

Council on Higher Education: Annual Report 2013-2014

Presentation to the Portfolio
Committee on Higher Education and
Training

16 October 2014

Functions

1. Advise Minister on any aspect of higher education.
2. Quality Assurance – auditing of institutional QA mechanisms; programme accreditation; promoting QA.
3. Qualifications framework – development and management of HEQF; standards setting, including naming conventions for qualifications; maintenance of learner database.
4. Publish information/reports on developments in, and the state of, higher education: monitoring function.

SG 1: To contribute to the transformation of the higher education system through analysis and research to inform the development of higher education policy.

SO 1: To provide advice to the MHET on request and proactively.

Advice on request

- Draft Policy for the Provision of Distance Education in SA Universities in the context of an integrated post-school system.
- Minister's Intention to disestablish the national Institutes for Higher Education in Mpumalanga and the Northern Cape.
- Draft Regulations – National Institute for the Humanities and Social Sciences.
- Draft Policy on Student Housing at Public Universities and the Minimum Norms and Standards Applicable.
- Draft Higher Education and Training Information Policy.

Proactive advice

- Role and Status of Tuition Centres – programmes offered on behalf of foreign institutions by local providers.

SO 2: To monitor the state of higher education, including publishing information and convening conferences, seminars and workshops on developments in higher education.

- Undergraduate Diploma/Degree Structure.*
- Governance challenges in higher education.*
- State of higher education – twenty-year review.*
- Student governance.*
- Reflections on Academic Leadership.*

(*denotes continuation in 2014/15)

SO 2: To monitor the state of higher education, including publishing information and convening conferences, seminars and workshops on developments in higher education.

Publications

- A Proposal for Undergraduate Curriculum Reform in SA: The Case for a Flexible Curriculum Structure.
- Vital Stats: Public Higher Education 2011.
- Higher Education Qualifications Sub-Framework.
- Framework for Institutional Quality Enhancement in the Second Period of Quality Assurance.

Colloquia/Workshops

- Regional Seminars on Student Success (Vincent Tinto).
- National Seminar on the Task Team Report on Undergraduate Curriculum Reform.

SG 2: To contribute to the development of qualification descriptors and standards to ensure the relevance, comparability and currency of qualifications

SO 3: To develop and manage the HEQSF, including the alignment of existing higher education programmes with the requirements of the HEQF.

- Finalisation of the HEQSF review.
- Alignment of category A programmes (minimal changes) finalised – in total 5, 381 programmes aligned.

SO 4: To develop and implement policy, criteria and standards for the development, registration and publication of qualifications.

- Pilot standards development – Bachelor of Social Work; MBA; LLB (continuing in 2104/15).

SO 5: To maintain a database of learner achievements in higher education and to submit the data to the National Learner Records Database (NLRD), which is maintained by SAQA.

- Ongoing submission of student enrolment and achievement data to NLRD.
- Development of comprehensive information system to enable monitoring trends in private HE, including comparative analysis with public higher education institutions .

SO 6: To audit the quality assurance mechanisms of higher education institutions.

- Ongoing: assessment and approval of institutional improvement plans and progress reports.
- Audits Closed: CPUT; UJ; UL.
- Audits in progress: MUT; NWU; Unisa; Univen; Unizul; WSU.

SO 7: To accredit new programmes submitted by public and private higher education institutions and to re-accredit existing programmes offered by private higher education institutions.

- Routine accreditation and re-accreditation processes, including site visits – 429 as against 302 in 2012/13: 42% increase.
- Accreditation of programmes offered by the University of Mpumalanga and Sol Plaatje University.

SO 8: To undertake national reviews of programmes in specific subject fields and qualification levels offered by public and private higher education institutions

- National review of the Bachelor of Social Work (to be finalised in 2014/15).

SO 9: To promote quality and to develop capacity and understanding of the role of quality assurance in HE at both the systemic and institutional levels

Colloquia/Workshops

- 3 Regional Seminars on Student Success (Vincent Tinto): 820 participants.
- National Seminar on the Task Team Report on Undergraduate Curriculum Reform: 150 delegates.

- QA Forums – 4: Public and private providers; Statutory Professional Councils.
- Capacity-building and Training Workshops: 10.

- International Delegations:
 - Ministry of Education and Sports, Republic of Uganda.
 - Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, Republic of Burundi.
 - Council for Quality Assurance and Accreditation, Republic of Yemen.

SG 4: To ensure the efficient and effective provision of corporate services – administrative, financial, technical and professional, to support the discharge of the core mandate of the CHE.

