**FORMAT FOR QUANTITATIVE RESEARCH PROPOSAL**

**NOTE:**

**A: In terms of the Faculty M&D Guidelines a proposal should meet the following criteria:**

* **M degree at least 10 pages and a maximum of 15 pages**
* **D degree at least 15 and a maximum of 20 pages**
* **The number of pages excludes the Title page, Table of Contents, References and any relevant annexures/Rec-H form**

**B: The APA referencing system does not use numbers for the headings.**

1 Introduction ± 1 page

What led you to undertake this study?

2 Background/literature review maximum 4 pages

3 Description of problem and research questions ± 1 page

4 Research objectives a brief paragraph listing them

5 Definition (clarification) of key concepts only those that are significant to the study such as are identified through the title or are frequently used and where there may not be universal interpretation of terminology.

6 Research Design Quantitative, exploratory, descriptive and contextual - define each concept and write a brief paragraph on each. Include the application in the specific study.

7 Research methodology always provide the basic theory and then apply it within the study.

7.1 Introductory paragraph

7.2 Research population

7.3 Sampling method and size

7.4 Data collection method write a clear concise systematic description of the exact procedure you will follow

* Questionnaire – how was it formulated, has it been used before

8 Data analysis statistical analysis

* Type(s) of statistics to be used including a statistics programme
* Role of the statistician
* Depiction in graphs and/or tables

9 Pilot study – describe what this is and how you will approach it; what happens to the results

10 Validity and reliability

Describe each concept and apply within the study

11 Ethical considerations beneficence, justice, autonomy/respect/informed consent

12 Dissemination of results literature, articles, seminars

13 Budget and Timelines

14 Drafting the report – chapters and their content.