Integrated Approach. 21st Annual SASVEPM Congress, 21-23 August 2024, Cape Town, RSA.

Abstracts

- Two abstracts were accepted for a conference and a symposium, and full paper submissions were done: 2024 Environmental Research Symposium- 'Relative abundance of enteric parasites among Chacma baboon troops, Filabusi, Zimbabwe'.
- XII International Rangeland Congress 2024- 'Frequency distribution, species richness and egg per gram of gastrointestinal parasites in free-ranging Papio Ursinus spp. in a semi-arid savanna ecosystem of Zimbabwe.'

INNOVATION

Agro-Innovation Hub and Industrial Park

The Agro-Innovation Hub and Industrial Park was involved in livestock production comprising of broilers, layers, piggery, goat and cattle (commercial beef) projects.

Commercial Beef

As at December 31, 2024, the total head was 215 as compared to the previous year when it was 206 by December 31, 2023. A total of 22 calves were born whilst a total of 13 animals were lost due to unexpected mortalities. The drought was a major drawback as far as productivity was concerned.

TABLE 15: SHOWS FIGURES FOR THE YEARS 2023 AND 2024 AS OF AS AT DECEMBER 31.

December 31	2023	2024
Stock count	206	215

Supplementary Feeding

The year under review was affected by El Niño induced drought which was declared as a national disaster that placed livestock production under threat. However, the acquisition of new equipment which comprised of tractor hay baler and tractor operated silage maker by the University, played a pivotal role in producing cattle supplementary feed during the year under review.

Paddocks

In addition to the eight existing paddocks, two more were constructed measuring approximately 300 hectares in total. Total of paddocks by December 2024 was ten. These paddocks sustained livestock production until the next rain season. In a bid to augment stock feed during the dry season, the University cleared 1,3 hectares of land for the purposes of pasture and fodder production.



Pictured above is the silage making process using maize crop.

Goats

By 31 December 2024, the head totalled to 311. However, the mortality of kids was a cause for concern.

Goat pen

During the year under review, the construction of the goat pen was almost complete, with pending jobs like construction of water reticulation system, water and feed troughs and dip tank yet to be done.

Piggery

In 2024, the piggery unit recorded a sharp increase in swine production, from 57 to 134 (43%) as compared to 2023. Plans to commercialise the enterprise were underway as evidenced by the inaugural golf tournament held to raise funds to the effect.

Layers

During the year under review, the University produced pullets from day old chicks, which helped them acclimatise to weather conditions. In previous years, the University would procure point of lay birds, which failed to adjust to weather conditions at Epoch Mine campus, there by spiking their mortality rate. A total of 4561 crates of eggs were produced in 2024.

TABLE 16: SHOWS THE FIGURES FOR THE LAYERS AT THE END OF THE YEAR 2023 AND 2024

Stock Count	2023 (Total of point of lay birds)	2024 (Total of pullets from day old)		
December 31	1478	1971		



The above picture shows some of the pullets that were successfully raised from day old chicks.

Broilers

In 2024, the number of broilers produced increased to 7499 from 6239 in 2023. The sales were 7499 birds. However, the University recorded 8.6 percent of mortality due to yolk sac infection. In future, management of chicks will be improved to reduce mortality.

Fowl Runs

The construction of the second fowl run with a capacity of 3000 layers was at 90 percent completion as at 31 December, 2024. Pending works included flooring, plumbing and electrification.

Aquaculture (Fish Farming)

In October 2024, the University on a fish farming project with an initial batch of 3500 fish fingerlings. By the end of 2024, they were not ready to be harvested.



Inaugural batch of the aquaculture project.



Wheat

In 2024, the University planted 10 hectares of winter wheat crop. The crop was planted later than the recommended national planting cut off dates due to late procurement of the generator. This issue adversely affected the yield.

TABLE 17: SHOWS TOTAL WHEAT YIELD FOR THE YEAR 2024

	Area Planted	Total Yield
	10ha	16.91tonnes

Green Mealies

Three (3) hectares of maize was planted and was sold as green mealies while the dried cobs will be shelled and sold as grain in 2025.

