



SA UNIVERSITIES SHARE IN R1-MILLION CASH INJECTION FROM LOCAL INSURER

PPS, leading specialist insurer that caters exclusively for graduate professionals has recently granted monetary donations, totalling more than R1-million to seven local universities, for on-campus refurbishment projects. These include the Universities of Limpopo, Western Cape, Fort Hare, Zululand, KwaZulu-Natal, Pretoria and WITS University.

PPS' refurbishment sponsorship initiative complements its scholarship and bursary programme, which provides funding to students studying in their 4th academic year, towards professional careers.

"We are committed to building a strong local graduate professional base, by growing the skills and competencies of future generations," says Mike Jackson, CEO of PPS Insurance.

"We are aware of the financial constraints facing many universities and strongly believe in supporting these institutions. Our refurbishment sponsorship programme was initiated more than a decade ago to assist universities in upgrading campus facilities and thereby improving students' higher learning experiences."

PPS awarded approximately R200 000 to the University of KwaZulu-Natal, for the refurbishment of the foyer of the Admin Building, on its Westville Campus; and R230 000 to the University of Pretoria, towards the acquisition of sophisticated IT equipment. The University of Pretoria's Academia Latina received an amount of R150 000, for the third consecutive year, to develop, maintain and promote use in the Latin language and its use in legal and medical terminology.

The University of the Western Cape, WITS, Zululand, Fort Hare and Limpopo Universities also received sizeable donations.

"In difficult financial times, money for refurbishments is hard to come by. Contributions, like this one from PPS, enable us to have world class facilities," says Professor TD Chetty, Pro-Vice Chancellor for Corporate Relations at the University of KwaZulu-Natal.

"This is the third grant we have received from PPS and we are extremely grateful for their continuing support," says Professor Theo Bothma, Head of the Department of Information Science, at the University of Pretoria. "Such donations enable the School of Information Technology to remain at the forefront of using IT for teaching and research, at post-graduate level."

"Without the financial support of PPS, research and academic teaching of this subject wouldn't be possible. Through this donation, PPS enhances communication in medicine research, study and practice, at all levels," says Corrie Schumann, Head of Academia Latina.

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