

CURRICULUM VITAE

PERSONAL INFORMATION

1426 Vine Street, Lansing, Michigan, 48912.

Name: Yonela
Surname: Maziko
Date of birth: 29-09-1991
ID Number: 9109290750082
Sex: Female
Marital Status: Single
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PERSONAL PROFILE

I am a 30-year-old female with a vision of women empowerment and poverty alleviation through education and agriculture. I have a Master of Science in Agriculture degree from University of Fort Hare; specializing in Pasture and Rangeland Ecology. My area of expertise is grassland science and of interest is rural development through agriculture as well. I am currently pursuing a PhD program at the University of KwaZulu Natal and a Fulbright visiting scholar at Michigan State University.

ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS

MSc Agriculture: Pasture Science (2015-2017): obtained in the 15th of May 2017. At the University of Fort Hare. Thesis title: The impact of rangeland degradation on vegetation cover and soil quality in the semi-arid communal rangelands of the Eastern Cape Province, South Africa

BSc Agriculture: Pasture Science (Honours) (2014): University of Fort Hare. Thesis title: Effects of soil degradation on vegetation cover and productivity of herbaceous plants in

Kwezana communal rangeland in the Eastern Cape, South Africa.

BSc Agriculture: Animal and Pasture Science (2010-2013). University of Fort Hare.

Training – practical agricultural experience.

High school education: Thembalabantu High School (Grade 8-12) from 2005-2009. Received the National Senior Certificate (2009).

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

Community Driven Rural Development and Panchayat (19 November -16 December 2018). International Training Programme on Community Driven Rural Development which was awarded at the National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad, India.

Young African Leadership Initiative (YALI) Alumni. One month course certification received on the 5th of December 2017 on the Civic Leadership track at the University of South Africa.

Research skills workshop (2015): by the Grassland Society of Southern Africa.

PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENTS: Best power point presentation for the final year undergraduate student seminars in 2013, University of Fort Hare.

SCHOLARSHIPS/ BUSARIES:

- National Research Fund for PhD candidacy (2019-2021).
- Fulbright scholarship (2021)
- National Research Fund for MSc candidacy (2015-2016).

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (WITH ABSTRACTS)

Authors: Maziko Yonela, Solomon Beyene

Title: "The impact of rangeland degradation on vegetation cover and soil quality in the semi-arid communal rangelands of the Eastern Cape Province, South Africa." Poster presentation in July 2015 at the Grassland Society of Southern Africa .

Authors: Maziko Yonela, Michelle Tedder, Kevin Kirkman

Title: "The influence of drought and fire on grass sward composition and structure in a mesic grassland." Poster presentation in December 2020 at the British Ecological Society conference.

CURRENTLY

- Fulbright visiting scholar at Michigan State University.
- PhD candidate in Ecological Science at the University of KwaZulu Natal.

WORKING EXPERIENCE

2020-2021: Writing Center tutor at Durban University of Technology.

Duties: Guiding students from a variety of courses in their writing skills. This includes assistance in editing assignments, proposals, essays, CVs, research projects or free handwriting. Engage and assist students in their writing process.

2018 - 2019: NRF Internship at Technology Innovation Agency.

Duties: Assistance with project management, funding application processes, marketing of the agency in a convention, engagement with

stakeholders or clients and facilitation of meeting agendas.

01 March 2018 - 30 March 2018: Laboratory demonstrator at the University of KwaZulu Natal.

Duties: Assisting second year students with experiments of plant and animal biology in the laboratory and the marking of scripts for practical reports.

2014-2017: MSc Agriculture: Pasture Science and BSc Agriculture – Honors: Research and writing skills were acquired from the thesis. Learnt financial and time management, computer literacy, data collection and analytical thinking.

2010-2014: Part time sales assistant at Surf Africa, Jeffreys Bay.

Duties: This was a retail store where I was responsible for stock taking, making sales, and customer service.

2014-2015: Tutorship for pasture science module, undergraduate level at the University of Fort Hare.

Duties: Invigilating students during tests, assisting students with experiments in the laboratory, pastures and in the farm. Marking test, practical and assignment scripts.

PERSONAL SKILLS

Microsoft office: Certificate of attendance in computer literacy - MS Word, MS Excel, MS Powerpoint, MS Access, MS Publisher.

Statistical Programme: SAS (Statistical Analysis Systems), 2007.

Mentorship: I have been a bench supervisor for undergraduate pasture science students at the University of Fort Hare, assisting them with their research requirements.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

- South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions (SACNASP).
- Young African Leaders' Initiative (YALI)

REFERENCES

1. Name : Dr Xolisa Melamane
(Profile Manager at Technology Innovation Agency).

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2. Name : Prof K. Kirkman
(Professor at the University of KwaZulu Natal, Supervisor)

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3. Name : Prof S. Beyene
(Former supervisor and lecturer, University of Fort Hare)

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4. Name : Mrs N. Khumalo
(Writing Centre manager, Durban University of Technology)
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