REGIONAL MODEL SYMPOSIUM

'Leveraging Technology to Mediate Student Support, Teaching, Learning and Assessments: *Lessons for an Evolving Higher Education'*

programme

OCTOBER 4th
OCTOBER 5th | **2023**

NAMIBIAN COLLEGE OF OPEN LEARNING (NAMCOL)
Jetu Jama
2031 INDEPENDENCE AVENUE, KATUTURA, WINDHOEK, NAMIBIA

Programme Directors

1. Mr Nahum Namukwambi (NAMCOL)
2. Dr A Afunde (NAMCOL)
3. Ms Mabel Bothasitse (BOU) (Gala Dinner)

Day 1   Wednesday 4th October 2023   Programme Director: Mr Nahum Namukwambi

Time	Item/Activity/Topic	Responsible Person/Presenter
07.45 – 08.30	Registration Of Delegates	NAMCOL, UNISA & BOU Staff **Ms N Nkuna & Ms Z Maloyi**
	Poster Presentations Reflective Practice in Quality Assurance in an Open Distance University	**Dr E Johannes; Ms H Matshoba; Prof L Lalendle; Ms R Tsephe (UNISA)** **Ms M Bothasitse, Boipelo Kesamang (BOU)**
08.30 – 08.35	Opening Prayer	**Pastor Elastus Nghifikepunye Handiba**
08.35 – 08.45	Symposium Overview (Including Objectives)	**Prof LL Lalendle** Executive Director: Quality Assurance and Enhancement (UNISA)
08.45 – 08.50	Introduction of Dr HV Murangi	**Mr A Kulobone** Director of Marketing, Enterprise Development, and ICT (NAMCOL)
08.50 – 09.10	Welcome & Setting the tone for the Collaborations	**Dr HV Murangi** Chief Executive Officer: Namibian College of Open Learning (NAMCOL)
09.10 – 09.15	Introduction of Speaker of the National Assembly	**Dr HV Murangi** Chief Executive Officer: Namibian College of Open Learning (NAMCOL)
09.15 – 09.45	Opening Remarks	**Hon. Prof Peter Katjavivi** Speaker of the National Assembly in Namibia (Republic of Namibia)
09.45 – 10.15	Locating UNISA's regional model in its strategy for international collaborations	**Keynote Speaker** **Prof SK Ndlovu** Vice-Principal: Strategy, Risk and Advisory Services (UNISA)
10.15 - 10.45	Parallel: Tea Break, Photo Session, and Poster presentations	

Time	Item/Activity/Topic	Responsible Person/Presenter
10.15 – 10.45	Tea Break	
10.15 – 10.20	Photo Session	
10.20 - 10.35	Poster presentations	
10.45 – 11.15	Reclaiming African Futures Through Research and Collaboration Amongst African Universities to Harness the 4IR Promise	Guest Keynote Speaker **Prof KK Matengu** Vice-Chancellor: University of Namibia (UNAM)
11.15 - 11.25	Respondent	**Prof S Nyathi** Registrar: Namibian University of Science and Technology (NUST)
11.25 - 11.35	Q & A Session	
11.35 - 12.05	Policy Shifts in Higher Education for online and lifelong learning	Guest Keynote Speaker **Prof R Mohee** Commissioner of Higher Education Commission in Mauritius (Government of Mauritius)
12.05 - 12.15	Respondent	**Dr K McGuirk** Senior Lecturer: College of Human Sciences, University of South Africa (UNISA)
12.15 - 13.15	Panel Discussion: Discussion of Higher Education policy and Employability of graduates	**Chair: Dr G Gatsha:** Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Student Services (BOU) **Prof SK Ndlovu:** Vice-Principal: Strategy, Risk and Advisory Service *Lessons from Employer Surveys about on Student Performance in the workplace* **Prof B Morolong:** Professor in the School of Social Sciences (BOU) *Quality teaching for employability reflections from practice* **Prof T Zengele** Professor of Education and Leader of the Curriculum Transformation Project *Role of curriculum transformation to humanise our graduates for work place (UNISA)* **Dr M Hlongoane** Executive Dean: College of Accounting Sciences (UNISA) *Competency based education Lessons from the Discipline of accounting sciences (UNISA)*

