



THE SOUTH AFRICAN DENTAL TECHNICIANS COUNCIL

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Dear Registered Member

As we approach the end of another year, we want to take a moment to reflect on our achievements and look forward to the future. The last quarter has been filled with progress and collaborative efforts in dealing with the pipeline students with various stakeholders.

Wishing you all a successful and fulfilling end to 2024!

In This Issue, I will be reporting on

1. Regulations Updates
2. The development of Dental Technology Standards by the Council of Higher Education
3. Accreditation Visit at TUT
4. Council Nomination process
5. Pipeline students



REGULATIONS UPDATES

The following Regulations were published for public comments by the National Department of Health, namely:

- Regulations regarding a national professional registration examination in dental technology
- Regulations Regarding Registration and Training of Student Dental Technicians and Student Dental Technologist
- Regulations relating to the registration of Dental Technician and Dental Technology Candidates

Council invites all interested stakeholders to engage with the regulations before/by the closing date. We hope that the introduction of the National Professional Exams will resolve some of the challenges currently facing the profession.

NOMINATION: DEVELOPMENT OF NATIONAL DENTAL TECHNOLOGY QUALIFICATION STANDARD

Following several engagements between the Council on Higher Education (CHE), Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET), Department of Health (DOH), the South African Dental Technology Council (SADTC) and Higher Education Institutions (HEIs), it was resolved that there is a need for the development of a qualification standard.

On 9 October 2024, the CHE hosted the first consultative meeting with different stakeholders at Birchwood Hotel. Council was invited to participate in that meeting. The outcome of the workshop was an agreement that the CHE should facilitate the process of developing the qualification standard.

The second stage of the process is for the CHE to establish a Community of Practice (CoP) composed largely of academic experts and people with experience in quality assurance in the field. SADTC was requested to nominate few of its members to form part of the Community of Practice Committee. The Profession will be kept up to date as the process unfolds.

ACCREDITATION VISIT AT TUT

As part of Council's mandate, a panel visited TUT during August 2024 as part of an ongoing process to ensure that the quality of education meets the requirements determined by the Council in line with the Act and the regulations. Unlike the previous visit, the outcome of the recent visit gave hope that Council's efforts to improve the quality of education was not in vain. Council will continue to monitor the progress through its reporting tools as communicated with the Institution.

COUNCIL NOMINATION

In the previous Newsletter, we reported that the term of the council will expire on 25 March 2025. Please be on the lookout for the invitation to nominate your preferred candidates to serve on Council. We would like to urge all our registered members to exercise their constitutional democratic right by nominating preferred candidates when the call for elections is made.

PIPELINE STUDENTS

The UoTs reported during the last education meeting their intention to register the pipeline students by January 2025. Only after the registration will the students then be placed in approved laboratories. The training of laboratory owners took place so that they could engage on the use of the Rubrics and the compromise solution.

CONCLUSION

Wishing all our members and restful and happy holidays.

