

STELLENBOSCH UNIVERSITY

CREATIVE RESEARCH OUTPUTS AND INNOVATIONS REPORT 2024

1. Introduction

South African universities annually submit their creative outputs and innovations subsidy claims to the Department of Higher Education and Training (the Department) for evaluation and subsidy allocation. All submissions must meet the requirements stipulated in the Policy on the Evaluation of Creative Outputs and Innovations Produced by Higher Education Institutions (2017) and the Implementation Guidelines (2021). The policy recognises quality creative research outputs; evaluated outputs serve as a proxy for research, which determines the subsidy granted to universities. The policy covers the following subfields: Fine and Visual Arts; Music; Theatre; Performance and Dance; Design; Film and Television and Literary Arts. For innovations, the policy recognises: Patents and Plant Breeder's Rights.

The Department, in conjunction with the National Research Foundation (NRF) developed the Research Outputs Submission System (ROSS), for capturing all research outputs produced by universities. To ensure quality of the evaluation process, submitted creative research outputs and innovations are evaluated by field-specific panel of experts using pre-determined evaluation requirements in line with the policy and the Implementation Guidelines (2021) developed for this purpose.

Submitted creative research work is assessed by the respective subfields to ensure scholarly merit and rigour. The approved submitted outputs may be allocated either 0.5, 1 or 2 units. However, the final unit allocation is based on author/contributor proportion. This report presents the outcomes of creative research outputs and innovations for the **2024** submission cycle.

2. Overall Creative Output Units Accrued 2019-2023

This section outlines units accrued by Stellenbosch University (SU) from the panel evaluations from the last six cycles 2019-2024, as shown in Table 1, 2, and 3, respectively.

Table 1: 2019 - 2024 Creative Outputs - Units Awarded

HEI	CREATIVE OUTPUTS																	
	2019			2020			2021			2022			2023			2024		
	Items	Units Awarded	% of Sector Units	Items	Units Awarded	% of Sector Units	Items	Units Awarded	% of Sector Units	Items	Units Awarded	% of Sector Units	Items	Units Awarded	% of Sector Units	Items	Units Awarded	% of Sector Units
CPUT	0	0	0.00%	3	4.0000	2.42%	0	0	0.00%	1	2.0000	1.38%	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%
CUT	1	1.0000	0.81%	1	1.0000	0.60%	1	0.6666	0.50%	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%
DUT	0	0	0.00%	6	7.0000	4.23%	3	3.3334	2.50%	2	1.5000	1.04%	6	6.5000	7.72%	9	6.7500	5.03%
NMU	6	7.0000	5.70%	9	7.3333	4.43%	1	1.0000	0.75%	3	4.0000	2.76%	0	0	0.00%	3	2.5000	1.86%
NWU	0	0	0.00%	5	6.0000	3.63%	3	2.5000	1.88%	2	1.5000	1.04%	1	1.0000	1.19%	1	1.0000	0.75%
RU	3	3.0000	2.44%	3	4.0000	2.42%	0	0	0.00%	3	3.0000	2.07%	8	10.0000	11.88%	5	5.5000	4.10%
SU	44	51.3332	41.82%	30	34.4450	20.82%	37	34.5300	25.92%	36	39.1999	27.08%	13	14.7000	17.46%	20	22.9502	17.12%
TUT	0	0	0.00%	9	6.1110	3.69%	4	3.5000	2.63%	4	4.5000	3.11%	9	9.5000	11.29%	14	10.3460	7.72%
UCT	16	25.2858	20.60%	10	9.4167	5.69%	3	3.0000	2.25%	8	9.2078	6.36%	5	4.1879	4.98%	5	4.3166	3.22%
UFH	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%	1	0.5000	0.37%
UFS	5	7.3333	5.97%	7	9.0000	5.44%	22	20.4999	15.39%	12	10.5000	7.25%	3	4.0000	4.75%	10	9.5000	7.08%
UJ	3	5.0000	4.07%	15	19.3333	11.68%	13	19.0000	14.26%	16	17.8667	12.34%	11	11.1667	13.27%	10	13.5000	10.07%
UKZN	1	1.0000	0.81%	2	2.0000	1.21%	1	1.0000	0.75%	0	0	0.00%	2	0.6667	0.79%	1	0.5000	0.37%
UL	0	0	0.00%	2	3.0000	1.81%	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%
UNISA	0	0	0.00%	14	10.5055	6.35%	4	4.2352	3.18%	12	11.2222	7.75%	5	3.0476	3.62%	14	13.8500	10.33%
UP	12	12.9762	10.57%	34	31.9073	19.28%	18	18.2917	13.73%	18	16.9166	11.69%	9	7.0000	8.32%	27	25.0000	18.64%
UWC	0	0	0.00%	5	5.7500	3.47%	1	0.2600	0.20%	1	2.0000	1.38%	3	1.7500	2.08%	1	0.2500	0.19%
WITS	7	8.8332	7.20%	5	4.6670	2.82%	15	21.3888	16.06%	15	17.8333	12.32%	7	8.6500	10.28%	14	17.6300	13.15%
WSU	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%	4	3.5000	2.42%	1	2.0000	2.38%	0	0	0.00%
TOTAL	98	122.7617	100.0%	160	165.4691	100.0%	126	133.2056	100.0%	137	144.7465	100.0%	83	84.1689	100.0%	135	134.0928	100.0%

