

DECLARATION

I, Thandeka Judith Mosholi, declare that the dissertation hereby submitted by me for the **Magister Technologiae Degree: Education** at the Central University of Technology: Free State is my own independent work and has not previously been submitted by me at any other University/Faculty. I furthermore cede copyright of the dissertation in favour of the Central University of Technology, Free State.

SIGNED: _____

THANDEKA JUDITH MOSHOLI

DEDICATION

I dedicate this research project to my parents and my in-laws and especially my late grandmother (Nobengazi Lephumani), my guiding angel, for her constant support and trust in me and my studies.

To my husband, Kennedy and my two daughters, Realeboga and Oratile, I thank them for making my life so full of love and happiness.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Without the friendliness and generosity of Motheo FET College staff, particularly the lecturers, it would not have been possible to undertake and complete this project. I thank them all.

The financial assistance of the Central University of Technology, Free State towards the costs of undertaking this research is hereby gratefully acknowledged.

I would also like to pay tribute to academics, educational administrators and lecturers at the Free State Central University of Technology for their assistance and encouragement and for providing some of the research material which I needed.

I would also like to acknowledge with gratitude the willingness of the Campus Manager, Mrs Swanepoel, for granting me leave in order for me to complete this study.

Words of gratitude to my supervisor, Dr S.R.S Litheko, for the encouragement and advice he has given me throughout the course in preparation of this project. His knowledge, assistance and enthusiasm have all served to aid in completing the study.

A special word of thanks to my beloved husband, Kennedy, for his invaluable encouragement, but most importantly, for his ongoing love, support and understanding during the time it has taken me to complete this study.

Finally, to the Almighty, under whose auspices everything was possible.

ABSTRACT

This study provides an analysis of the impact of the introduction of the FET system at Colleges in the Free State, with reference to Motheo FET College.

The aim of the research was to explore the perceptions of Motheo FET staff on the implementation of the FET system. It is believed that these perceptions have far-reaching implications on aspirations of the stakeholders with regard to the implementation and success of the FET system at Motheo FET College.

The literature has revealed that legislation, namely, the FET Act 98 of 1998, the SAQA Act 58 of 1995 and the Skills Development Act 97 of 1998, form an indispensable part of the FET sector and also provide all stakeholders with a frame of reference and guidelines to manage the new FET system for Motheo FET College effectively and efficiently.

The study also has revealed that success in the FET sector will be achieved by closing the gap between “education and training” and also “theory and practice”.

Removal of the fragmentations in education through a co-ordinated, flexible and high-quality FET system will result in employability and employment opportunities for FET learners. It has become clear that the above objective may be best achieved by strengthening co-operation between the Department of Education and the Department of Labour, in which case a new system of learnership should be identified as a mechanism to enhance collaboration between the aforementioned departments.

A literature study, interviews, observations and site analysis were used as data collection methods.

Four major themes were formulated from the analysis of data, namely, transformation of the FET sector, ensuring equity in all respects regarding FET matters and ensuring equality in all aspects within the FET sector.

The important findings were discussed at length and thereafter, the summary, discussions, conclusions and recommendations were drawn from the findings.