

## Supporting Undergraduate Research Excellence (SURE) Webinar Series

### ‘From Zero to Hero’

The SURE initiative, a new focus of the Research, Innovation and Engagement (RIE) 2020 Extended Annual Performance Plan (EAPP 2020), aims to enhance scholarly excellence in undergraduate research and teaching and cultivate learning by inquiry, while fostering a host of graduate attributes. The new Bachelor’s degrees requires that research is introduced early in the degree culminating in a research project. Design and implementation of the research linked modules within the programmes need to be carefully considered in order to move students from a point of “no knowledge” or “zero” to the point of producing a project that is worthy of presentation/publication or “hero.” Moving a class of undergraduates simultaneously towards that goal with an eye on the clock (in terms of the limited time afforded by the semester) however, requires both logistical planning and resources. Each of the presenters in this webinar have more than 15 years’ experience in teaching Research Methodology and are in their second Bachelor’s cohort. They will share numerous lessons learnt regarding best practice and challenges associated with teaching this subject in a strategic and successful way so that it’s a win-win for both students, supervisors and lecturer.

Details	<b>SURE Webinar III</b> ‘From Zero to Hero’
<b>Facilitator</b>	Prof. Nokuthula Sibiya (DVC: T & L)
<b>Invited Guest Speakers</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Prof. Poovendhree Reddy (DUT)</li> <li>▪ Prof. Raisuyah Bhagwan (DUT)</li> </ul>
<b>Dates</b>	Wednesday, 28 October 2020
<b>Time</b>	<b>15h00-16h00</b>
<b>MS TEAMS LINK</b>	<a href="#"><u>SURE WEBINAR III</u></a>
<b>MS FORM BOOKING</b>	<a href="#"><u>Booking Form</u></a>

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### Biographies



**Prof. Nokuthula Sibiya** is the Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Teaching and Learning at the Durban University of Technology. With a National Research Foundation (NRF) rating, Prof Sibiya is the author of 69 peer-reviewed publications, two books and 10 book chapters. She has made more than 50 keynote and related presentations at national and international platforms. She has successfully supervised 14 doctoral and 53 master's students. Prof Sibiya was awarded by the Department of Science and Technology as the 2018 Distinguished Woman Scientist: Humanities and Social Sciences. She has also received several research awards from DUT that includes being the Top DUT Female Researcher of the Year, Top University Journal Publishers for accredited outputs, and Top Researcher in the Faculty of Health Sciences. In 2019, she was awarded as the 2018 Senior Researcher of the Year. She was also awarded by the Forum of Professional Nurse Leadership as the 2019 Regional Nurse Leader. Her area of interest is primary health care with specific focus on maternal and child health and health systems. She is currently the Board Member of the Africa Journal of Nursing & Midwifery and the Section Editor of Health SA Gesondheid. She is also the reviewer of several national and international journals.



**Prof. Poovendhree Reddy** is a NRF C rated researcher and Associate Professor in Environmental Health in the Department of Community Health Studies, Faculty of Health Sciences. Her area of interest is public health with emphasis on maternal and child health; water management and quality related to antimicrobial resistance and health risk assessment. She has special interest in Biostatistics and Epidemiology. Her experience in higher education include academic management and leadership, teaching scholarship in research methodology and research supervision. Apart from her active participation in DUT's research agenda in terms of capacity building and development within her faculty and department, her outputs include publications, conference participation, postgraduate supervision and numerous external engagements related to research (editorial board member, journal reviewer and advisory boards). She is a curriculum development champion and postgraduate coordinator and mentor within her department and faculty. She serves on both the FRC and IREC, as well as UKZN IBC (Biosafety Committee). ORCID: (<https://orcid.org/0000-0003-0197-8951>) Email: [PoovieR@dut.ac.za](mailto:PoovieR@dut.ac.za)



**Prof. Raisuyah Bhagwan**, is a Professor in the Department of Community Health Studies at Durban University of Technology. She completed her Doctoral study at UKZN, in 2002 and used her research to guide how spirituality and indigenous knowledge may be embedded within social work education nationally. She is passionate about issues of social justice, community development, spirituality and indigenous knowledge systems and has published extensively on these topics She is currently involved in two international research collaborations, with universities in India, to deepen an understanding of how community engagement can strengthen socially excluded communities. She recently presented the keynote address on community engagement in developing countries, at BPS Womens University, in Delhi. She has also successfully supervised 17 Masters and 3 Doctoral students to completion and much of her current cohort of students are exploring the salience of engagement in a child and youth care context. Professor Bhagwan is also on the Editorial Board of the International Journal of Religion and Spirituality in Social Work and Social Work Practitioner-Researcher. Professor Bhagwan was a recipient of the Community Engagement Grant from the National Research Foundation in 2015, which enabled a study on how community engagement has been conceptualised, theorised and implemented at higher education institutions across South Africa. This has led to several recent publications on how community engagement is conceptualised and operationalised at higher education institutions in South Africa. She is also a recipient of the CHE=HELTASA Award for 2018.