TABLE 18: SHOWS TOTAL GREEN MEALIES SOLD IN THE YEAR 2024

TABLE 10. SHOWS TOTAL SHEEK MEALES SOLD IN THE TEAT 2024						
Area planted	Total	Sold	As	Green	Mealies	
3 ha	26520					

Butternuts

The University planted butternuts on an area of 0.2 hectares during the year under review.

TABLE 19: SHOWS TOTAL BUTTER TOTAL YIELD FOR THE YEAR 2024

Area Planted	Yield		
0.2 ha	2.2 tonnes		

Watermelons

The University planted watermelons on an area of 0.1 hectres during the year under review

TABLE 20: SHOWS TOTAL WATER MELON YIELD FOR THE YEAR 2024

	TABLE 20. GROWG TOTAL WATERWILLOW FILED FOR THE TEAR 2024			
Area Planted		Yield		
	0.1ha	100 heads		















Innovation And Industrialisation

The GSU's research, innovation and industrialisation strategy was to carry out research, innovation and industrialisation activities that impacted local, national and international societies. This strategy was guided by National Development Strategy 1 (NDS1), SADC Industrialisation Strategy and Roadmap 2015 - 2063 and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals Agenda 2030.

Innovation and Intellectual property

A research workshop was held by the department to train all final year students on research methods and finalisation of their research project reports (dissertation). Facilitators were drawn from both Faculties (Faculty of Engineering and the Environment and Faculty of Natural Resources, Management and Agriculture). Topics covered included, the generic structure of the research project report, referencing, avoiding plagiarism, formatting and examination of the research project. Four innovations were developed by GSU innovators. The innovations included the precision fertiliser applicator, manually operated hay baler, hydroponics and improvised transformer bushing. The functionality of these innovations were successfully tested. Again, market tests were done through exhibitions at different marketing shows (agricultural shows, trade fair and innovation shows), where potential customers showed interest in these products.

Challenges

- · High operational costs in crop production (especially wheat).
- Limited mechanisation in furniture and clothing divisions.
- Incomplete electrification of Insingadale Farm leading to high diesel expenses.
- Few senior research to mentor junior researchers
- · Limited funds to fund research and new innovation initiatives
- · Lack of funds to commercialise innovations
- Insufficient research facilities such as experimental farm, well equipped laboratories
- · Limited research equipment

Opportunities

- Poultry Expansion: Given its significant returns, expansion of broiler and layer operations is highly recommended.
- Infrastructure Investment: Expedite ZESA electricity connection at Insingadale Farm to reduce energy costs and improve production continuity.



PREAMBLE

The 2024 financial year marked significant progress for the University in driving resource mobilisation, enhancing agro-industrial production, and contributing to income-generation goals. Despite operational challenges, the University successfully diversified its activities across agriculture, manufacturing, and retail segments.

Notable successes included the strong performance of the poultry division, improved sales from furniture manufacturing contracts, and the establishment of high-potential projects such as aquaculture and diversified horticulture. Plans were underway to strengthen market presence and scale operational infrastructure to boost revenue generation capacity.

MANUFACTURING UNITS

Clothing Manufacturing Division

The main products under the Unit included protective clothing, sportswear, graduation gowns and office curtains. Producing in-house products like the ones mentioned above resulted in internal cost savings.

Furniture Manufacturing Division

In the year under review, the major products were desks, laboratory furniture, padded chairs and office furniture. The University secured contracts with Filabusi High School, Amazon Christian Academy and several primary schools. Furthermore, the University produced furniture for use by several departments within the University.

