



Central University of
Technology, Free State

Awarding of Block Grants at the Central University of Technology, Free State

by Sibongile Joy Nogabe

CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY, FREE STATE
SENTRALE UNIVERSITEIT VIR TEGNOLOGIE, VRYSTAAT
YUNIVESITHI E BOHARENG YA THEKENOLOJI, FORESTAAT

Aim

To provide insight into the operation of the Block grants awarded at the CUT

- **Management of block grants – acceptance of condition**
- **CUT markets the grants**
 - **Workshops**
 - **webCT**
 - **Faculty Research Chairs/Deans/Supervisors**

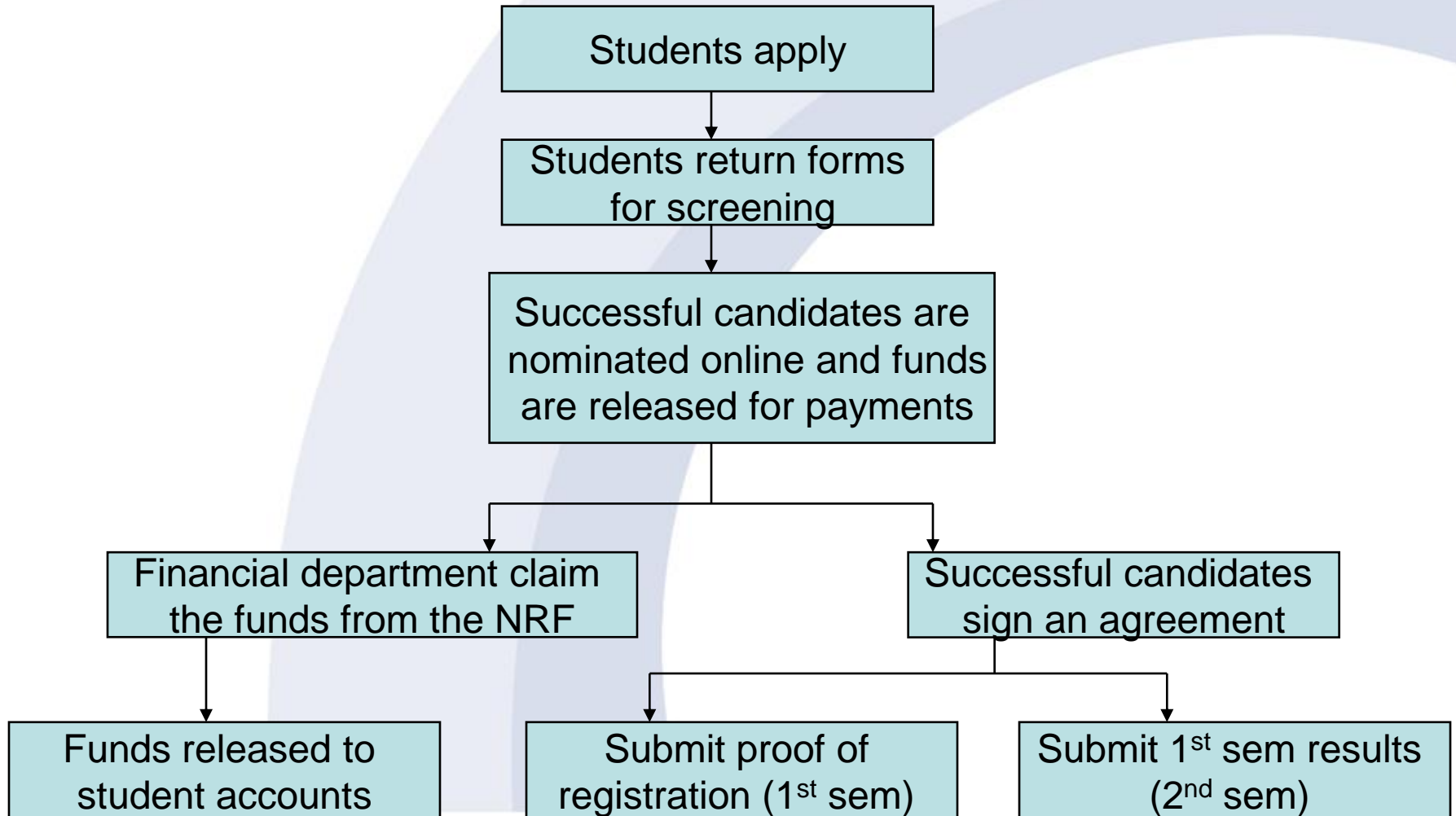
Criteria for funding

- **Grants awarded based on academic excellence**
- **Done on a competitive basis**
- **Full time registered students**
- **South African citizens**
- **Grants are not awarded for parallel degrees**

Scholarship Conditions

- **Candidates may hold only one scholarship or bursary from the NRF and other state funded organization**
- **Awardees may not hold full-time salaried employment**
- **Awardees must obtain the degree within the minimum time required**

