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Professor Sabiha Essack (B. Pharm., M. Pharm., *PhD*), Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences at the University of KwaZulu-Natal is a Wellcome Trust Research Fellow who completed research towards her *PhD* in Pharmaceutical Microbiology at St Bartholomew's and the Royal London School of Medicine and Dentistry in the United Kingdom. She is a C-rated researcher by the NRF, has established the Antimicrobial Resistance Research Proto-Unit in the School of Pharmacy and Pharmacology and has secured several research grants for Essential National Health Research, from the World Health Organization, the Wellcome Trust, the Medical Research Council and the National Research Foundation investigating strategies for the prevention and containment of antibiotic resistance. Professor Essack is president of the South African Chapter of the Alliance for the Prudent Use of Antibiotics and co-founder and chair of the South African Committee of Health Sciences Deans.



Government Funding as Leverage for Quality Teaching and Learning

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Abstract

The South African Higher Education Funding Framework uses funding as a lever to achieve equitable student access, quality teaching and research and improved student retention and success. Maximizing the institution's subsidy from the national Department of Education via teaching input and output grants necessitates innovative strategies pre- and post student admission. This paper describes a post-admission "academic development and student support (ADSS)" project in the Faculty of Health Sciences, showing how teaching interventions in the form of re-curriculation to student-centered, diversity sensitive curricula and delivery using non-didactic pedagogies, and, learning interventions in the form of comprehensive and holistic student support by the implementation of a student monitoring system with referral to academic or student counseling and services personnel improved student retention and success, thereby translating equity of access to equity of outcome.