Retail Operations

University Tuckshop

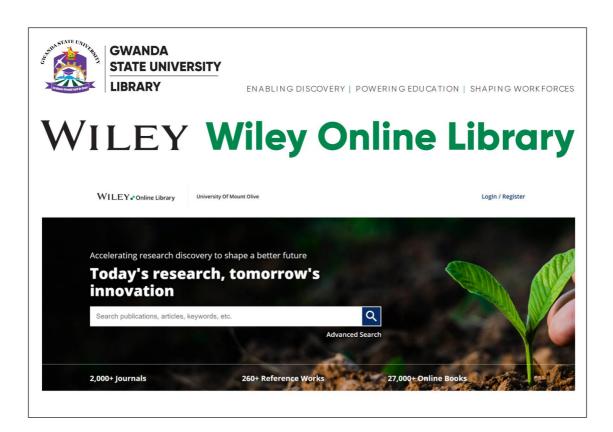
Although modest in scale, and located in a remote area, the tuckshop served both staff and students, as well as supported university's cashflow.



Centre for Wildlife Conservation and Research

In the year under review, the hunting activity was conducted in accordance with the regulations of the quota system and adhered to institutional and ZIMPARKS guidelines. One male leopard was successfully sport hunted hence generating funds for the institution.

A male leopard which was hunted during spot hunting under the qouta system at the Gwanda State University



GSU Library Resource Mobilisation

The library successfully secured a grant of USD\$10 000 from the US Embassy University Library Resources Program (ULRP) for the project titled "Improving Access to the Internet and Educational Resources for the Faculty of Natural Resources, Management and Agriculture." Launched in 2024, the project aimed to enhance internet access and improve access to STEM educational resources. By the end of 2024, part of the grant funds were utilised to subscribe to the Wiley Online Library and purchase three high-capacity Wi-Fi access points, marking significant progress in the initiative. The project will continue into 2025, with further activities planned to support the faculty's educational and research needs.

Challenges

- Limited mechanisation in furniture and clothing divisions.
- $\bullet \ \ \text{Incomplete electrification of Insingadale Farm leading to high diesel expenses}.$

Opportunities

- · Mechanisation: Acquire industrial-scale machines for manufacturing units to reduce waste and improve quality.
- Piggery Development: Prioritise the development of a full-scale commercial piggery as a new revenue stream.
- Market Access: Establish permanent retail and wholesale marts in Filabusi, Gwanda, Esigodini, and Bulawayo to increase product visibility and sales.



PREAMBLE

The University prides itself in community engagement initiatives, which are exasabated by the mere fact that the University is located within a community setup. In 2024, a number of activities were rolled out in Matabeleland South.

Wildlife Conservation Awareness

A community outreach programme was conducted at Matshologwane Village, Mpumelelo High School, Sukasihambe Primary School, and Bolo Primary School. The programme aimed at introducing the Wildlife Conservation and Research Centre to the Filabusi community, and to share research findings which were addressing health implications for humans and livestock, as published in the gastrointestinal parasites article found in free-ranging Chacma baboons.



Dr A. Banda (circled) addressing the community members of Matshologwane Village.



Ms Nokubonga Ncube presenting to students at Sukasihambe Primary School.



Exhibitions



ZIMBABWE INTERNATIONAL TRADE FAIR

Exhibiting under the theme "Education 5.0 the mechanisation for innovation and industrialisation", the 2024 Zimbabwe International Trade Fair served as an influential platform for Gwanda State University to meet with its stakeholders to share insights, information and build long-lasting business relationships. Participation at the Show was vital in furthering the marketing strategy of the University's academic offerings, products and other services. The University showcased innovations like the hydroponics, precision fertiliser applicator, mine detector drone and transformer porcelain bushings. The exhibition was a major motivation for industrial and commercial development of the advertised products. Amongst the esteemed guests who toured the GSU exhibition stand were the Minister of Higher and Tertiary Education, Innovation, Science and Technology Development Professor dr. Amon Murwira, Minister of State for Matabeleland South Provincial Affairs and Devolution, Dr Eveline Ndlovu, Vice-Chancellor Professor Doreen Zandile Moyo and Vice-Chancellors from other Universities.

Pictures show scenes at the ZITF SHOW, 2024.