2

Time	Item/Activity/Topic	Responsible Person/Presenter
13.15 - 13.30	Q & A Session	
Parallel session for Lunch and Poster presentations		
13.30 -14.15	Lunch break	
14.00 - 14.15	Poster Presentations	
14.00 - 14.15	Paper Presentations	
14.15 – 14.45	Re-thinking Online Assessment Strategies, Experiences and Challenges from a Management Perspective in a Higher Education Institution	**Dr Maggy Beukes- Amiss** Director of the Centre for Innovation in Learning and Teaching (CILT) UNAM
14.45 – 15.45	Panel Discussion: Reflections on Quality Assurance of online Assessments and student support in the regional model	**Chair: Dr Johannes** Deputy Director: Institutional Quality Assurance and Enhancement (UNISA) **Mr J Nitschke** Director: Curriculum and Material Development Curriculum Development and Transformation for quality distance Education (10min) **Dr P Sebopelo** Director Quality Office (BOU) Quality Assurance of online assessments (10min) **Dr N Kadhila** Director: Centre for Quality Assurance and Management (UNAM) Quality Assurance of student experience in distance Education (10min) **Dr B Mariki** Quality Assurance of online teaching (10min) **Mr M Nkgoang** Regional Director: Eastern Cape Province (UNISA) Quality Assurance of regional services through a communities of practice (10Min)
15.45 – 16.00	Questions & Answers	**Dr Johannes** Deputy Director: Institutional Quality Assurance and Enhancement (UNISA)
	Parallel Session for Tea and Poster Presentations (16.00 – 16.15)	

Time	Item/Activity/Topic	Responsible Person/Presenter
16.00 – 16.15	Tea	
16.00 – 16.10	Poster Presentation	
16.15 - 16.35	Fostering Openness in ODL through a Lens of Student Support to Marginalised Student Populations	**Dr A Mkuzangwe** Director of Student Admission and Registration (UNISA)
16.35 -16.45	Q&A Session	
16.45 - 1650	Announcements	**Ms Z Mdledle** Quality Practitioner: Institutional Quality Assurance & Enhancement (UNISA)
16.50 – 17.00	Closing Remarks for the Day	**Dr G Gatsha** Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Student Services (BOU)
18.30 for 19.00 Until 21h30	**Gala Dinner and Networking (Mercure Hotel/Old Safari Hotel)**	**Programme Director:** Ms M Bothasitse (BOU)

Time	Item/Activity/Topic	Responsible Person/Presenter
07.45 – 08.00	Registration & Poster Presentations	NAMCOL, UNISA & BOU Staff
08.00 – 08.05	Opening Prayer	**Ms Z Maloyi** Personal Assistant to Executive Director Quality Assurance and Enhancement (UNISA)
08.05 – 08.10	Introduction of Prof Bisanda	**Prof LL Lalendle** Executive Director: Quality Assurance and Enhancement (UNISA)
08.10 – 08.50	"Technology Mediated Assessments: Lesson from OUT"	Keynote Guest Speaker **Prof E Bisanda** Vice-Chancellor of Open University of Tanzania (OUT)
08.50 – 09.00	Respondent	**Ms P Kamolane** ODEL Programme Executive (UNISA)
09.00 – 09.20	UNISA Technology Mediated Teaching and Learning: Examining the CODEL Notion in our Times	Guest Speaker **Prof M Makoe** Executive Dean of the College of Educations (UNISA)
09.20 – 09.30	Respondent	**Prof I Setlhodi** Acting Director Academic Quality Assurance and Enhancement (UNISA)
09.30 – 10.00	Continuing Professional Development of Teachers and Academics on DOL in India	Guest Speaker **Prof S Panda** Director, Staff Training and Research Institute, Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU)
10.10 - 10.10	Respondent	**Dr G Gatsha** Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Student Services (BOU)
10.10 – 10.30	Q & A Session	All
10.30 – 11.00	Tea Break & Poster Presentations	All
	Paper Presentations	
11.00 – 11.30	Digitalization in Higher Education: Systemic Imperatives for Effective Educational Technology Integration	**Prof P Uys** Professor Education at University of Adelaide (UA)

