

## Mfundo X. Makanda

### Experience

27, August 2022 – Present: **Para-Athletics Technical Official**, South Africa Sport for the Physical Disabled (SASAPD), Cape Town

- Responsibilities includes ensuring that all equipment used by physically disabled and visually impaired athletes comply with World Para-Athletics Rules and Regulations
- Ensure that rules are followed by para-athletes and deal with protests from athletes when they arise
- Help with measurements in field events such as discus throw, hammer throw, javelin throw, shot put while assisting in all other track events when required
- Eliminate athletes in an event of a foul
- Work closely with other technical officials to ensure that events run smoothly and professionally from the start until the end

14, September 2022 – 30, September 2023: **Chairperson**, University of Cape Town Athletics Club (UCTAC)

- **Responsibilities** included overseeing the overall operations of the UCTAC
- Requested committee meetings when necessary and presided at all meetings of the club
- Maintained liaison with the University of Cape Town sport admin office/ officers
- Delegated duties/ tasks to any member of the UCTAC and ensured all committee portfolio jobs are being done
- When required, issued public press statements on behalf of the UCTAC
- Represented the UCTAC, in consultation with the UCT sport administrator, in contract discussions with other organisations
- Involved in the branding of the UCTAC and actively sought potential sponsors for the club such as Coca Cola, Red Bull, Cell C and other organisations
- Ensured that athletes from the University of Cape Town attended all major athletics events hosted by University Sports South Africa (USSA) by ensuring that funds are available to the club in time in collaboration with the UCT sport admin
- Organised all events hosted by the UCTAC by working with relevant authorities such as getting permits from the City of Cape Town
- Reported on the club's activities at the Annual General Meeting (AGM)

29, August 2022 - December 2022: **News Section Editor**, Varsity Newspaper, University of Cape Town, Student Run Newspaper

- **Responsibilities;** Created a list of potential news topics for each edition
- Liaised with Creative Director timeously to ensure photographers are present at chosen events
- Provided direction for writers' news articles where needed
- Assisted news writers with contacting relevant sources where they have had trouble doing so
- Consistent editing of articles each week
- Checked and corrected submitted articles for structural problems

- Provided writers with constructive feedback on articles
- Provided headlines, by lines, and photo captions where staff writers have not
- Ensured high journalism standards by contacting relevant people for comment on issues being published and kept all relevant information confidential

## **Education**

2023-Present: **PhD in Media Studies, part-time**, University of Cape Town (UCT)

2021-2022: **Bachelor of Social Science master's in political communication**, University of Cape Town (UCT)

2020: **Bachelor of Social Science Honours in Political Communication**, University of Cape Town (UCT)

2017-2019: **Bachelor of Arts in Social Dynamics**, University of Stellenbosch

2015: **National Senior Certificate**, Luhlaza High School, Cape Town

2017: Short Course; **Breaking Barriers through Community Building (BBTCB)**, Stellenbosch University

## **Co-curricular activities/ Leadership**

2020-2021: **Postgraduate Student Representative (Library Working Group)**, University of Cape Town Libraries

- My main **responsibility** was to ensure that in all meetings, issues affecting postgraduate students at the University of Cape Town were addressed
- As a forum, the Library Working Group is accountable to and advises Senate on library strategy
- It enables the library professional staff and the academic community to debate policy and direction, explore potentially contentious issues, and find solutions to problems affecting the academic community and I was involved in this process

2019: **Vice Chairperson**, BA Student Committee (BASK), Stellenbosch University

- **Tasked** with handling academic queries, promoting social and cultural awareness, ensuring that students are satisfied with their modules in terms of course content and assisting with any grievance that could arise such as language issues, plagiarism issues, test or timetable clashes, student debts, problems that arise between students, lecturers, and tutors
- Involved in various initiatives geared at promoting/ branding the Faculty of Arts and Social Science and its students
- Assisted students when calculating HEMIS (Higher Education Information Management System) score and explained academic scoring
- Helped with regard to the election of class representatives and during the BA Career Day/ Open Day

2019: **Member of the Academic Affairs Council (AAC)**, University of Stellenbosch

- Student Representative Council (SRC) substituent consisting of chairperson and vice chairperson of all ten faculties' student council;

- Core **responsibilities** included collaboration with all other student representatives from other faculties to encourage collective effort in which university students are supported in and around the academic environment
- Served students by making their academic needs known in a professional manner, and represented their academic concerns during faculty meetings