Table 2: 2019 - 2024 Creative Outputs - Overall Items and Units Awarded

HEI	CREATIVE OUTPUTS			
	Items	% of Sector Items	Units Awarded	% of Sector Units
SU	180	24.36%	197.1583	25.13%
UP	118	15.97%	112.0918	14.29%
UJ	68	9.20%	85.8667	10.95%
WITS	63	8.53%	79.0023	10.07%
UFS	59	7.98%	60.8332	7.75%
UCT	47	6.36%	55.4148	7.06%
UNISA	49	6.63%	42.8605	5.46%
TUT	40	5.41%	33.9570	4.33%
RU	22	2.98%	25.5000	3.25%

DUT	26	3.52%	25.0834	3.20%
NMU	22	2.98%	21.8333	2.78%
NWU	12	1.62%	12.0000	1.53%
UWC	11	1.49%	10.0100	1.28%
CPUT	4	0.54%	6.0000	0.76%
WSU	5	0.68%	5.5000	0.70%
UKZN	7	0.95%	5.1667	0.66%
UL	2	0.27%	3.0000	0.38%
CUT	3	0.41%	2.6666	0.34%
UFH	1	0.14%	0.5000	0.06%
TOTAL	739	100.00%	784.4446	100.00%

Table 3: 2020 - 2024 Innovation Outputs - Units Awarded

	INNOVATION OUTPUTS														
	2020			2021			2022			2023			2024		
HEI	Items	Units Awarded	% of Sector Units	Items	Units Awarded	% of Sector Units	Items	Units Awarded	% of Sector Units	Items	Units Awarded	% of Sector Units	Items	Units Awarded	% of Sector Units
CPUT	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%	1	2.0000	4.18%	1	2.0000	4.42%	0	0	0.00%
NMU	2	4.0000	7.26%	3	6.0000	13.98%	1	2.0000	4.18%	1	2.0000	4.42%	0	0	0.00%
NWU	7	14.0000	25.41%	0	0	0.00%	1	2.0000	4.18%	3	6.0000	13.25%	0	0	0.00%
RU	1	1.6000	2.90%	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%	1	0.5000	1.36%
SU	7	5.6466	10.25%	2	2.5000	5.82%	0	0	0.00%	3	5.0000	11.05%	2	4.0000	10.89%
UCT	3	4.3340	7.87%	7	10.0000	23.29%	13	19.8691	41.51%	9	16.0000	35.35%	5	8.5714	23.33%
UFS	1	0.4000	0.73%	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%
UJ	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%	1	2.0000	4.18%	3	4.6666	10.31%	2	4.0000	10.89%
UKZN	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%	4	8.0000	16.71%	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%
UNISA	1	2.0000	3.63%	3	4.4000	10.25%	1	2.0000	4.18%	1	2.0000	4.42%	3	6.0000	16.33%
UP	12	21.1100	38.32%	9	14.0332	32.69%	5	10.0000	20.89%	1	2.0000	4.42%	2	3.6666	9.98%
UWC	0	0	0.00%	2	4.0000	9.32%	0	0	0.00%	1	1.6000	3.53%	0	0	0.00%
WITS	1	2.0000	3.63%	1	2.0000	4.66%	0	0	0.00%	2	4.0000	8.84%	5	10.0000	27.22%
TOTAL	35	55.0906	100%	27	42.9332	100%	27	47.8691	100%	25	45.2666	100%	20	36.7380	100%

In 2019, SU received 51.3332 units for creative outputs accounting for 41.82% of the overall units awarded to the sector. The university received no units for innovations. A total of 51.3332 units were awarded in 2019.