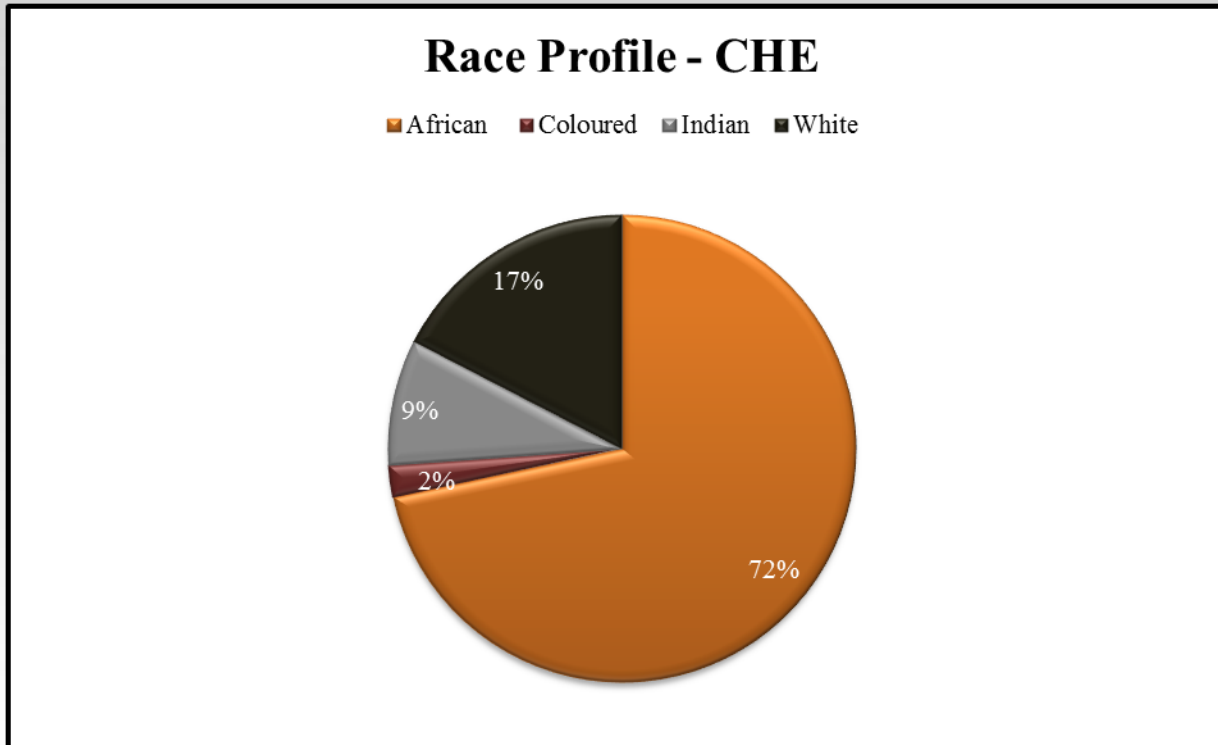
SO 10: To ensure the development of human resources management environment that enables staff to develop their full potential.

- Recruitment and retention remains a challenge – staff turnover = 10.9% (down from 23.8%; 46 of 53 posts filled).
- Flexible remuneration framework approved for senior staff – max of 20% non-pensionable allowance.
- 30 training courses held and 7 bursaries awarded for further study.
- Employee Wellness Programme introduced.
- Internship programme started – 3 interns employed.

