The University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN) is committed to meeting the objectives of Employment Equity to improve representivity within the Institution. Preference will be given to applicants from designated groups in accordance with our Employment Equity Plan.

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE
PRINCIPAL TECHNICIAN (SCIENTIFIC COMPUTING)
RESEARCH & ACADEMIC SUPPORT (PEROMNES GRADE 8)
SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS, STATISTICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE
WESTVILLE CAMPUS

REF NO.:MSCS03/2017

This is a senior level position in an exciting and demanding environment where the successful candidate will provide high level technical expertise to the School.

The successful candidate, will be responsible for the design, prototyping, rollout and testing of new and innovative systems and computing platforms for teaching and research, and will identify and introduce innovative methods to continually and reliably improve and upgrade efficiency of current systems. Day-to-day, duties include administering, configuring, deploying, maintaining, tuning and troubleshooting multiple cross-platform servers, clusters, workstations and associated software, network services and technologies in use by the School, thus ensuring the efficient running of the School's teaching and research computing laboratories and associated computing infrastructure.

S/he must have excellent technical computing knowledge coupled with advanced problem solving and diagnostic skills. A high level of competence with computer hardware and scientific software across various platforms is essential, together with a high level of understanding of networked environments including configuring various IP network services and associated technologies. S/he will utilize his/her LINUX/UNIX experience, relevant programming/scripting experience, as well as exposure to symmetric multiprocessing (SMP), clusters, high-performance computing (HPC), server virtualisation infrastructure and storage area networks in executing his/her duties.

The incumbent will oversee the implementation of various projects, and respond to, and assist with the investigation, diagnosis and resolving of complex technical issues and requests involving a wide spectrum of specialised hardware, network, and software solutions across the School.

S/he will also engage with academics, researchers, postgraduate students and professional services staff members across all disciplines of the school, to offer expert consulting advice, provide knowledge transfer and create solutions to solve various problems.

The incumbent may infrequently be required to travel amongst the different campuses to provide the required support.

Minimum Requirements:

- A degree in Computer Science, Computer Engineering or related field
- A minimum of 5 years relevant work experience of which at least 2 years have been in a senior role, and at least 2 years have been in a LINUX/UNIX environment
- Exposure to server virtualisation infrastructure and storage area networks
- Exposure to compute clusters and High Performance Computing (HPC) environments
- Administering a heterogeneous network using any one of AD, eDirectory, LDAP,NIS, or similar
- Hands-on technical competence and proven troubleshooting and configuration of hardware and software on various computing platforms including desktop, workstation, server, SAN, network, and cluster environments

- Experience in the compilation and installation of opensource libraries and code
- Programming experience in any of BASH, C, C++,C#, JAVA, PYTHON, PERL, PHP, RUBY or related programming or script language
- Exposure to an RDBMS (e.g. MySQL, PostgreSQL, SQL Server, Oracle, Informix, or Sybase)
- Solid understanding of IP networking and experience in configuring various IP network services and associated technologies such as firewalls, PXE etc

Short-listed candidates may be required to undergo a skills test

Enquiries and details regarding this post, as well as requests for a job profile, may be directed to Manager: Technical Operations, Mr L Els at els@ukzn.ac.za.

Appointment to this post will be on the January 2012 Conditions of Service

The total remuneration package offered includes benefits.

The closing date for receipt of applications is 28 July 2017

Applicants must complete the relevant application form which is available on the Vacancies website at www.ukzn.ac.za. Completed forms should be submitted to Recruitment-aes@ukzn.ac.za . The Advert Reference Number MUST be clearly stated in the subject line.