In 2020, SU received 34.4450 units for creative outputs accounting for 20.82% of the overall units awarded to the sector. For innovations, 5.6466 units were awarded accounting for 10.25% units awarded to the sector. A total of 40.0916 units were awarded in 2020.

In 2021, SU received 34.5300 units for creative outputs accounting for 25.92% of the overall units awarded to the sector. For innovations, 2.5000 units were awarded accounting for 5.82% units awarded to the sector. A total of 37.0300 units were awarded in 2021.

In 2022, SU received 39.1999 units for creative outputs accounting for 27.08% of the overall units awarded to the sector. The university received no units for innovations. A total of 39.1999 units were awarded in 2022.

In 2023, SU received 14.7000 units for creative outputs accounting for 17.46% of the overall units awarded to the sector. For innovations, 5.0000 units were awarded accounting for 11.05% units awarded to the sector. A total of 19.7000 units were awarded in 2023.

In 2024, SU received 22.9502 units for creative outputs accounting for 17.12% of the overall units awarded to the sector. For innovations, 4.0000 units were awarded accounting for 10.89% units awarded to the sector. A total of 26.9502 units were awarded in 2024.

The tables show a steady increase with accrual of units over the last six-year cycle for creative and innovation outputs. However, a slight decline in accrual of units for creative outputs in the last two-year cycle is noted.

3. University Submissions and Units Awarded in 2024

The university submitted thirty-two (32) items in 2024 for subsidy claims. Of the thirty-two (32) items, twenty-two (22) items were submitted in creative outputs, and six (6) items were submitted in innovation outputs, as shown in Table 4. Following the assessment of the creative and innovation outputs, including adjustments done based on the proportion of internal contributors, whether there were owed units from the previous cycle, and possible withdrawal of some units based on the reason(s) provided in the accompanying spreadsheets, SU attained a total of **26.9502** units. The table further shows a breakdown of approved and declined numbers per subfield and units awarded. The table further shows a breakdown of approved and declined numbers per subfield and units awarded.

Table 4: Creative Outputs - Total Number of Items Concluded in 2024

The following table provides a summary of items which were concluded at the end of the reporting cycle.

Category	No. Submissions	Approved	Disapproved	Units Awarded
Design	1	1	0	0.5000
Fine Arts	1	0	1	0.0000
Literary Arts	1	1	0	1.0000
Music	17	15	2	18.9502
Television	2	0	2	0.0000
Theatre, Performance and Dance	4	3	1	2.5000
Innovations	6	2	4	4.0000
TOTAL	32	22	10	26.9502

The university's outcomes of the evaluations are summarised as follows:

Of the 32 items submitted 22 were approved and 10 were declined, showing 68,75% approval rate.

(a) Design

The university submitted 1 item for evaluation. Following the evaluations, the panel approved the item, and a total of 0.5000 units were awarded.

(b) Fine Arts

The university submitted 1 item for evaluation. Following the evaluations, the panel declined the item. The declined item, along with a reason is listed in Table 6.

(c) Literary Arts

The university submitted 1 item for evaluation. Following the evaluations, the panel approved the item, and a total of 0.5000 units were awarded.

(d) Music

The university submitted 17 items for evaluation. Following the evaluations, the panel approved 15 items, and a total of 18.9502 units were awarded.

(e) Theatre, Performance and Dance

The university submitted 4 items for evaluation. Following the evaluations, the panel approved 3 items and declined 1 item. A total of 2.50000 units were awarded for the approved items. The declined items, along with a reason(s) is listed in Table 6.

(f) Innovations

The university submitted 6 items for evaluation. Following the evaluations, the panel approved 2 items and declined 4 items. A total of 4.0000 units were awarded for the approved items. The declined items, along with a reason(s) is listed in Table 9.

Table 5 shows items declined by Peer-Reviewers in 2024, along with their reason(s).

Table 5: Creative Outputs - Items Declined by Peer-Reviewers in 2024

The following items were not approved by the peer-reviewers or had missed their deadlines and cannot be rolled over to the following year, as they will no longer fall within the n-3 range.

