Welcome to the Centre for Higher Education Development

The Centre for Higher Education Development's (CHED) mission is to promote equity of access, effectiveness of teaching and learning, and the enhancement of curricula, with the twin aims of improving student success and ensuring that UCT's graduates are globally competitive, locally relevant, socially responsive and fully representative of South Africa's diverse population.

CHED was established by UCT's Senate and Council to focus on all matters concerning academic development.

Headed by the Dean of Higher Education Development, CHED has an organisational status similar to that of a faculty.

Did you know?

- CHED's total complement of staff is roughly divided equally between professional, administrative support and service (PASS) staff and academic staff. All of these staff members contribute to UCT's core business through professional services, such as educational technology, data analytics, career advice, graduate recruitment and employer partnerships.

- CHED's services, including its teaching, are underpinned by decades of research in key areas, such as academic literacy, educational technology, testing, curriculum, numeracy and multilingualism.

"In leading CHED in its support of the academic project at UCT, it is my honour to work with CHED staff who work tirelessly to support students and academic staff across UCTIn leading CHED in its support of the academic project at UCT, it is my honour to work with CHED staff who work tirelessly to support students and academic staff across UCT. HED's lead role on key institutional projects such as the Assessment Policy and Practice Framework and Curriculum Change positions CHED as the necessary glue between faculties to strengthen the work of student and staff success, transformation, and curriculum change. I envision a future where CHED serves as a catalyst for social change, driving innovation and pushing the boundaries of higher education. By embracing emerging technologies, fostering interdisciplinary collaboration, and creating opportunities for lifelong learning, CHED is well placed to equip graduates with the skills and knowledge needed to thrive in a rapidly changing world."

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR KASTURI BEHARI-LEAK
Dean of Centre for Higher Education Development

CHED is a cross-faculty structure that aims to:

1. contribute to continual improvement in the quality of higher education through widening access

2. promote excellence through equity

3. develop the curriculum in partnership with faculties

4. unleash its diverse research-led expertise in collaborative projects that address institutional and national problems in higher education

5. enhance the competence of graduates by ensuring the provision of key skills and abilities

6. enable systemic improvement through the research-led development of informed policy options.

CONTACT US

📞 +27 (0)21 650 2645
🖱 ched@uct.ac.za
💻 www.ched.uct.ac.za
🐦 @ched_uct

07 Centre for Higher Education Development

UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN
IYUNIVESITHI YASEKAPA • UNIVERSITEIT VAN KAAPSTAD

1 The Academic Development Programme (ADP) has represented UCT's central strategy for promoting equity in the student body for over three decades. It is an academic department consisting of 40 academics and 9 administrative staff members. ADP works in close partnership with the faculties and has staff based in ADP units in all the faculties (except for Law) as well as in two central units that work across the faculties, developing capacity in academic language and numeracy. ADP works mainly in the following areas:

- Undergraduate curricula, coordinating UCT's extended curriculum programmes and offering workshops, modules and credit-bearing courses in extended and standard undergraduate curricula
- Course and curriculum development in collaboration/ consultation with the faculties
- Postgraduate support in the form of short courses, workshops and bridging programmes
- UCT's Writing Centre and the Faculty of Health Sciences' Writing Lab
- Tutor and postgraduate consultant training
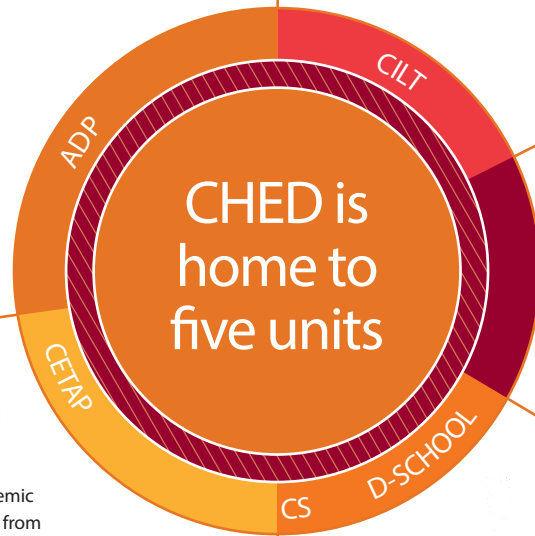- Mentorship and other forms of psychosocial student support.

2 The Centre for Innovation in Learning and Teaching (CILT) aims to respond to teaching and learning challenges at UCT and in higher education in the areas of staff development, curriculum and course design, educational technologies, evaluation, research, and innovation in learning and teaching. CILT's work falls into three areas:

- Course and Curriculum Development focuses on curriculum and course design for better teaching and learning outcomes.
- Learning Technologies develops and supports Vula, lecture recording and other online learning platforms and tools.
- Staff Development provides professional development opportunities for UCT staff and senior students.

3 The Hasso Plattner School of Design Thinking (d-school) at UCT aims to infuse students, staff and industry professionals with a design-thinking mindset. Training in design thinking enables innovation and new outcomes that can help to meet the needs of users in complex sociopolitical and economic contexts. It approaches everyday real-life problems in a collaborative, creative, human-centred way to unleash innovative, workable solutions.

5 The Centre for Educational Accessment (CEA) formerly Educational Testing for Access and Placement (CETAP) works to identify the academic potential of school-leavers – particularly those from educationally disadvantaged backgrounds – to help them cope with the typical core demands of higher education study. It is home to the National Benchmark Tests project.

4 The Careers Service (CS) offers information, advice and opportunities to registered UCT students to support their career planning, job-search preparation and ongoing personal and professional development. CS programmes are designed to empower students to transform their education and transition into postgraduate study or the world of work. Activities include partnering with academics to facilitate employability development, connecting students to employers and alumni from all sectors, creating work-experience opportunities, offering specialist support to bursary and international students, and working with learners in communities to offer careers advice and workshops.

CHED is home to five units

ADP • CILT • CETAP • CS • D-SCHOOL

27 Hoerikwaggo
Centre for Higher Education Development
IZiko loPhuhliso lweMfundo ePhakamileyo
Sentrum vir die Ontwikkeling van Hoër Opvoeding
Z K Matthews Gallery
IGalari ka-Z K Matthews
Z K Matthews Gallery

The Dean's Office houses several special projects, such as:

The Multilingual Education Project (MEP) is based on the multilingual language policy and plan approved by UCT's Senate and Council. The University Language Policy takes as its starting point the need to prepare students to participate fully in a multilingual society.

The Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship (MMUF) programme is designed to provide students with a greater awareness of what it means to be an academic. Each year, five students receive stipends for the academic terms and for a research project for two years.

The Academic Staff and Professional Development (ASPD) Unit provides opportunities for academic staff focused on developing and enhancing their ability in their roles as university teachers, researchers, and members of the UCT academic community, at various stages of their academic career.

Projects under the University Capacity Development Programme (UCDP), resourced by the University Capacity Development Grant, aim to transform teaching, learning and research, and lead to enhanced quality, success and equity in universities.

The Ikusasa Student Financial Aid Programme (ISFAP), a funding model catering for the higher education needs and costs of poor and middle-income students.