

PROMOTING UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIPS

with government, business and civil society organisations as well as fostering the role of higher education in regional development and innovation.



Board of Directors

Crain Soudien (UCT) Chair
Julian Smith (SU)
Ramesh Bharuthram (UWC)
Chris Nhlapo (CPUT)
Nasima Badsha (CEO)

Contact Details

P O Box 18094
Wynberg 7824
Tel: +27 21 763 7100
Fax: +27 21 763 7117
www.chec.ac.za



CHEC

Cape Higher Education Consortium

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS

of collaboration and partnerships

UWC
CPUT UCT SU

1993-2013

Trust established

CHEC started its life as the Western Cape Tertiary Institutions Trust in 1993, a year before the dawn of democracy in South Africa. The Trust was established by the Universities of Cape Town, Stellenbosch and the Western Cape and the Cape and Peninsula Technikon with the aim of addressing the

twin challenges of meeting increasing demand for access to higher education with limited resources and promoting equity between the partner institutions. The Trust facilitated cooperation between its members through the sharing of infrastructure and resources, such as libraries, information technology and the training of personnel.

CALICO

The Trust went on to establish the Cape Library Consortium – CALICO – which enables students and staff from all member universities to access a wide range of library resources, the Publishing Liaison Office, which facilitates copyright clearance and a strong regional middle management development programme – Creating the Leading Edge.

Collaboration

The Trust later agreed to extend cooperation beyond infrastructural projects and adopted the strategic vision of establishing the Western Cape as a strong higher education region through systematic inter-institutional collaboration.

Compact

The Vice-Chancellors of the then five institutions signed a public Compact on 3 December 2001 in which they committed their institutions to implement the vision and established the Cape Higher Education Consortium (CHEC) as a Section 21 not-for-profit company.

Merger

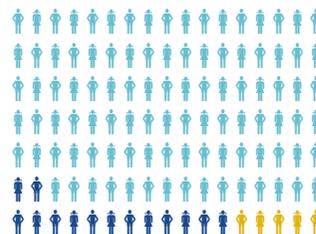
On 1 January 2005, Cape and Peninsula Technikon merged to form the Cape Peninsula University of Technology, thus reducing CHEC members to four universities.

CHEC 2013



CHEC is now constituted as a non-profit company governed by a Board of Directors which is made up of deputy vice-chancellors representing each of the member institutions. UNISA is an observer member of the CHEC Board.

In its early years, CHEC's work was largely concerned with inter-institutional collaboration. However, over the past few years CHEC has been developing a growing interest in promoting relationships with government, business and civil society organisations as well as fostering the role of higher education in regional development and innovation.



STUDENT ENROLMENTS

Undergraduates	80 036
Masters	11 330
Doctorates	3 424

PERMANENT STAFF 2012

Academic staff	3 373
SA Research Chairs*	64
NRF A-rated scientists*	47

* 2003 data

The Western Cape – A strong higher education region

The four universities:

- offer a wide range of undergraduate and postgraduate programmes in all major fields of study, as well as continuous professional development opportunities. Promoting excellence in teaching and learning is a key priority that draws students from all over South Africa, the Southern African region, the rest of Africa and beyond. The region has two medical schools, a dental faculty, two business schools and an opera school.
- are home to major research and innovation centres and institutes that attract internationally acclaimed scholars.
- have a wide range of initiatives that address the developmental challenges that face the country. Social responsiveness has long been part of the ethos of the universities and is supported formally in curricula, through research and a broad range of partnerships, as well as informally in a wide variety of student initiatives.

Regional partnerships

CHEC now has formal collaboration agreements with both the Western Cape Government and the City of Cape Town. These agreements are implemented through a range of projects that are intended to support shared social and economic development goals for the region. These include research and development projects on areas as diverse as climate change, social cohesion, disaster risk management, urban regeneration, substance abuse and regional innovation systems. Most recently, a special

fund has been established to support projects at each of the universities that address the priorities of the Western Cape Government in areas such as schooling, disability and disaster risk mitigation.

CHEC is also building its partnerships with business, through, for example, collaboration with Accelerate Cape Town, and civil society organisations in the Western Cape.

The four universities are active participants in key regional initiatives such as the 2014 World Design Capital and the Premier's Skills Council and its various task teams.