

NARRATIVE CURRICULUM VITAE: ANITA VAN DER MERWE

Anita is Professor and Consultant: Strategic Matters at Stellenbosch University since February 2013 (contractual appointment). Before this appointment Anita resided in København, Denmark where she was amongst others, appointed as an educational consultant and technical coordinator for an international program on diabetes and depression – the program involves the Dialogue on Diabetes and Depression (DDD) and the International Council of Nurses (ICN) working with a multidisciplinary expert team. The workshops have been presented in seven countries in Africa in 2011-2012 with further roll-out plans in the future. At this time she also held contractual appointments with UFS and UNISA to supervise PhD and Masters students and provided research support as agreed to a private Danish training and development company.

She was Professor and Head, School of Nursing, University of the Free State (UFS) for 6 years till January 2011. She holds a PhD that focussed on the empowerment of women as nurses from the University of KwaZulu-Natal, a Masters Degree in Critical Care Nursing and Honours Degrees in Nursing and in Philosophy (with a focus on Ethics) from the UFS.

Anita's experience includes being Nursing Advisor (Ministry of Health, United Arab Emirates), managing a large academic hospital and educational institutions. She was appointed as an international consultant by the WHO, the Bahrain Ministry of Health and Dubai Health Care City. Her academic interests include software for qualitative data analysis, ethics, leadership and simulation and technology in Nursing Education. She has presented/ co-presented more than 65 workshops and more than 35 papers at international, national and local level. Her publications include articles, consultancy reports and government or organizational position papers and directive documents that focussed on ethics, leadership and management at a national level.

In 2009 she was instrumental in obtaining a substantial four year grant from the Atlantic Philanthropies and successfully lead the project of the School of Nursing, UFS to pursue three goals, namely the transformation of nursing programmes, the development of a state-of-the-art virtual health teaching and learning facility and the establishment of a self-sustaining continuing education unit.