LECTURER 2

SECTION B INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

**Would you kindly share your understanding of the concept of absenteeism with me?** Yoo, yoo, it is a huge concept, what do you understand yeah I think it’s a complex issue, but from face value, it’s when students miss classes or abscond or abscond for different reasons so that is my concept.

**what is your experience of absenteeism amongst the NCV student?**

Uhm my experience with regard to NCV students that’s where we have a lot of absenteeism specially on Fridays, there is a tendency of students still not coming to class. I don’t know what might be the reasons but it’s really a problem in our College in terms of NCV absenteeism. **OK in your experience how does this absenteeism affect your work**? it does affect the syllabus, uh because you can’t really push your syllabus and another issue is that, those who are not in class at that time, they have to consult and that is a challenge with NCV. They don’t consult, so they will be behind with their studies and ultimately we find that they don’t qualify to write exams so it does affect.

**From your experience what factors have you found to be influencing absenteeism amongst NCV student?**

Uhm, firstly I think it is the issue of punctuality first, punctuality especially morning classes, morning periods, there are a lot of students that are not punctual as a results, we have a lot of absentees especially with regard to first periods, and even lecturers they also have an issue in terms of attending first periods. So other lecturers might be late and that might discourage the students to come early if they know that lecture A will not pitch in the first period. Other issues are social economic issues like, the issue of financial instability. A lot of students they come from a poor background and they will say no they don’t have money to come to school. I think social economic factors come to play.

**From your personal perspective, how do you support the NCV students that show signs of absenteeism**?

yeah it’s a very difficult issue in my personal experience I would just call the student and talk to a student and try to understand what are the reasons that prohibit a student to come to class. uhm the unfortunate part is that when it comes to social economic issues we can’t deal with it, especially if the NSFAS they come very late and what not, yeah NSFAS transport fares come very late and it’s a problem, but I always encourage the students that if they are absent for any reasons they should send apology so that when they come they consult then we deal with the concept of whatever topic that we have dealt with during their absence.

**How does the college address the elements of absenteeism amongst the NCV students**? The policy on attendance, I think it’s an issue at the college, uhm most lecturers are not aware of it thou it is encouraged that students should attend 80% of their classes but I think we need to dealt more into the policy and understand what does it entail. I feel in my own experiences we don’t have; uhm you know ways that we can deal with that issue off absenteeism. So I think it comes from a policy perspective and also deal with you know, uhm the issue of code of conduct when it comes to students attending classes. Yes, I think those two they can speak to regulation of attendance. if I had said what darling

**How do you think student absenteeism can be addressed in TVET colleges?**

Firstly, is uhm, like I have alluded earlier on in terms of policy. Let’s have a policy that is functional, is not good to have policy that is not implemented or a draft policy on attendance. Let’s start with the policy on attendance and make sure that we have our workshops with the students to say this is what is expected from you in terms of attendance in terms of attendance. Also it should be emphasized on the student code of conduct, to say absenteeism is also an issue that needs to be accurate too. It is an issue that needs to be addressed and also as TVET colleges, we can also employ the services of student support, we can also have student support to assist us with students that are not coming to class and that seems to be a pattern and also it boils down to the issue of registrations because some of the things we were dimming them as absenteeism but it’s just that our students registered online and then we didn’t make a follow up in terms of that, as a results they don’t they drove out. But at the beginning stages at the green a semester, at the beginning of the year then we highlight them as absenteeism, but it’s not really absenteeism students have dropped out. It’s just an issue that cannot be addressed by lecturers only, it has to be student support has to come into play the SRC also can assist in that regard so it should be a joint venture thing, is not supposed to be addressed by one person and also the management has to help in terms of drafting the policy set the code of conduct that should be emphasized.