

ZANETE MALAN

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Research psychologist, educator, and higher education leader with 15+ years of experience across campus housing, student development, and teaching and learning. Recognized for integrating research, theory, and practice to advance student success and professional development. Demonstrated leadership in academic instruction, institutional strategy, and global engagement across South Africa and the United States.

CORE EXPERTISE

- Research, Assessment & Evidence-Based Practice
- Knowledge Creation & Dissemination
- Teaching, Curriculum & Instruction
- Student Development Theory Application
- First-Year Experience & Academic Advising
- Residence Life & Housing Leadership
- Strategic Planning & Program Leadership
- Staff Development & Capacity Building
- Global & Cross-Cultural Higher Education

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Strategic Advisor & Faculty – Kansas State University | USA (2023-present)

- Teach leadership courses as primary instructor within the Leadership College (3+ years)
- Serve as faculty contributing to curriculum delivery and student leadership development
- Lead student development initiatives aligned with leadership and academic success outcomes
- Conduct institutional research to strengthen student academic development and support strategies
- Advise senior leadership on student success, community building, and strategic initiatives
- Contribute to cross-functional program development and institutional strategy

Teaching & Learning Manager / Faculty Contributor – Central University of Technology | South Africa (2019-2023)

- Led development and implementation of co-curricular academic programs
- Directed faculty development initiatives within the Faculty of Engineering

- Taught and supported academic modules to enhance student engagement and success
- Applied research-driven strategies to strengthen teaching and learning outcomes

Senior Manager: Student Housing Operations – Respublica Student Living | South Africa (2018-2019)

- Directed operations for a 2,400-bed student housing portfolio
- Managed multidisciplinary teams of 50+ staff across operations, facilities, and student life
- Integrated student development frameworks into residential environments
- Aligned operational systems with student success and engagement outcomes

Residence Director & Program Leader – University of the Free State | South Africa (2011-2018)

- Managed residence operations and led student development programming
- Directed peer mentorship and student leadership initiatives
- Contributed to institutional retention and student success strategies

Teaching & Learning Leadership (Concurrent Role) – University of the Free State (2015-2017)

- Led Academic Advising strategy and implementation
- Directed First-Year Seminar and Orientation programs
- Designed student transition frameworks grounded in research and theory

EDUCATION

Magister Artium (Research Psychology)

Focus: First-Year Student Social Integration & Peer Mentorship

SCHOLARSHIP, TEACHING & RESEARCH

- Primary instructor in leadership education within higher education
- Conduct institutional research to improve student academic development and support
- Design and deliver research-informed programs to enhance student success
- Translate theory into practice across academic and residential environments

PROFESSIONAL ENGAGEMENT

- Co-Chair: ACUHO-I Global Initiatives Network (2025-2026)
- Member: ACUHO-I Research Committee (2026)
- Faculty Member: ACUHO-I National Housing Training Institute (2026)
- Faculty Member: ACUHO-I SAC Roelf Visser Student Housing Training Institute (2019-2025)
- ACUHO-I Member (since 2011)

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Student belonging and integration
- Peer mentorship and leadership development
- Theory-to-practice translation in housing
- First-year student success
- Global perspectives in higher education