



Dr. Vuyisile Phehane

Vuyisile Phehane completed his doctoral studies at the University of Cape Town in the Department of Chemical Pathology, studying the inhibition of malarial purine salvage enzymes. His working career started at SA Bioproducts, Durban South Africa, responsible for bioprocess development of amino acid production technologies. He later joined the CSIR, as Process Scientist in the Biocatalysis Group of the Biotechnology Division. His work at the CSIR sparked an interest in technology management, in particular the commercialization of R&D outcomes. His stay at the Innovation Fund as Program Manager, and then Commercialization Manager developed his skills in the evaluation, funding, management and commercialization of technology, which was pursued further at BioPAD (an initiative of the Department of Science and Technology) as Industrial Biotechnology and Bioprocessing Portfolio Manager. Vuyisile is currently the Senior Manager: Commercialization at the Agricultural Research Council of South Africa. He has served on the boards of a number of start-up companies, and has a keen interest in the licensing of technologies as well as the creation of viable spin-outs based on solid R&D outcomes.