Application Process



- **Keep track with scholarship holders**
 - Students who do not obtain the degree
 - relinquish their studies or
 - leave the institution - should refund all payments
- **On completion of the studies submit final report detailing**
 - Awardees final results
 - Plans regarding further studies
 - Employment
- **Continuation of support – request progress report from supervisors**

Types of scholarships

- **B Tech Block grants**
 - Free Standing Honours (SSH)
 - Innovation Honours (SET)
 - DoL Honours Scarce skills
 - DoL Honours Scarce skills for people with disabilities
- **Masters Block grants**
 - Prestigious and Equity Masters
 - Innovation Masters
 - DoL Masters for people with disabilities
 - DoL Doctoral for people with disabilities

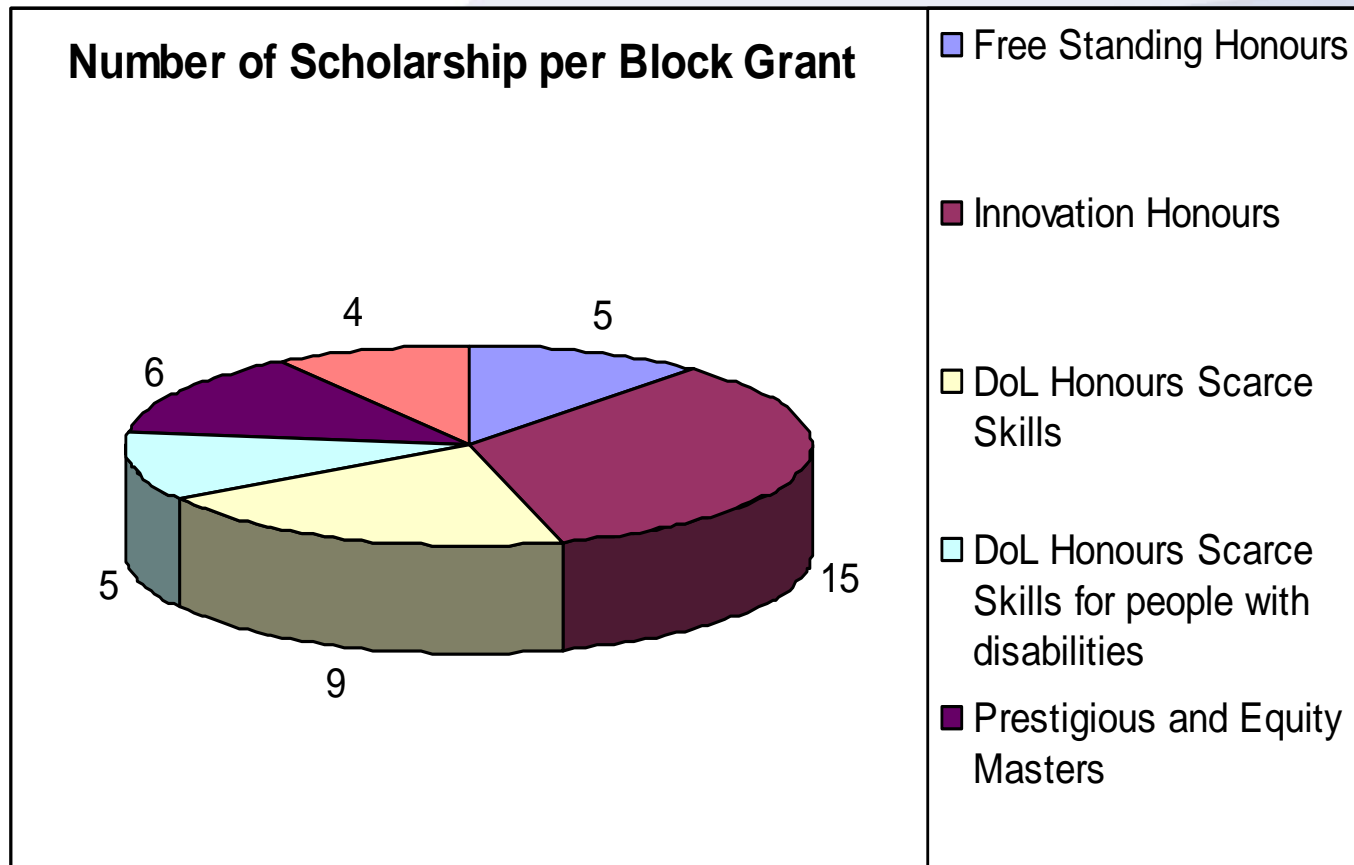
Value of scholarships

SCHOLARSHIP	VALUE OF SCHOLARSHIP	LEVEL	PERIOD OF SUPPORT
NRF FREE-STANDING SCHOLARSHIP	R 15 000 p.a.	HONOURS/FINAL YEAR BTECH	1 year
INNOVATION SCHOLARSHIP	R 35 000 p.a.	HONOURS/FINAL YEAR BTECH	1 year
NRF PRESTIGIOUS AND EQUITY SCHOLARSHIP	R33 000 p.a.	MASTERS	2 years Candidates applying for support of their second year of Master's studies will be supported for one year only.
DST/NRF INNOVATION SCHOLARSHIP	R60 000 p.a.	MASTERS	2 years Candidates applying for support of their second year of Master's studies will be supported for one year only.
DOL HONOURS SCARCE SKILL	R30 000 p.a.	HONOURS/FINAL YEAR BTECH	1 year
DOL HONOURS SCARCE SKILL FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES	R30 000 p.a. Plus R15 000 For assistive device	HONOURS/FINAL YEAR BTECH	1 year

