



Higher Education Quality Committee
The Council on Higher Education
Pretoria
South Africa

June 23 2015

Dear Chairperson

Expression of Support for Accreditation Application

I am aware that the South African Institute for Heritage Science and Conservation's application for the accreditation of a postgraduate diploma programme in technical conservation studies, is currently before the Council.

It is my understanding that there remains an absence of conservation training programmes in South Africa, and therefore that appropriate, external support cannot be sourced locally to help facilitate this much needed, new contribution to South Africa's conservation training provision.

As a Coordinator of the MSc Conservation for Archaeology and Museums programme at UCL Institute of Archaeology, I look forward to seeing what aspects of the Institute's programme I am able to support. The Institute of Archaeology has a long established record of providing high quality conservation teaching and research. Currently we provide two specialist post-graduate taught degrees in conservation of heritage objects, PhD/MPhil studentships, as well as specialist post-graduate degrees in archaeology, heritage, and museum studies (please see:

<http://www.ucl.ac.uk/archaeology/studying/masters/degrees>)

The need for formally accredited conservation training programmes clearly exists in South Africa, and across Sub Saharan Africa. The South African Institute for Heritage Science and Conservation's application for accreditation represents an exciting development in the provision of conservation training in the region. I wish this significant development great success, and will look to providing suitable support to help develop this programme, where I am able.

Yours faithfully

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