HOD 1 INTERVIEW

**SECTION B: INTERVIEW QUESTIONS**

**Would you kindly share your understanding of the concept of student absenteeism with me**?

Uhm, student absenteeism is a brought term and especially with student’s, you know at a TVET college, most of the students are funded or they are referred to as NSFAS beneficiaries and they are promised transport stipend or transport allowances and these allowances are in every academic year, they are distributed very late in the middle of the year and this leads to students absenting themselves and most of them they claim that they don’t have transport money. **OK briefly what can you say what is absent today how can you define?** Ok, absenteeismis being away from your institution of leaning or away from work.

**what is your experience of absenteeism amongst the NCV students in your college?**

For the sake of the search and most students absent themselves because of the late payment of the miss fast comfort allowances as you know, 90% of the student body at TVET colleges, they are NSFAS beneficiaries they are from poor of the poorest backgrounds of families.

**From your experience, what factors have you found to be influencing absenteeism amongst the NCV students in your college?**

when students are absent and you find that lecturers have scheduled assessment and most student if they are not there they would miss assessments like that test and so forth. Like this morning I had a student who has been away since February, she just came back yesterday and I indicated that she must come and write the first Test that was written in February to write it today at 7:30 and unfortunately she was here on time. The factor is that peer pressure is a number one factor that makes our students to be absent from college and some students will drink alcohol over the weekend and not come to college on Monday.

**What have you found to be the effect of absenteeism among the NCV students?**

the effect is that once students don’t attend classes, once students absent from lecture rooms or lectures sessions. It will lead to a high failure rated at the end of the day because they will be missing lectures and this is where the issue of failure rate, high failure rate.

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

yeah those that shows signs of absenteeism, the support that I can give as an HOD. We need to either contact the parents or we give them extra classes those that missed classes we arranged afternoon classes or morning classes so that they can also catch up with their schoolwork. Catch up with whatever they missed or give them extra activities so that they can also catch up alright.

**How does the college address the element of absenteeism among the NCV student**?

uh it is still an issue because it looks like I was doing support unit is not doing its’ best to support or assist the students. lecturers usually submit the names of students who are absent, who do not attend classes regularly and but it seems like we don’t get the positive outcome from the student support. They sometimes neglect their responsibility as the student support that is the unit that needs to give support to these students to find out and ask what is happening, why are you not in class every day. But we are not getting any joy from the student support. **but then you have you made some follow-ups on the names that perhaps you have submitted and ask or and make an inquiry or**? Yes, I have tried my level best to call those students who are always absent and the majority are saying, they have transport money problems. The reason why they’re not attending because they don’t have money to come to the college and remember most of them, they are staying far from the campuses, unlike the campuses that stage or situated in the townships those campuses they do not have a problem with NCV students because they stay local. They don’t have to take bus or take transport.

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

as I mentioned earlier on to those who are NSFAS beneficiaries, if the administration of NSFAS allowance can be speed up or can be infected or can be administered as early as February it might alleviate the issue of absenteeism once the students get their transport allowances early in the year, I should take caution money that will assist in elevating the issue of absenteeism. **if the NSFAS can pay as early as February my surgery so my question is if they pay as heavy as federal holding these student children the money and other later state complete complain that they don’t have transport money?** No, that could be individual cases and we need to emphasize the issue of attendance you know just before Covid-19 there is this policy from the department of education to say, if your student does not achieve 80% attendance that student will not sit for the examination but because the past two years because of Covid-19 that policy was relaxed, it was not effective due to the 19 regulations.

Yes, right now I understand I think we have come to the end of our interview so I would like to thank you for your time and being so considerate to take part or to partake in this interview thank you my dear for the opportunity and I wishing you all the best in your survey or your search and good luck. thank you Sir