

## **2) NRF Grant for 2014: Competitive Programme For Rated Researchers (CPRR)**

Grant No: 91543

Short title: Re-describing 'Academic Development' in the Humanities

Duration of funding: 3

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Abstract:

In a context of high failure and drop-out rates in South African higher education, this research project sets out to undertake an intensive psycho-socio-cultural and learning needs analysis of black students in the Humanities Extended Degrees in a research-intensive South African university. The findings will inform a curriculum renewal exercise that is already underway. The new curriculum could serve as an exemplar for the new 4-year BA and BSocSc degrees currently under policy discussion. The impact of the new curriculum will be evaluated using a mixed methods research design. In addition, to evaluating the impact of the new curriculum, the findings will be used to theorize a new reading of academic development and curriculum development, more appropriate to a post-colonial context.