Beitbridge Business Expo

Gwanda State University took part at the 2024 Beitbridge Business Expo which was held at Dulivhadzimu Stadium. The 3-day Business expo ran under theme "Beitbridge 24 seven", a theme which was meant to position Beitbridge as a 24-hour service town. The University had an opportunity to market its academic offerings and various projects to prospective students and other stakeholders. The University also had an opportunity to deliver a presentation to more than 200 High school students. Participation at the exhibition aimed at improving University brand and visibility. Amongst the delegates who visited the University's exhibition stand was the Zimbabwe National Chamber of Commerce (ZNCC)'s Matabeleland Vice-President Mrs Beauty Bhulu who officiated the event. She expressed her appreciation towards the presence of institutions of higher education at the Beitbridge Expo.

Gwanda Agricultural Show

The 66th edition of the Matabeleland South Agricultural Show which ran under the theme "Smart Interventions in Agribusiness: Our Top Priority" was a platform that presented Gwanda State University with an opportunity to showcase a diverse range of products and services which ranged from academic offerings, branded clothing apparels and furniture.

Harare Agricultural Show

Gwanda State University participated at the 114th edition of Zimbabwe Agricultural Show Society (ZAS) which ran under the theme "Cultivating Prosperity: Growing Business. Innovating for change. Nurturing our Future". Amongst the projects which were exhibited at the Show were Mine Inspection Drone, Precision Fertiliser Applicator, Transformer porcelain bushings, Clothing Apparels and Furniture products. The show also provided platform for the University to market its academic offerings. This went a long way in terms of improving the University's visibility. Established in 1895, the ZAS seeks to promote agriculture and its supporting activities, to facilitate agricultural development in Zimbahwe



Gwanda State University Student, Carlos Muriro explaining his innovation to a visitor at the GSU exhibition stand during Zimbabwe Agricultural Show.

Presidential Innovation Fair

Gwanda State University (GSU) showcased at the 2nd edition of the Presidential Innovation Fair held in Harare. The annually held fair, was well attended by the Higher and tertiary Education institutions, agencies and other Government research and innovation departments which exhibited innovations that were market ready or were already at commercialisation stage. GSU exhibited an array of innovations ranging from manually operated hay baler, precision fertiliser applicator, transformer porcelain bushings, clothing apparels and furniture products. The exhibition provided platforms for prospective business leads in the Furniture and Clothing Enterprises.





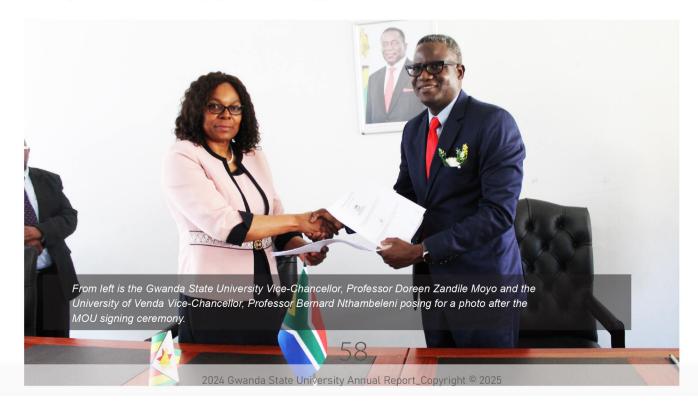
Career Guidance

Gwanda State University hosted a career guidance for Jason Ziyaphapha High School. Students had the opportunity to acquire information on the academic offerings by the University and also tour various projects at Epoch Mine Campus. The University also attended other career guidance events at schools such as Mpopoma High School, Sizane High School and Msiteli High School among others.



Collaborations

Gwanda State University and the University of Venda (South Africa) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on Thursday, 1 August 2024 at Epoch Mine Campus. The signing of the MOU between the 2 institutions came as a benefit of being part of the Trans Limpopo Spatial Development Initiative (TLDSI), an initiative meant to support business between the Government of Limpopo, South Africa and the three provinces in Zimbabwe (Matabeleland South, Matabeleland North and Bulawayo Metropolitan). Under this initiative, academic institutions in Matabeleland region were encouraged to form strategic partnerships with their counterparts in the Limpopo Province in South Africa. The major focus areas of the MoU are to; undertake collaborative research, work integrated learning, teaching and learning and community engagement activities and share the results; use staff members from the respective partner University as external examiners, at undergraduate and postgraduate levels where applicable; cooperate with each other and as appropriate, with relevant national, regional, and international institutions operating within the region in the design, implementation and assessment of capacity development initiatives to achieve maximum impact on matters of common interest; develop joint staff development programmes; promote integration of innovations into entrepreneurship; as well as twin programmes and develop joint degrees among others.