Year Created	Category	DHET No	Title Of Output	Reasons For Disapproval
2021	Music	COM9	"It'll be a thing"	Peer-Review Deadline Missed
2021	Music	COM18	Congo square in D sharp minor	Peer-Review Deadline Missed

Table 6 shows declined items for creative outputs, along with their reason(s).

Table 6: Creative Outputs - Items Declined by Sub-Panel in 2024

The following items were not approved by the sub-panel.

Year Created	Category	DHET No	Title Of Output	Reasons For Disapproval
2021	Fine Arts	COFA1	Xnau	The evaluation panel could not eliminate the possibility of conflict of interest in the peer review process. The creative work appears as retrospective curatorial project.
2021	Television	COTV1	Monteverdi's Vespro Della Beata Vergine	The output does not meet the minimum requirements for accreditation. There is insufficient evidence submitted of the innovation process and outcome claimed.
2022	Television	COTV2	Rooted: A Hard Nut to Crack	The creative output is submitted under the incorrect sub-field panel.
2023	Theatre, Performance and Dance	COTPD1	The Addams Family Musical in South Africa: Nostalgia as a directorial strategy.	The creative output does not demonstrate new research insights; The output does not meet the minimum requirements for accreditation. The Critical reflection on the successful implementation on the directorial framework, i.e. its success and failures was not reflected. The hard work is acknowledged and the applicant is encouraged to take bigger risks in terms of contextual adaptation.

Table 7 shows items which were still under review at the end of 2024.

Table 7: Creative Outputs - Items still under review at the end of 2024

The following items did not receive sufficient reviews (positive or negative) from the peer-reviewers or were held back by the institution pending an additional review. Consequently, these items did not proceed to the sub-panel for the current reporting cycle. They will be rolled over to the next reporting cycle, as they remain eligible within the mandatory n-3 submission window.

Year Created	Category	Year Submitted	DHET No	Title Of Output
2023	Music	2024	COM1	Cantata "Net soos 'n rots is U, o Heer, vir my"
2023	Music	2024	COM2	Mag God verskyn in Sy genade
2023	Music	2024	COM16	Something in Return, Act 2: The Blavet-Varese Project
2023	Music	2024	COM23	Ukukhalisa Umrhubhe (Johannesburg Version 2023)

Table 8 shows awarded items along with author/ contributor proportion, and unit allocation.

Table 8: Creative Outputs - Items approved in 2024

The following items were approved by the sub-panel.

Year Created	DHET No	Category	Title Of Output	Reasons For Approval	Proportion Of Internal Contributors	Units Awarded By Panel	Units Awarded
2022	COD1	Design	Cracked Heirlooms	The creative research output demonstrates significant academic merit.	1.0000	0.500	0.5000
2023	COLA1	Literary Arts	MINE MINE MINE	The creative research output is engaging and amalgamates the personal lyrical voice. The creative research output meets the minimum requirements for accreditation.	1.0000	1.000	1.0000
2023	COM6	Music	Double Concerto	The creative research output demonstrates appropriate research which	0.5000	0.500	0.2500

				can be aligned with the allocation of 0.5 units.			
2023	COM8	Music	Symphony	The creative research output is substantive and exhibits exceptional creative innovation and technical proficiency.	1.0000	2.000	2.0000
2023	COM10	Music	Fantasy Sonata	The creative research output is substantive and demonstrates new research insights.	1.0000	2.000	2.0000
2021	COM13	Music	ONLINE PLAY, MAY-OCT 2021	The creative research output is exceptional and meets all the requirements. The output has resulted in further research activities. The creative research output is substantive and demonstrates new research insights.	0.6668	2.000	1.3336
2023	COM14	Music	SONUS	The creative research output is substantive and demonstrates new research insights. The creative research output is substantive and exhibits exceptional creative innovation and technical proficiency.	1.0000	2.000	2.0000
2021	COM15	Music	Something in Return, Act 1	The creative research output is substantive and demonstrates new research insights.	0.6000	2.000	1.2000
2023	COM17	Music	Sound Roots installation	The creative research output meets the criteria for accreditation and the awarding of 1 unit.	1.0000	1.000	1.0000
2021	COM20	Music	Album production: Written in the Stars	The creative research output demonstrates appropriate research which can be aligned with the allocation of 0.5 units.	1.0000	0.500	0.5000
2022	COM21	Music	Sit with us	The creative research output meets the criteria for accreditation and the awarding of 1 unit.	1.0000	1.000	1.0000
2023	COM22	Music	Narcissus en Eggo	The creative research output meets the criteria for accreditation and the awarding of 1 unit.	1.0000	1.000	1.0000
2023	COM24	Music	A Day in the Life of	The creative research output meets the criteria for accreditation and the awarding of 1 unit.	1.0000	1.000	1.0000
2022	COM25	Music	Rooted Season 2	The creative research output meets the criteria for accreditation and the awarding of 1 unit.	1.0000	1.000	1.0000
2023	COM26	Music	Complete CD Recording of Afrikosmos	The creative research output is substantive and demonstrates new research insights. The creative research output meets the requirements for accreditation in terms of international exposure and scope. The creative research output is substantive and exhibits exceptional creative innovation and technical proficiency.	1.0000	2.000	2.0000
2022	COM27	Music	Roots of Life	The creative research output is substantive and exhibits exceptional creative innovation and technical proficiency.	1.0000	2.000	2.0000
2021	COM11	Music	Bygones	The creative research output meets the criteria for accreditation and the awarding of 1 unit.	0.6666	1.000	0.6666