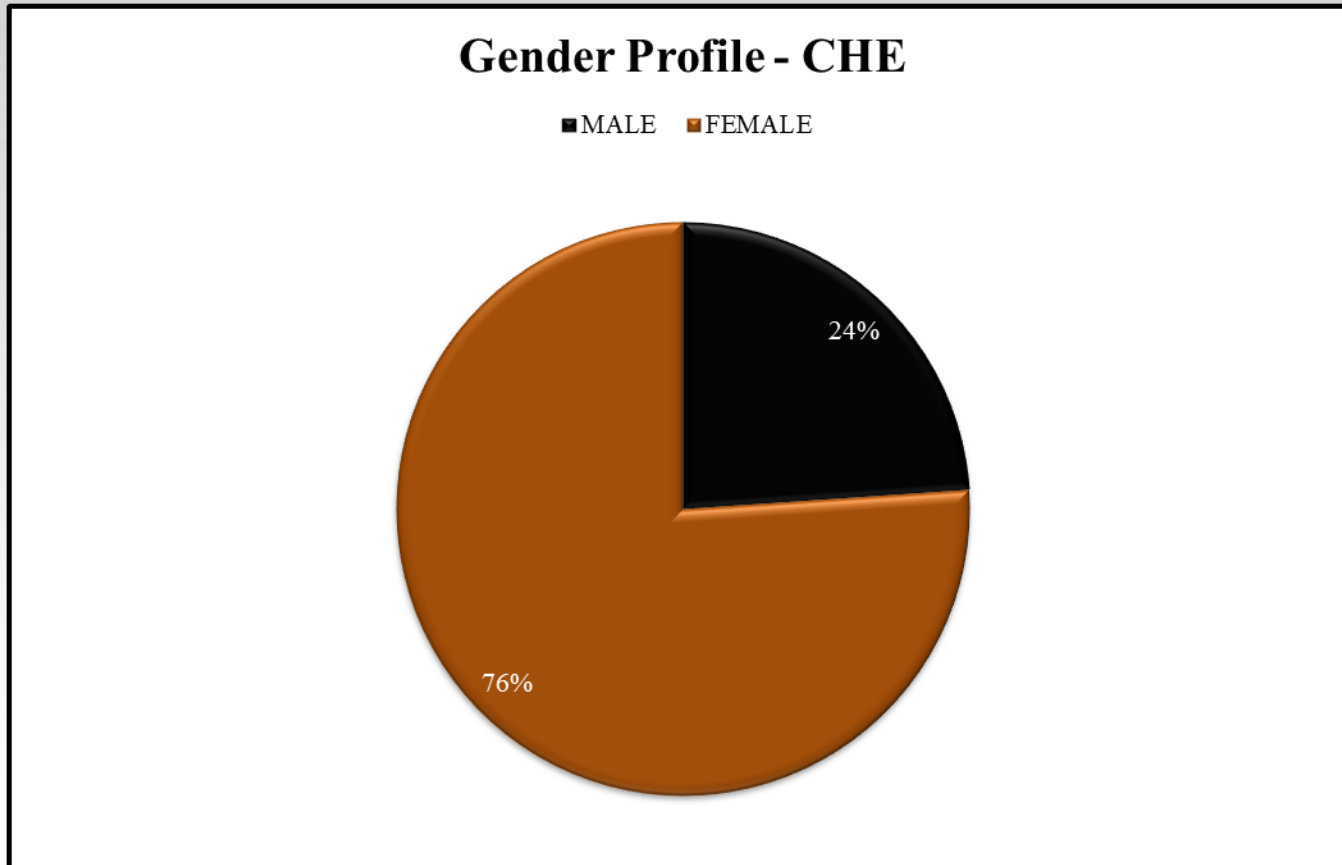
SO 11: To ensure that financial, administration and supply chain management is compliant with the requirements of the PFMA, relevant Treasury regulations and laws.

- Ongoing review and updating of finance and supply chain policies.
- Ongoing focus on strengthening internal financial controls and systems.
- Claims and performance management system now done electronically.
- Accreditation fee policy for private providers changed to facilitate administrative processes – upfront non-refundable fee.

