



SEFAKO MAKGATHO HEALTH SCIENCES UNIVERSITY

ICT DEPARTMENT

Sefako Makgatho Health Sciences University (SMU) is a comprehensive university located in Ga-Rankuwa, north of Pretoria. The institution holds a distinctive and exciting mandate to shape the education and training of medical practitioners, health professionals, and scientists across various disciplines.

In 2024 SMU proudly marked a decade of excellence in higher education. Since its establishment, SMU has devoted itself to the mission of developing a dynamic learning environment, prioritizing both student success and academic innovation. The University's commitment to building, optimizing, and stabilizing a supportive campus has resulted in a thriving institution known for its academic quality, groundbreaking research, and dedicated community service.

This relentless pursuit of excellence culminated in an outstanding achievement where SMU earned a top spot in the Times Higher Education World University Rankings, securing 11th place among South Africa's universities. This recognition highlights SMU's transformation into one of the country's foremost institutions in health sciences education, underpinned by a commitment to social relevance, cutting-edge research, and impactful community engagement.

The University wishes to invite applications for the following **five-year fixed-term** contract position:

CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER (1 Post) (5-year fixed-term contract appointment)

(Ref:76/2026/KM/P4)

The University is looking for an energetic, passionate and knowledgeable individual as its Chief Information Officer to lead and manage the ICT Directorate and who will be responsible for providing visionary strategic leadership, to enable the technology and digital transformation of the University's academic project and operations. The incumbent will further remain abreast of and exploit the latest technology in higher education sector, especially with regard to Information Assurance, (dissemination, security, Information and management). S/he will be the chief custodian of the University's Digitalisation strategy and its implementation. He/she will report to the Executive Director: Institutional Support and must meet the requirements and be responsible for the key performance areas listed below.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

- An NQF level 8 qualification in Computer Science/Information Systems or Electronics or Electrical Engineering
- A post graduate qualification in Computer Science/ Information System or Equivalent is recommended
- A post graduate Management qualification such as an MBA/MBL is highly recommended

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- Information Technology Infrastructure Library (ITIL) certification would be an added advantage
- Certification in Cyber Security will be an added advantage
- A minimum of thirteen (13) years' experience of which at least five (5) years has been at a Senior Management level with a proven track record for effective leadership and management in budgeting and employee development within the Information Technology environment.
- Knowledge and broad understanding of the use of ICT as a business driver
- Experience in managing multi-disciplinary functions, e.g. computer and network services, ICT governance, cybersecurity, digitalisation, administrative platforms, teaching and learning and research systems, modern telecommunications and management information
- Proven knowledge and experience in scenario or strategic planning in complex and diverse knowledge and information management environments, including systems thinking abilities.
- Business and systems analysis skills, including experience in the analysis, implementation, and evaluation of IT systems/infrastructure and their specifications
- Demonstrated project management experience, including experience of commissioning services from third parties and managing relationships with suppliers and contractors
- Computer skills (MS Office suite)

COMPETENCIES

- Technical/ professional knowledge and skill
- Up to date with contemporary ICT development and skills
- Strategic leadership, decision making and problem solving
- Resource Management and Mobilisation
- Above average communication skills (written and spoken) and solid report writing
- Strong interpersonal relations, collaboration, teamwork and ability to build strong stakeholder relations
- Personal impact, stature, integrity and credibility
- Ability to work independently and under pressure with tight deadlines
- Results-oriented with a high work ethics and standards
- The ability to understand negative consequences and threats and to manage decisions/business processes to negate/minimize risk
- Ability to implement and manage change
- Ability to manage diverse teams; an impeccable administrator
- Client service orientation

KEY PERFORMANCE AREAS

- Develops an ICT Vision and ICT strategy for the University, including on digital transformation which is key to the University's strategy
- Develop and oversee the implementation of strategies and policies to ensure an optimal mix of information and communication technology services are available to the academic community, and the operations
- Promote effective management of information and information technology as an abler of strategic resources, including the academic enterprise
- Provide overall direction for the enterprise architecture with specific reference to the ICT infrastructure architecture
- Develop a digital transformation strategy that feeds into the overall strategic direction of the University, demonstrating innovation in the implementation of the university's business processes and solutions.
- Draft and propose policy related to the direction and development of ICT services and facilities across the University.

- Develop an enterprise technology, knowledge, and information management strategy, and drive the creation of enterprise technology standards to ensure system compatibility and seamless integration
- Ensure innovation in the implementation of University's Business processes and solutions
- Provide overall management, technical, and financial direction for strategic enterprise IT projects
- Ensures effective management of business and technical teams to ensure all projects meet strategic objectives
- Manage ICT budget and funds in accordance with University's financial procedures and processes, within a clear project management framework
- Provide technical leadership to the University's information and cyber security capability
- Ensure the implementation of the quality assurance standards and risk management measures to meet both internally set standards and the requirements of external bodies
- Effectively manage and develop employees within the IT operations and support team
- Represent SMU in the regional, national and international ICT committees, professional organizations, and specialized groups, ensuring that ICT is benchmarked nationally and internationally on an ongoing basis
- Produce relevant strategic and operational reports as and when required, as part of ongoing monitoring and evaluation of the strategic objectives of the Directorate
- Effectively promote and practice good corporate/IT governance
- Ensure compliance with SHE policies and procedures
- Contribute to the overall development of SMU and actively improve institutional culture
- Any other duties assigned by the Executive Director: Institutional Support and/or Vice Chancellor

Closing Date: 25 September 2026

Applications from Employment Agencies will not be considered.

Application procedure:

Candidates should submit their applications to the Human Capital and Transformation Department for the attention of Interim Executive Director, **Prof Mala Singh** at hr.recruitment9@smu.ac.za by **no later than 16:00** on the closing date as indicated on this advert.

Documentation required for application:

- **A full curriculum, as well as**
- **An abbreviated (no more than two pages) curriculum vitae**
- **Certified copies of qualifications**
- **A self-evaluation by the applicant of his/her suitability**
- **The applicant's vision for the portfolio**
- **The names and contacts details of at least three (3) referees (provided that the University reserves the right to appoint and consult its own referees) and**
- **An indication in writing by the candidate that he/she accepts the applicable Appointment Regulations and the Procedure of the University**

All candidates shortlisted may be required to submit themselves to a competency assessment before the formal interview session.

It is the applicant's responsibility to have foreign qualifications evaluated by the South African Qualification Authority (SAQA) and submit the outcome of the SAQA evaluation together with such

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qualifications. Failure to submit the requested documents/information will result in your application not being considered.

*Telephonic enquiries regarding conditions of service must be directed to the Executive Director:
Human Capital and Transformation: (012) 521- 4707/4393.*

The Sefako Makgatho Health Sciences University is an Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action Employer.

Correspondence will be limited to short-listed candidates only. Applicants who have not been contacted within 30 days of the closing date must consider their applications as unsuccessful.

The University reserves the right not to make an appointment.