Day 2   Thursday 5th October 2023

Time	Item/Activity/Topic	Responsible Person/Presenter
11.30 – 12.00	Professional Development in the Era of AI: Policies, Skills Set, Ethics and Integrity for Optimum Administration of ODeL Institutions	**Dr SP Shihomeka** Head of Department for Higher Education and Lifelong Learning and a Senior Lecturer for Media and Educational Technologies at the University of Namibia (UNAM)
12.00 – 12.30	Evaluation of Moodle OER for Junior Course Business Subjects students at Botswana Open University's Centre for Open Schooling.	**Dr T Hamaluba** Programme Developer for Business Subjects Open University of Botswana (BOU)
Paper Presentations		
12.30 – 12.50	Empowering African Students for the Fourth Industrial Revolution: Leveraging Technology to Foster Digital Competencies and Enhance Preparedness for Online Learning Environments	**Dr D Chetty** Leader of the Academic Development Open Virtual Hub (ADOVH) Office of Vice-Principal Teaching and Learning (UNISA)
12.50 – 13.10	Use of Analytics for Student Success, Case of UNISA.	**Mr L Marumolwa** Director: Business Analytics at the University of South Africa (UNISA)
13.10 – 13.30	The Development of a Hybrid Academic Qualification in Research Management and Administration for Southern Africa - Lessons Learned	**Dr T Theron** Senior Director: Research and Innovation at Stellenbosch University (SUN)
13.40 – 13.50	Respondent	**Ms W Louw** Namibian College of Open Learning (NAMCOL)
13.40 – 13.50	Q & A	
13.50 – 14.00	Official Closing Lessons Learnt and Takeaways	**Dr HV Murangi** Chief Executive Officer: Namibian College of Open Learning (NAMCOL)
14.00	Lunch	All
15.20	Excursion! Excursion!	

Keynote Speakers

Name	Institution
Prof Peter Hitjitevi Katjavivi	Parliament of Namibia (Republic of Namibia)
Prof Romeela Mohee	Higher Education Commissioner (Government of Mauritius)
Prof Elifas Bisanda	Open University of Tanzania (OUT)
Prof Mpine Makoe	University of South Africa (UNISA)
Prof Stephen Khehla Ndlovu	University of South Africa (UNISA)
Prof Santosh Panda	Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU)
Prof Kenneth Kamwi Matengu	University of Namibia

SYMPOSIUM SPEAKERS

Prof Peter Hitjitevi Katjavivi

Professor Peter Hitjitevi Katjavivi is a Namibian politician who has been Speaker of the National Assembly of Namibia since 20 March 2015. He obtained a doctorate (DPhil) at St Antony's College of Oxford University.

Prof Katjavivi was a member of the Constituent Assembly of Namibia in 1989. From 1992 to 2003 he was Vice-Chancellor of the University of Namibia; at whose foundation he had significant influence. Katjavivi was and is a member of numerous national and international educational, cultural and research organizations, including the Executive Council Member of UNESCO (1993-1997), Chairman of the Council of National Monuments (1992-2000), now National Heritage Council of Namibia and President of the Namibia Economic Policy Research Unit (since 1990). In 2003 he became Namibian Ambassador to the European Union in Brussels and in 2006 Ambassador to Berlin. He was appointed to head the National Planning Commission in 2008.

Prof Romeela Mohee

Prof Romeela Mohee is currently the Higher Education Commissioner of Mauritius, whereby she is responsible for regulating all Public and Private Universities, as well as funding of Public Universities in Mauritius. She is driving transformative projects at national level, including the development of a National Credit Value and Transfer System, which will enable mobility of students and the Technology-Enabled Learning Project for public universities.

She holds an Engineering degree in Energy and Environment from a Grande Ecole d'Ingenieurs, the Institut National des Sciences Appliquées de Lyon, France, (under a French Scholarship) and a PhD from the University of Mauritius.

Romeela has 30 years of academic experience as a Professor and Head of Department in the field of Chemical and Environmental Engineering, as well as Dean of the Faculty of Engineering from 2009 to 2012. She has also held the position of Vice Chancellor of the University of Mauritius, the national university regrouping 10000 students from 2013 to 2016. She was also the National Research Chair in Solid Waste Management at the Mauritius Research Council.

Prof Mohee is an experienced Education Specialist with a demonstrated history of working in the development of higher education models and policies. She has worked at the Commonwealth of Learning from 2017 to 2020 as an Education Specialist and has assisted many Commonwealth member states in their development of higher education policies and strategies. She expertly guided governments and institutions on e-learning for sustainable development, quality assurance and employability.