Publicity

GSU Flagship projects

The Engineering Laboratory and Innovation Complex, Agro-Innovation Complex, Insingadale Farm amongst other projects were premiered in the ZBC Main news of 16 October 2024 and also published at the Chronicle newspaper of 16 October 2024. The projects were captured during a visit by the Minister of State for Matabeleland South Provincial Affairs and Devolution, Dr Eveline Ndlovu whom together with the Vice-Chancellor Prof DZ Moyo and the University management officially toured the projects.

EVENTS

Golf Tournament

Gwanda State University successfully hosted its inaugural Fundraising Golf Tournament at Harry Allen Club in Bulawayo on Saturday, 7 December 2024. The tournament attracted at least seventy (70) golfers from across institutions, corporates, organisations, companies and individuals. The tournament was a testament to the University's efforts to build a state of the art piggery unit and to encourage participation in sporting activities to achieve a well-balanced healthy life. Officiating this colourful event during the Prize Giving Ceremony, the Vice-Chancellor Professor Doreen Zandile Moyo said that such tournaments were going to be a permanent feature on the calendar of events for Gwanda State University, as the institution strives to grow and develop through sport, and particularly golf.



Women's Day Celebration

March is the World Women's Month to celebrate the achievements and contributions of women throughout history and contemporary society. As the contributions and women's achievements know no time limit, the Vice-Chancellor Prof DZ Moyo appreciated all Gwanda State University female employees for their hard work and commitment to keeping the University functions running smoothly.



Some of the GSU ladies posing for a photo while holding their Vice-Chancellor's appreciation gifts.



































LIBRARY

Times Higher Education Ranking

The Library played a pivotal role in driving the University's achievement in the Times Higher Education (THE) 2024 Sub-Saharan Africa University Rankings, where GSU secured the 47th position out of 129 Universities in the region. This marked the University's first appearance in the rankings, highlighting the growing strength of its learning, teaching, and research. The library collaborated closely with various Faculties and Sections across the University to spearhead the process. A special thank you goes to all the students who took part in the survey, contributing to this significant accomplishment.

CONFERENCES AND TRAINING WORKSHOPS

ZULC Bi-Annual Conference

The University attended the Zimbabwe University Libraries Consortium (ZULC) Bi-Annual Conference in Victoria Falls from June 4 to 6, 2024. He presented a paper titled "Evaluating the Maiden National Research Data Skills Training Workshop in Zimbabwe," which assessed the workshop's impact on research data management skills. The conference covered key topics such as open access, digital transformation, and research data management, providing a platform for networking and knowledge sharing among academic librarians and stakeholders.



The 2nd Diamond Open Access Summit

The University participated at the prestigious 2nd Diamond Open Access Summit, held from December 9 to 14, 2024, in Cape Town, South Africa. The summit gathered experts, advocates, and stakeholders worldwide to discuss the future of open access publishing, particularly focusing on the Diamond Open Access model.

2nd Diamond Open Access Summit Participants, Deputy Librarian – Mr. Phillip Ndhlovu circled in green

DataCite Persistent Identifiers Workshop

The University participated at the "Train the Trainer Workshop on Persistent Identifiers" in Bindura from April 23 to 26, 2024. The workshop convened academic librarians from Zimbabwean universities, focusing on the role of persistent identifiers (DOIs, ORCID) in enhancing research discoverability and citations. Participants explored best practices for integrating these identifiers into research workflows.

24th Fiesole Collection Development Conference

The University also participated at the in the 24th Fiesole Collection Development Retreat Series in Cape Town, South Africa, from May 7 to 8, 2024. The conference centered on bridging the gap between the Global North and the Global South, emphasizing African perspectives, inclusion, and equity in scholarly communications.



