



Quality Promotion Conference: 26 to 28 February 2019

Final Announcement

The Council on Higher Education (CHE) is a statutory body established under the provisions of the Higher Education Act [Act 101 of 1997], as amended, and its legislative mandate include promoting quality in higher education, auditing the quality assurance mechanisms of higher education institutions, and accrediting programmes of higher education.

One of the approaches to promoting quality in higher education adopted by the CHE over the years has been that of convening workshops and conferences. The functions of the CHE, as stipulated by the Higher Education Act, also include arranging and coordinating conferences.

The CHE is pleased to announce that it is organising a quality promotion conference which will take place from **26 to 28 February 2019 in Pretoria, South Africa**. The venue for the conference will be at the CSIR International Convention Centre (www.csiricc.co.za).

The theme of the conference is:

Promoting Academic Integrity in Higher Education

The aim of the conference is to provide a platform for sharing experiences, lessons and good practices, as well as for raising issues and stimulating dialogue on the need to maintain academic integrity across the higher education sector. This would help ensure that the credibility and global competitiveness of the South African, and indeed African higher education qualifications, are not compromised.

Professionals who are involved or have interest in the promotion of quality in higher education, as well as students and other higher education stakeholders, from South Africa and other African countries, are cordially invited to take part in the conference. The target group includes, but is not limited to:

- Quality assurance managers and/or practitioners in higher education institutions;
- Officials from national qualifications authorities or commissions;
- Deans of Faculties and Heads or Chairpersons of Departments in public and private higher education institutions;
- Registrars in public and private higher education institutions;
- Students in public and private higher education institutions;
- Registrars of Professional Bodies
- Academics;
- Researchers in the fields of ethics, quality assurance and promotion;
- Higher education policy and/or regulation developers;
- Higher education policy analysts;
- Officials from the Ministries and/or Departments of Higher Education; and
- Representatives of non-governmental organisations (NGOs) with interest in the higher education.

Structure of the conference

The conference will comprise panel discussion session, plenary sessions, parallel paper presentation sessions, a gala dinner and an excursion.

Panel Discussion

A panel of experts will discuss the different forms and manifestations of academic dishonesty, including in research and publishing, and their effects on integrity of higher education. The experts are:

- **Prof Rushiella Songca** (University of South Africa): Facilitator and moderator
- **Prof Adèle Thomas** (University of Johannesburg): Panellist
- **Prof Gillian Finchilescu** (University of the Witwatersrand): Panellist
- **Prof Mahlapahlana Themane** (University of Limpopo): Panellist
- **Dr Shawren Singh** (University of South Africa): Panellist

Plenary Sessions

Highly reputable scholars will deliver thought-provoking keynote addresses during plenary sessions.

1. Prof Yusef Waghid will deliver a keynote address titled: '*Quality, Dissonance and Rhythm: Towards a Defensible Understanding of Higher Education*'.



Prof Yusef Waghid

Yusef Waghid is Distinguished Professor of Philosophy of Education in the Department of Education Policy Studies at Stellenbosch University in South Africa. He joined Stellenbosch University almost two decades ago as Director of the Centre for Educational Development and has been full Professor of Philosophy of Education in the Department of Education Policy Studies since 2002. He was also Chair and, Dean of the Faculty of Education. He holds three doctorates in the areas of Philosophy of Education (Western Cape), Education Policy Studies, and Philosophy (Stellenbosch). He is a fellow of the Academy of Science of South Africa (ASSAf), internationally acclaimed scholar, B rated with the National Research Foundation. Since 2005, he is Editor-in-Chief of *South African Journal of Higher Education*. He has over 350 research publications including more than 30 international books and 210 journal articles.

Some of his books that accentuate his research foci, include, *African philosophy of education reconsidered: On being human* (London: Routledge, 2014); *Pedagogy out of bounds: Untamed variations of democratic education* (Rotterdam/Boston/Taipei: Sense Publishers, 2014); (co-editor with Chapman, J., McNamara, S. & Reiss, M.) *International handbook for learning, teaching and leadership in faith-based schools* (Dordrecht: Springer Press, 2014); *Dancing with doctoral encounters: Democratic education in motion* (Stellenbosch: Sun Press, 2015); (co-author with Davids, N.) *Ethical Dimensions of Muslim Education* (New York: Palgrave-Macmillan, 2016); (co-author with Waghid, F. &