She has published over 200 international research and conference papers, edited 8 books, 4 book chapters, and has supervised to date more than 50 undergraduate and 30 masters and doctoral students in the field of energy and environmental engineering.
Professor Mohee has received several awards and recognitions including the winner of the African Union best woman scientist award for Science Technology and Innovation in 2009. She is a fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry (UK) and a Fellow of the Mauritius Academy of Science and Technology (FMAST), Honorary Fellow of the Institute of Chemical Engineers UK (F IChemE) and she is among others an Associate member of the International Association of Universities (IAU). She is also a Member of the Steering Committee for the Research Management Programme in Africa (ReMPro Africa).

SYMPOSIUM SPEAKERS

Prof Elifas Bisanda

Prof Elifas Bisanda is the Vice Chancellor of The Open University of Tanzania (OUT) since 2015. Before his appointment in 2015, Prof. Bisanda, was the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Regional Services) for two (2) years, then Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academics) for a period of six (6) years at the Open University of Tanzania. He holds a Ph.D. in Materials Science from the University of Bath, UK (1991), an M.Sc. in Metallurgical Engineering from Cranfield University UK (1984), and a B.Sc. in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Dar es Salaam (1981). He is also a Registered Professional Engineer and a Fellow of the Institution of Engineers Tanzania. He is also a fellow of the Tanzania Academy of Sciences (TAAS).

Prof Bisanda is the Chairman of the Governing Council for the Institute of Adult Education in Tanzania. He is also the Chairman of the Council of Morogoro Vocational Teachers Training College. He is a member of the University of Arusha Council and the Tanzania Police Training Board. Prof. Bisanda is a strong supporter and promoter of Open and Distance Learning and has been instrumental in the strategic development of ICT mediated learning and management at the Open University of Tanzania.

Prof Mpine Makoe

Prof Mpine Makoe is the Commonwealth of Learning Chair in Open Education Practices/Resources at the University of South Africa (UNISA). She is also a National Research Foundation (NRF) rated professor in Open Distance eLearning (ODeL) and a Director of African Council for Distance Education (ACDE). Prof Makoe has published extensively in technology-enhanced learning, including mobile learning; staff development; quality and policy formulation in ODeL. She has also done consultancy work for the Commonwealth of Learning facilitating the development of ODeL policies in different universities in Africa.

She holds a PhD and MSc in Educational Technology from the Open University, UK. She also has an MA in Journalism from the University of Michigan and BA in Communication and English from Hope College in Michigan as well as a diploma in journalism from Africa Literature Centre in Zambia. Mpine is actively involved in distance education associations nationally, regionally and internationally. She is also a member of the University Futures Network. She is the Executive Dean of the College of Education at UNISA.

Prof Santosh Panda

Professor Santosh Panda started university teaching in 1984; became a full professor in 1997; and is currently Director, Staff Training and Research Institute, Indira Gandhi National Open University, New Delhi, India. He has a PhD in Education (Kurukshetra), Fulbright Post-Doctoral (UNM, USA), Certificate in Education TV (BBC, UK), and Certificate in Online Teaching (Maryland, USA).

In the past, he has been:
i)   Chairperson, National Council for Teacher Education, Government of India.
ii)   Director of Policy & Research, Association of Indian Universities (AIU).
iii)   Director, Centre of Flexible Learning, University of the South Pacific, Fiji.
iv)   Founding Director, Inter-University Consortium for TEL/ICT, IGNOU.
v)   Visiting Professor at University of London/UK, Manchester Metropolitan University/ UK, University of Maryland/USA, Beijing Normal University/China, and University of Guadalajara/Mexico.

Dr Panda has presented Keynotes and Workshops in above 25 countries; and presented Convocation Addresses in five universities. He is Chief Editor of the Scopus-indexed refereed journal 'Journal of Learning for Development of the Commonwealth of Learning/ Canada; Chief Editor of Indian Journal of Open Learning UGC-CARE; Editor of refereed Staff & Educational Development International and sits in the editorial board of above 15 refereed international journals, mostly published by Routledge. [Refereed Journal papers: 48; Book Chapters: 44; Books: 19; Conference Papers: 34; Keynotes: 12; Convocation Addresses: 4].

He is a governing board member of the International Council for Educational Development/ UK, and president of its national forum Network for Staff & Educational Development/ India. Also, Dr Panda is the member of National Yoga Certification Board, TC, Ministry of AYUSH, Government of India.