In-house Training

Following the DataCite workshop on Persistent Identifiers (PID(s), Library staff attended an in-house training session on May 16, 2024, to disseminate knowledge gained from the workshop. Faculty Librarians were trained to cascade this knowledge to their respective faculties.

Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs)

Library staff participated in the Research4Life Master Trainer Course for Africa (MOOC 9th Edition) from April 29 to May 3, 2024. Additionally, library staff participated in two AfLIA online courses which include;

- i. Openness for African Librarians Course, covering open education, licensing types, and their applications.
- ii. Open Data Management Foundational Course for African Librarians, held from October 7 to November 1, 2024, focusing on research data management skills.

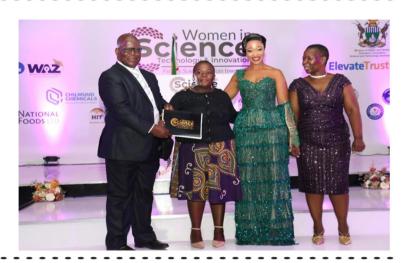
CENTRE FOR WILDLIFE CONSERVATION AND RESEARCH

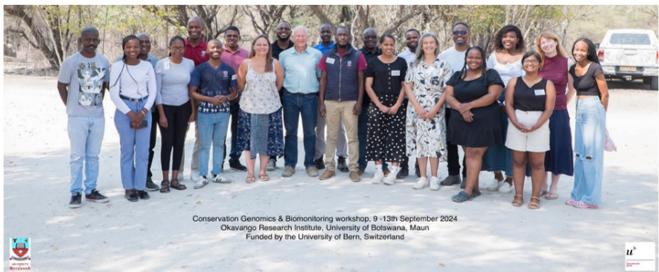
- Dr Annabel Banda participated in the 2024 quota-setting workshop for the 2025 hunting season in the Matobo region (Matabeleland South) on 6 October 2024.
- From 13-15 November, 2024, Dr Annabel Banda was selected as part of the 23 African member countries representing Zimbabwe to attend the African Researcher Career Development workshop in Johannesburg, South Africa. The workshop taught on grant writing and collaborations.





From September 9 to 13, 2024, Ms Nokubonga Ncube had the opportunity to attend the Conservation Genomics and Biomonitoring Workshop at the Okavango Research Institute (ORI) in Botswana. The workshop highlighted how genetics can be utilised to inform wildlife and biodiversity conservation efforts. The workshop provided a platform for knowledge sharing and networking with other researchers and conservationists.





SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
TO THE COLINCIL OF GWANDA STATE LINIVERSITY



Qualified Opinion

We have audited the inflation adjusted financial statements of Gwanda State University ("the University") set out on pages 7 to 29, which comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2024, and the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, except for the matter discussed in the Basis of Qualified Opinion section of our report, the accompanying inflation adjusted financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Gwanda State University as at 31 December 2024 and its financial performance and its cashflows for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards.

Basis of Qualified Opinion

Valuation of property and equipment

The University's property and equipment on the statement of financial position is carried at ZWG\$ 269 445 114 (2023: ZWG\$ 84 753 432). The University appointed an independent valuer to determine the fair value of property and equipment. A valuation was performed in United States Dollars (USD) and management subsequently determined the Zimbabwe Gold (ZWG) equivalent fair values by translating the USD valuations using the interbank rate applicable as at 31 December 2024. IFRS 13 defines fair value as the price that would be received to sell an asset in an orderly transaction between market participants at a measurement date.

We have concerns over the appropriateness of using a foreign currency for the valuation and then applying a conversion rate to a USD valuation to calculate ZWG property and equipment fair values as this may not be an accurate reflection of the fair values as they do not represent the current market dynamics, as risks associated with currency trading do not always reflect the risks associated with property trading. As a result of this, there is a risk of potential misstatement with respect to the proposed ZWG property and equipment values. Due to the nature of the matter, we are unable to determine the extent of possible misstatement and we are unable to determine potential adjustments that may be necessary to correctly account for these amounts.