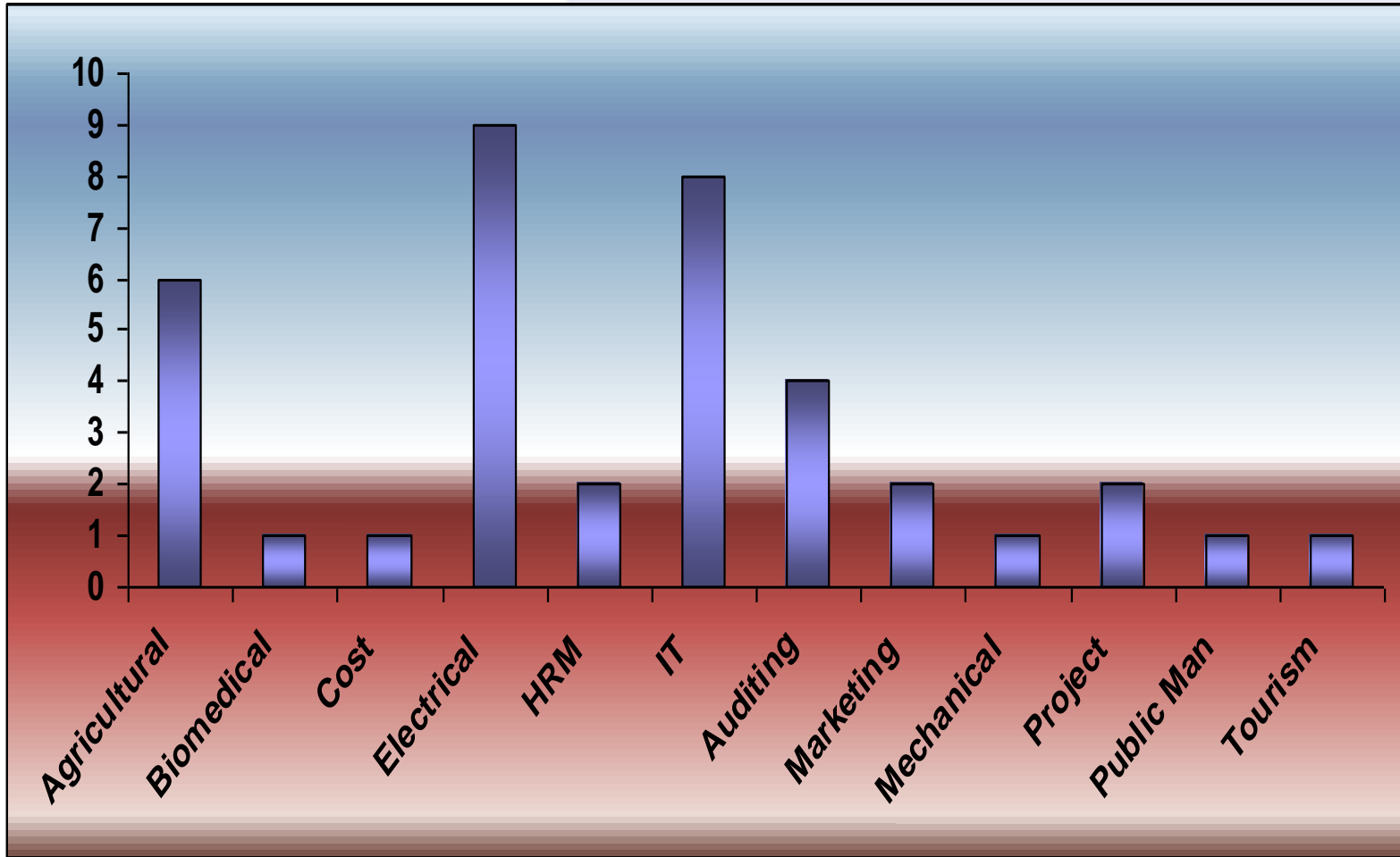
Challenges

- Identification of full time students in the fields of Engineering, IT and Health Sciences, Economic and Management Sciences, Financial Management, Accounting and Auditing
- Value of the grants
- Students performance
- Limited number of bursaries available
- Nominations deadlines
- Field of studies supported

Awarded scholarships in 2009



Awards by Field of study



Conclusions

- Improvement in the throughput of postgraduate students
- Support fields offered at the CUT
- Boost the country's skills level and economic growth