

Dr Fikile Vilakazi-Alberts



It gives me great pleasure to introduce Dr Fikile Vilakazi, Director, Gender Equity Unit here at the University of the Western Cape. She has the necessary skill set to make a difference in this role. She is currently serving as a member of various collectives globally including the Lordes' Love Rebels feminist collective, Ikhwelo Healers Collective, Global Ecovillage Network South Africa amongst others, some of whom she has co-created. She is also an intellectual activist and a former academic at the School of Social Sciences within the department of Political Science and Public Policy lecturing in both disciplines at the University of KwaZulu Natal (2015 – 2022). She continues her activism through a lens of corporate social responsibility, community mobilization, leadership and governance, feminist organising, ecological justice and intellectual activism. She is a former board member of the Advice Desk for the Abused in Durban, a former board member for the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission (IGLHRC), former board member of the Global Interfaith Network [GIN], current board member for the Initiative for Strategic Litigation in Africa (ISLA), and a current board member for the 1in9 Campaign in South Africa. She is an alumnus of the University of the Western Cape. She also served as the Chairperson of Cassinga Residence in 1994 – 1996 and was a member of an interim Student Representative Council at UWC in 1998. She was a

first-year student at UWC in 1993 when the Gender Equity Unit was founded by the late Dr Rhoda Kadalie.

Recent Publications

Luthando Ngazile Ngema, Ongezwa Mbele, Nomcebisi Moyikwa & Fikile Vilakazi (2022) 'Andizi': black women remaking the university in KwaZulu-Natal, Globalizations, DOI: [10.1080/14747731.2022.2080390](https://doi.org/10.1080/14747731.2022.2080390)

[Vilakazi, Fikile & Magubane Janette. 2021. The Paradoxes of Grandmothering: An Autobiographical Experience of Two Lesbian Grandmothers in South Africa. In Kathy Mantas \(ed\). Grandmothers and Grandmothering: Creative and Critical Contemplations in Honour of our Women Elders. Demeter Press.](#)

Vilakazi, F. & Mkhize, G. 2021. Rethinking gender and conduits of control: A feminist review. *Image & Text*. (35), 1-22

Vilakazi, F & Mkhize, G. 2020. The 'normative' of sex and gender differentiates the bodies it controls to consolidate a heterosexual imperative: A cause of homophobic sexual violence in Africa. *Agenda*, 34:2, 7-17, DOI: [10.1080/10130950.2019.1706979](https://doi.org/10.1080/10130950.2019.1706979)

Please join me in welcoming Dr Vilikazi and wishing her everything of the best as she embarks on her new role to take the university to greater heights.