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Company in accordance with the International Ethics Standards Boards of Accountants' Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (IESBA Code) together with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Zimbabwe, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibility in accordance with these requirements and the IESBA Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Key audit matters

Key audit matters are those matters that, in our professional judgment, were of most significance in our audit of the inflation adjusted financial statements of the current period. These matters were addressed in the context of our audit of the inflation adjusted financial statements as a whole, and in forming our opinion thereon, and we do not provide a separate opinion on these matters.

PLEASE NOTE:

A detailed audited financial report is attached at the end of the document as Appendix A

OVERVIEW OF STANDARD 8 INTERNAL QUALITY ASSURANCE (IQA) INITIATIVES

PREAMBLE

Internal Quality Assurance Unit conducted some surveys to ensure that outcomes (Learning, satisfaction of stakeholders) are measured, analysed and utilised for decision making and to enhance quality degree programmes and continuous improvement. The major highlights are presented below:

Quality Assurance Standard of Operation Procedure

During the period under review, the following documents were recommended for Senate approval:

- Student Information handbook
- o Artificial Intelligence Policy
- o Chaplaincy Policy
- o Counselling Policy
- o Health Services Policy
- o Student Development Policy

Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)

- o Catering Services Standard Operating Procedures
- o Chaplaincy Standard Operating Procedures
- o Counselling Standard Operating Procedures
- o Health Services Standard Operating Procedures

GSU completed and submitted to ZIMCHE the Academic and the Institutional Self-Assessment audit report. Student module and lecturer evaluation was conducted through a questionnaire survey.

Workshops Attended

The Quality Assurance Director attended a workshop, sponsored by UNESCO in collaboration with ZIMCHE in Harare. The workshop focused on the following:

- o Foundations of Quality Assurance in Higher Education
- o National Regional and International Quality Assurance Frameworks and Standards
- o Quality Assurance in Digital Transformation
- o Quality Assurance Assessment Methods
- o Quality Assurance in Curriculum Design, Development and Evaluation
- o Internationalisation and Quality Assurance

STATEMENT FROM THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE CERTIFYING THE ANNUAL REPORT AS A TRUE REPRESENTATION ON INSTITUTIONAL PERFORMANCE

For the Year Ended 31 December 2024

I, the undersigned, in my capacity as Chairperson of the Audit Committee, do hereby certify that the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024:

- Have been reviewed and considered by the Audit Committee;
- Were prepared in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework and approved accounting policies;
- Have been audited by an independent external auditor, PKF Chartered Accountants and Business Advisors (PKF), as mandated by the Office of the Auditor General (OAG Zimbabwe) and;
- Comply with the relevant statutory and governance requirements applicable to the Gwanda State University. The Audit Committee is satisfied that adequate internal controls and financial reporting processes were in place during the reporting period. The Committee further confirms that it exercised its oversight responsibilities independently and in accordance with its mandate.

Accordingly, I endorse the inclusion of the audited annual financial statements in the Institution's Annual Report.

Mr C Shoniwa

Chairperson of the Audit Committeer

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Prof. D Z MoyoVice-Chancellor

These financial statements were prepared under the supervision of:

Mr P Zhira

Bursar

PERFORMANCE OUTLOOK FOR THE FUTURE

The operating environment in Zimbabwe remains volatile and complex. However, the exchange rate has remained relatively stable since the end of 2024.

"The operating context of the University over the short term to the end of 2025 financial year will be framed by the National Development Strategy (NDS) 1 and executed through the University's Strategic Plan for 2021-2025.

Operationally, the provision of most goods and services is indexed in US\$ and settled either in USD or ZWG, albeit at inflated rates, thereby increasing the cost of doing business".

The University will continue to receive support for its main operations and PSIP funding from the Government of Zimbabwe, through the Ministry of Higher and Tertiary Education, Innovation, Science and Technology Development - acting as the University's principal. The University will pursue a number of key strategic initiatives to boost its third stream income and remain well-positioned to seize emerging opportunities as part of its sustainable and growth strategy to achieve its mandate.



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