

Improving Research Capacity Development Practice Through Action Research

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ABSTRACT All Public Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in South Africa are judged and ranked based on their research output. This makes it necessary for universities to guard against decline in research output. From 2010 to date, research output has been declining at the university where researchers work. This inquiry reports part of a study which was conducted to improve the research capacity development amongst academics in the university. Action Research (AR) methodology was employed to conduct the research. Seven Transformative Education/al Studies (TES) project group members participated in the inquiry. The research findings concluded that the heavy teaching workload at the university is problematic and besides teaching, lecturers cannot devote time to carry out research. The recommendation is that research by lecturers should be made mandatory so that university's research output can be improved.