
NAME OF FIRM:	OABS Development Pty Ltd
NAME OF STAFF:	Helen Christien Heyns
PROFESSION:	Project Proposal Coordinator
DATE OF BIRTH:	05 April 1959
NATIONALITY:	South African

QUALIFICATIONS

1981 BA.Ed (University of Pretoria)
1985 B.Ed (University of Stellenbosch)

Other training:

- Report and Proposal Writing (University Of Stellenbosch, Language Centre September **2013**)
- Business English (University Of Stellenbosch, Language Centre September **2013**)
- Diplomatic Training Course
- Alliance Francaise Advanced Classes
- French Conversation Classes (Migros Markt) Berne, Switzerland
- German - private tuition

EXPERIENCE

In a career of nearly 40 years, Helen has widely applied her communication and language skills in each of the positions that she has held. She has taught languages, edited a wide range of written work including published authors and dissertations, written official letters, diplomatic notes, cabinet memoranda, advertorials and adverts for marketing purposes, reports and proposals as well as marketing and communication strategies. She has furthermore been involved in the management, implementation and facilitation of various projects and strategies. Her ability to be innovative and creative and a single-minded approach in all her professional and career choices are evident from the wealth of experience she has gained.

Helen spent the first five years of her professional career as a teacher at both high school and tertiary levels, followed by a 9 month career break to travel around Europe and the Middle East. After returning to the teaching profession for a year, Helen applied for and passed the qualifying exam to start working as a translator/editor at the Language Bureau of the Municipality of Pretoria. In 1992 Helen started to pursue a career in the diplomatic corps, after passing a stringent selection process. Her almost 8 years with the Department of Foreign Affairs included tours of duty in Switzerland and France. Personal circumstances and other interests led to another career break in 1999 and a few months spent in the USA, during which she obtained a private pilot's license. From 2000 – 2002 Helen was employed by an environmental and town-planning company to work as a project

coordinator, sub-contracting for Lucent Technologies in the bid for South Africa's 3rd cell phone network, inter alia. During the following years up until 2008, Helen started a business in the hospitality industry as well as co-lead safaris and adventure tours in East Africa, China and Mongolia. After living in Nairobi, Kenya, for a number of years, she returned to South Africa at the end of 2008 and has since been involved in marketing and project coordination for a property development company, Central Developments Property Group. She joined OABS in 2012.