Waghid, Z.) *Educational Technology and Pedagogic Encounters: Democratic Education in Potentiality* (Rotterdam/Boston/Taipei: Sense Publishers, 2016); (co-author with Davids, N.) *Educational Leadership-in-Becoming: On the Potential of Leadership in Action* (London: Routledge, 2017); (co-author with Davids, N.) *Philosophy of Education as Action: Implications for teacher education* (Malham, MA.: Rowman & Littlefield, 2017); (co-editor with Higgs, P.) *Philosophy of Education Reader* (Cape Town: Juta, 2017); (co-author with Davids, N.) *Education, assessment and the desire for dissonance* (New York: Peter Lang, 2017); (co-editor with Davies, I., Peck, C., Sant, E., Kiwan, D. & Paterson, A.) *International Handbook of Citizenship Education* (New York: Palgrave-MacMillan, 2017); (co-author with Davids, N.) *Education and tolerance* (New York: Palgrave-MacMillan, 2017); and (co-editor with Davids, N.) *African democratic citizenship education revisited* (New York: Palgrave-MacMillan, 2017).

In 2011 he was honoured with the National Research Foundation (NRF) Special Recognition Award: 'Champion of Research Capacity Development at Higher Education Institutions in South Africa' in recognition of his influence and significant contribution towards the transformation of the social science community in South Africa; and in 2014 he received the prestigious Education Research in Africa Award: Outstanding Mentor of Education Researchers from the Association for the Development of Education in Africa. He has promoted numerous Meds, PhDs and post-doctoral fellows to completion.

2. Dr Divya Singh will deliver a keynote address titled '*Examination Cheating: An Increasing Risk to Quality and the Integrity of Higher Education*'.



Dr Divya Singh

Dr Singh holds LL.D, LL.M, LL.B and BA (Law) degrees. She also holds a Master's degree in Tertiary Education Management. She is a Certified Ethics Officer and advocate. She practised for her own account for 8 years and then returned to academia. She's served as an additional Regional Magistrate, assessor in the High Court, and consultant to the South African Law Commission. Prof Singh has been an academic for the last twenty-six years, ten of which have been in higher education management. Her previous position was as Vice-Principal Advisory and Assurance Services at the University of South Africa (Unisa), holding responsibility for the gamut of institutional corporate services. She also served as a Registrar Governance, as well as a Deputy Registrar at Unisa. She is currently the Academic Director at Stadio Holdings (Pty) Ltd, a private higher education investment company and the tertiary venture of the Curro Group of businesses.

Dr Singh's research track record includes 32 publications in accredited journals, 10 book chapters, 1 book (co-edited); and in the last two years she presented 15 conference and keynote papers, locally and internationally. She was editor of 2 academic journals and Butterworths Judgment-Online. She has received numerous achievement awards locally and internationally for her academic contribution and community engagement; as well as stakeholder recognition from various bodies including the FBI (USA) and United Nations.

Dr Singh has served and continues to on a number of boards, commissions of enquiry, and audit committees in the public sector. She has successfully initiated and facilitated co-operative and stakeholder relationships with local, continental and international partners and is an experienced facilitator and trainer in areas of law, leadership and governance.

3. Prof Mayunga Nkunya will give a keynote address on: '*Promoting Quality and Academic Integrity at a Regional Level: The Case of East Africa*'.



Prof Mayunga H. H. Nkunya

Prof Mayunga Nkunya is a Professor of Chemistry at the University of Dar es Salaam in Tanzania. From 6th November 2010 to 5th November 2015 he was Executive Secretary of Inter-University Council for East Africa (IUCEA), an institution of East African Community responsible for coordinating development and harmonisation of higher education in East Africa. From 1st July 2007 to 5th November 2010 he served as Executive Secretary of Tanzania Commission for Universities. From 1999 to 2006 he was Chief Academic Officer of the University of Dar es Salaam (Deputy Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs).

Prof Nkunya has coordinated the establishment and initial operationalisation of East Africa's regional quality assurance system under the IUCEA. He also served as Interim Chairperson of the African Quality Assurance Network (AfriQAN) during its formative stages and later as first President (1999 to 2011). In 2013 to 2014 he was a co-opted Board Member of International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (INQAAHE). He is also a recipient of the 2015 Global University Network for Innovation – African Quality Assurance Network award in recognition of his personal contribution to development of quality assurance in Africa.