2023	COTPD3	Theatre, Performance and Dance	Bul	Other; The creative research output should clearly demonstrate the alignment between the scholarly dimension and practical work, particularly by referencing contemporary scholarly discourse on the domains related to the design concept.; The creative research output meets the criteria for the allocation of 0.5 units in terms of appropriate innovation.	1.0000	0.500	0.5000
2022	COTPD2	Theatre, Performance and Dance	Is als oraait by die huis van die Here?	The creative research output meets all the minimum requirements of creative originality, scholarship, new research insights, appropriate duration and is well located in its discipline.	1.0000	1.000	1.0000
2022	COTPD4	Theatre, Performance and Dance	Sit with us	The creative research output meets all the minimum requirements of creative originality, scholarship, new research insights, appropriate duration and is well located in its discipline.	1.0000	1.000	1.0000
TOTAL							22.9502

Table 9 shows declined items for innovation outputs, along with their reason(s).

Table 9: Innovation Outputs - Items Declined in 2024

Year Submitted	NIPMO No	Type of IP	Title Of IP	Reasons For Rejection
2024	CR2015-198	Invention/Patent	FLATTENED RECTANGULAR PYLON END (PYLON AND CLAMPED HINGE)	The allowed claims were not included with the drawings
2024	CR2015-203	Invention/Patent	Multi-strain Probiotic	The allowed claims and drawings were not included.
2024	CR2020-2922	Invention/Patent	Fluorescent Fusion Based Heterologous Peptide Production	The allowed claims and drawings were not included.
2024	CR2021-561	Design/Registration	AN INTRAMEDULLARY NAIL	Registered designs application falls outside the scope of the policy

Table 10 shows awarded items for innovation outputs, along with author/ contributor proportion, and unit allocation.

Table 10: Innovation Outputs - Items Approved in 2024

Year Submitted	NIPMO No	Type of IP	Title Of IP	Reason for Approval	Proportion Of Internal Creators	Units Awarded
2024	CR2021-1367	Invention/Patent	Spicebot	The output meets the criteria for accreditation	1.0000	2.0000
2024	CR2021-233	Invention/Patent	Anomalous and amyloid clotting as diagnostic predictor and treatment avenue for Long COVID / Methods and Kits for Diagnosing COVID-19 Disease	The output meets the criteria for accreditation	1.0000	2.0000
TOTAL						4.0000

4. Recommendations

Overall, the university has complied with the policy requirements for the submission of creative outputs. However, there are some areas for improvement to increase unit accrual and minimise declined items. In this context it is strongly recommended that the university:

- Should ensure that all submissions align with the recognised subfields as stipulated in the policy. Creative outputs falling outside this scope should not be submitted as they are ineligible for subsidy.
- Should ensure that the creative outputs are submitted under the most appropriate subfield panel to ensure it is evaluated by the correct experts.
- Emphasis must be placed on the annotation. This document is critical as it must clearly demonstrate scholarly rigour and the research process behind the creative work.
- Should ensure that all necessary documentation for innovations as listed in the Implementation Guidelines (2021) are submitted with the applications in order to ensure compliance.
- Continue to conduct internal workshops on the Departments Implementation Guidelines to assists staff in aligning their work with subsidy requirements.