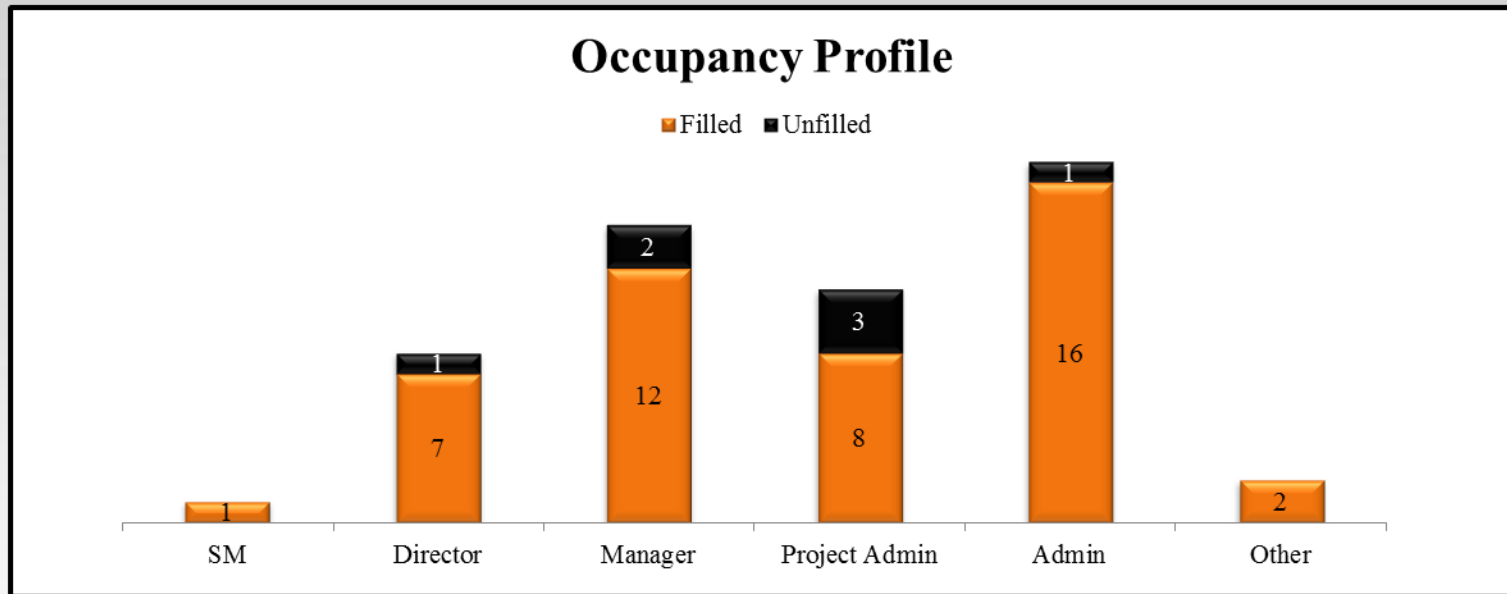
Race Profile (March 2014)



Gender Profile (March 2014)



Vacancy Profile (March 2014)



	SM	Director	Manager	Project Admin	Admin	Other	Total
Filled	1	7	12	8	16	2	46
Unfilled	0	1	2	3	1	0	7
Total	1	8	14	11	17	2	53

Annual Financial Statements and the Report of the Auditor General

Financial Performance

CHE ANNUAL EXPENDITURE REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2013/14

	TOTAL BUDGET	YTD (ACTUAL)	Exp vs Budget	(OVER) / UNDER SPENDING
SUMMARY				
INCOME				
DHET Grant	41 888 000	41 888 000	100%	-
Private Accreditation	1 641 000	3 861 005	235%	(2 220 005)
Interest Income	525 000	812 263	155%	(287 263)
Realisation of Deffered Tranfer-STD	2 178 670	1 296 847	60%	881 823
Roll-over funds	13 854 000	13 854 000	100%	-
Total Income	60 086 670	61 712 115	103%	(1 625 445)
EXPENDITURE				
Goods & Services	32 030 670	24 481 980	76%	7 548 690
Personnel	26 096 000	23 734 849	91%	2 361 151
Capex	1 960 000	2 545 318	130%	(585 318)
Total expenditure	60 086 670	50 762 147	84%	9 324 523
INCOME LESS EXPENDITURE	-	10 949 968		(10 949 968)

Financial Performance

CHE ANNUAL EXPENDITURE REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2013/14				
	TOTAL BUDGET	YTD (ACTUAL)	Exp vs Budget	(OVER) / UNDER SPENDING
SUMMARY				
INCOME				
DHET Grant	41 888 000	41 888 000	100%	-
Private Accreditation	1 641 000	3 861 005	235%	(2 220 005)
Interest Income	525 000	812 263	155%	(287 263)
Realisation of Deffered Tranfer-STD	2 178 670	1 296 847	60%	881 823
Total Income	46 232 670	47 858 115	104%	(1 625 445)
EXPENDITURE				
Goods & Services	32 030 670	24 481 980	76%	7 548 690
Personnel	26 096 000	23 734 849	91%	2 361 151
Capex	1 960 000	2 545 318	130%	(585 318)
Total expenditure	60 086 670	50 762 147	84%	9 324 523
INCOME LESS EXPENDITURE	(13 854 000)	(2 904 032)	21%	(10 949 968)

Report of the AG

- Received an unqualified audit opinion with a matter of emphasis for restating prior year balances.
 - Development costs for HEQC and HEQSF systems incorrectly classified as IT expenses instead of intangible assets for the current and prior years. The restatement affected the following accounts: IT expenses, Intangible assets and Amortisation of intangible assets.
 - Incorrect classification of operating leases as finance leases. The restatement affected the following accounts: Finance leases, Operating lease liability and expenses and Assets.
- A strategic audit action plan has been developed to address all audit findings and progress is monitored by the Audit and Risk Committee.

Thank You