Prof Nkunya was a higher education expert member of the UNESCO Team that reviewed Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET), Higher Education and Innovation systems for Namibia, in 2016. He has been a member and chairperson of several boards and advisory bodies in and outside Tanzania, including Chairman of the Ministerial Advisory Council on National Education in Tanzania, and Chairman of the Steering Committee that reviewed Tanzania's national innovation systems. He is currently the Chairperson of the National Construction Council of Tanzania. He has been visiting professor/scientist in several countries. He has authored more than 100 publications (books, monographs, research articles, conference/symposia proceedings), among them on quality assurance in higher education.

4. The keynote address to be delivered by Dr Evelyn Garwe is titled: 'Quality Assurance Agencies: Creating a Conducive Environment for Academic Integrity'.



Dr Evelyn Chiveyo Garwe

Dr Garwe holds a four degrees (obtained with distinction) from universities in Zimbabwe and UK. She has 27 years of experience in the quality assurance and strategic management of academic and developmental programmes. She is currently the Acting Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and the substantive Deputy CEO for the Zimbabwe Council for Higher Education (ZIMCHE). Prior to joining ZIMCHE she was the Dean of Agricultural Sciences at Chinhoyi University of Technology and Women's University in Africa (WUA). She is the Chairperson of the Agricultural Research Council of Zimbabwe, and the WUA Farm Board and former Secretary of the Research and Intellectual Expo Organising Committee as well as former Board member for the Great Zimbabwe University.

Dr Garwe is a Champion for food security in Africa under the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP), an ambassador for quality assurance under the Harmonisation of African Accreditation and Quality Assurance (HAAQA) Initiative and an impact leader under the UK Research Impact Leadership programme. She has published over 65 articles in the area of animal science, finance and quality assurance in higher education. She has won several awards for leadership in higher education and research.

Parallel Platform Paper Presentations

A bumper of original research, review, anecdotal and theoretical papers will be presented in parallel sessions. These will be organised around the following sub-themes of the conference:

- Philosophical, conceptual and/or theoretical discourses about academic integrity;
- Academic integrity in curricula and qualification standards;
- Academic integrity in teaching and learning, assessments and certification;
- Academic integrity in research and publication;
- Manifestations and trends of practices that threaten academic integrity; and
- Good practices for promoting academic integrity in the 21st Century.

Excursion

On 28 February 2019, conference delegates will undertake an excursion to the Cradle of Humankind World Heritage Site. This popular tourist destination is one of 8 World Heritage Sites in South Africa, and the only one in Gauteng Province. It is within this site at a place called Taung that the first hominid, *Australopithecus*, was found by Professor Raymond Dart of the University of the Witwatersrand. The excursion to the Cradle of Humankind will therefore provide the conference delegates first-hand experience of the birthplace of humankind. Arrangements have been made with the Maropeng Visitor Centre (www.maropeng.co.za) to take the

conference delegates through a journey of discovery to learn more about the origins of humankind. This will be followed by a visit to the Sterkfontein Caves which is one of the world's richest hominid fossil sites and also the site of the longest continuous palaeoanthropological dig in the world, with excavations having begun there in 1935. Taking lunch at the Cradle of Humankind World Heritage Site is promising to be a lifetime experience not to be missed.

Registration for the Conference

Each one of all those who intend to be part of the conference should complete and submit official registration form which can be accessed by clicking [here](#). Please follow the submission instructions on the form after completing it in full.

Registration for the conference will close on **8 February 2019**. No registrations will be accepted after 8 February 2019.

Registration Fees

- Delegates based in South Africa: R5 600 per delegate
- Delegates based outside South Africa: 415 US Dollars per delegate

Upon registration, the delegate will be sent an invoice bearing the amount to be paid as well as details of payment methods. appear on the registration form.

Further Information

Further information about the conference, including registration and payment queries, should be addressed to the following members of the Organising Committee:

- Dr Amani Saidi – Email: Saidi.A@che.ac.za; Tel: +27 (0) 12 349 3850
- Mr Ntokozo Bhengu – Email: Bhengu.N@che.ac.za; Tel: +27 (0) 12 349 3885
- Ms Selina Mokatsane – Email: Mokatsane.S@che.ac.za; Tel: +27 (0) 12 349 3897

More details about the conference and information updates can also be accessed from the conference website: <https://qualitypromotion.wixsite.com/qpc2019che>