

“ e-Fundi platform is much more than chat and upload of resources, there are so many options that can be used for teaching and learning

”

## MEET RUTH APPOLUS LECTURER FINANCIAL HEALTH MANAGEMENT UODL

▶ WHAT MOTIVATES YOU TO COME TO WORK EVERY DAY AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

My motivation to come to work every day comes from within. I am driven by the passion for what I do, the ability to do it and the growth and advancement that I believe will come with it.

▶ WHAT IS IMPORTANT TO YOU IN LIFE?

Beside my family, its life long learning

▶ WHY DO YOU WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

Giving service to others is part of my motivation. As a nurse, I am aware that nurses are finding financial health management a very difficult subject, thus I want to help them look at financial health management with a different lens connecting to the bigger picture of improving the health of society

▶ JOB DESCRIPTION

The purpose of my position is to ensure that Open Distance Learning programmes are delivered on behalf of the Faculty using technology and facilities of the Unit for Open Distance Learning.





“Use of ICT as a teaching and learning platform is possible. It takes time to prepare, but at the end it is beneficial, cost effective and a lot of fun as well.”

## RUTH APPOLUS

### ► WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO USE THE TECHNOLOGY YOU USE?

After a transfer from the School of Nursing to the UODL, I was still expected to teach and manage academic programmes, to keep abreast with developments in academia. I realised that I will not have enough time to fulfil both responsibilities. I then decided to try the e-fundi platform, integrating it with the e-learning resources available at the unit.

### ► WHO WAS INVOLVED IN THIS PROJECT?

I started this project with ASS from Vaal campus because of their involvement in the development of Interactive SMART GUIDES. However, for maintaining quality, the manager for assignments at the unit and

the markers were also added as additional instructors.

### ► WHAT HAPPENED PREVIOUSLY FOR YOU TO MAKE THIS DECISION?

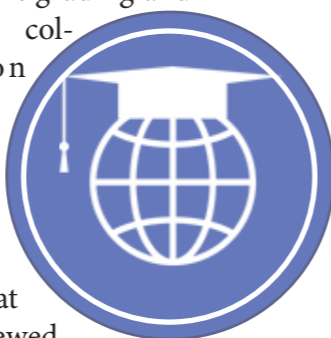
I arrived at NWU during the time when post basic nursing programmes started to broadcast interactive white board sessions. I was also one of the lecturers who took part in a study to pilot ICT and use of SMART GUIDES for nursing students. Even though I was not very technologically literate then, I decided that is the way I want to go.

### ► WHEN DID YOU FIRST TRY OUT YOUR UNDERTAKING?

I tried this in both 2014 and 2015. By then I only thought the e-fundi platform is used for the chat room and uploading resources, I did not understand that there are so many options that can be used for teaching and learning.

### ► HOW CAN THIS TECHNOLOGY BENEFIT THE STUDENTS?

This technology benefits students in the following ways: Instant grading and feedback, collaboration with the lecturer and other students, captured lectures that can be viewed several times, interactive SMART GUIDE, interactive whiteboard sessions. All these are available anytime and anywhere. Lastly it boosts their self-esteem and helps them succeed and be the best they can be. Attached are a few examples:



## STUDENT FEEDBACK

RUTH APPOLUS  
“MBATHA YOUR ASSIGNMENT HAS BEEN RETURNED”

SIYA MGOLOZELI  
“THANK YOU MAM SAW THEM...”

RUTH APPOLUS  
“...THANK YOU EVERYBODY, I AM REALLY PROUD OF YOU...”

SIYA MGOLOZELI  
“MMMM MAM OVER THE MOON, MY MARKS HMMMMM, THANKS SO MUCH U ARE THE BEST....”

TEBOGO KHONKHOBÉ  
“OK THANKS MAM FOR THE CLARITY... I AM SATISFIED WITH THE MARKS”

TEBOGO KHONKHOBÉ  
“OK THANKS MAM FOR THE CLARITY... I AM SATISFIED WITH THE MARKS”

RATO MAGOGODI  
“...I'M GETTING USE TO IT AND IT IS ALL THX TO YOU...”

“ Consider students profile and ability to use internet... It first takes long to create content but when it is done it works perfectly... ”

LOOKING BACK... ON THE CLASSROOM TECHNOLOGY..

ACCOMPLISHMENT #1?

▶ All students who thought ICT is very difficult, realised that it can be done

LOOKING BACK... ON THE CLASSROOM TECHNOLOGY..

ACCOMPLISHMENT #2

▶ Only 20 students submitted paper based assignments

LOOKING BACK... ON THE CLASSROOM TECHNOLOGY..

ACCOMPLISHMENT #3

▶ 124 students wrote examination, 104 passed, 31 of them with distinction, 9 failed and 11 failed sub-minimum

**RESULTS**

23557346	78.81%	84%	76%	78%	71%
28611373	63.5%	78%	56%	56%	66%
28236092	59.93%	56%	52%	74%	49%
28793587	74%	90%	68%	68%	54%
21191298	91.33%	82%	96%	96%	-

FUTURE PLANS...  
 “To have the module completely electronic, without any hard copies.”

LASTLY...  
 “Use of ICT as a teaching and learning platform is possible. It takes time to prepare, but at the end it is beneficial, cost effective and a lot of fun as well.”