Currently, Dr Panda is the National Coordinator of nation-wide training of 1.5 million university and college teachers on National Education Policy-2020, sponsored by the Ministry of Education, Government of India, and implemented jointly by University Grants Commission and IGNOU.
Training Platform: https://ignou-nep-pdp.samarth.ac.in/?fbclid=IwAR3hzcAfrNic56R-ydYt2Nc2dOIh38QKONx73yis-o-MaFMNQ2QMCBCX9QE

Prof Dr Kenneth Matengu

Prof. Dr Kenneth Matengu, holds a PhD in Human Geography from the University of Eastern Finland. He has published more than 90 peer reviewed articles, books, and book chapters, as well as international peer-reviewed conference papers in fields of geography, higher education governance, quality assurance and natural resources management. In addition, Prof Matengu has led numerous commissioned and consultancy research projects and managed research grants from government, European Union-ACP, and other donor countries/agencies. He served as the Founding Pro-Vice Chancellor: Research, Innovation and Development at UNAM, as well as its Director of External and International Relations, responsible for building partnerships, negotiating agreements, and promoting UNAM's international visibility.

He has been appointed by the President of Namibia on various advisory capacities in higher education including being a High-Level Panel member on the economy and Task Force member on the 4th IR. He is currently the Vice Chancellor of the University of Namibia, President of the Pan African University Council and Association of African Universities Higher Education Ambassador for Southern Africa.

Prof Stephen Khehla Ndlovu

Prof Ndlovu's experience in the higher education sector extends over a period of thirty-two years which covers resource mobilization, program development and lecturing, quality development and assurance, leadership, education policy, higher education planning, strategy development, governance, human resources, and transformation. He is currently Vice Principal: Strategy, Risk and Advisory Services at UNISA. In the past, he has served Deputy Vice-Chancellor at the Durban and Mangosuthu Universities of Technology. Prior to this, Prof Ndlovu was Strategic Advisor to the Vice-Chancellor at Tshwane University of Technology, Director for Higher Education Management Support in the Department of Education (now Higher Education and Training). Prof Ndlovu has also served as Senior Technical Advisor/Chief of Party for the University of Massachusetts (UMass) and the American Institutes for Research (AIR), Higher Education Team Leader for the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)/South Africa, Chief Education Specialist: Higher Education Planning in the Department of Education, Manager: Research Services at the University of the North (Limpopo); and Lecturer in History and Comparative Education at the University of Zululand.

Prof Ndlovu served as Board member of the National Institutes for Higher Education (NIHEs) from 2005 to 2007 for Northern Cape and 2005 to 2014 for Mpumalanga and he is currently serving member and chairperson of the Elangeni TVET College Council. The NIHEs led to the establishment in 2013 of two universities: Sol Plaatje University and the University of Mpumalanga. Prof Ndlovu served as a member of several Ministerial committees and technical working groups

Name	Institution
Prof Sifiso Nyathi	NUST
Prof Itumeleng Setlhodi	UNISA
Dr Godson Gatsha	BOU
Ms Pindiwe Kamolane	UNISA
Dr McGuirk	UNISA

Prof Sifiso Nyathi

Sifiso Nyathi served as the Registrar for the University of Namibia from 2015 - 2020. The position forms the secretariat to both the University Council and the Senate and ensures that approved policies, rules, and regulations are followed as stipulated in the University Act and Statutes. Other responsibilities of the Registrar's Office include maintenance of student enrolment records and transcripts, organisation of registration procedures, scheduling of classes; management of examinations and overseeing of credit transfers as well as ensuring that students are correctly promoted and graduate following successful completion of their studies.

Prof Nyathi has commendable leadership abilities and has served the University for many years in various capacities, his latest position being the Director of the Centre for Quality Assurance and Management (CEQUAM) since its inception in 2010 to 2015. He is the founding Director for CEQUAM and has been integral in setting up systems for managing and assuring quality at the University of Namibia.

Dr Godson Gatsha

Dr Godson Gatsha is the Deputy Vice Chancellor Student Services at the Botswana Open University. He holds a PhD in Education Policy Studies (University of Pretoria), MA in Distance Education, Med in Educational Management (University of Botswana). Dr Gatsha has worked as an ODL Practitioner, and Director for SADC-Centre for Distance Education, ODL Technical Advisor, Education Specialist at the Commonwealth of Learning. He has worked in various Commonwealth Member States as a Facilitator and Consultant for ODL systems, including Quality Assurance, Qualifications Framework, OER and ODL Programme Accreditation and Standards.

Ms Phindiwe Kamolane

Ms Phindiwe Kamolane is a CODeL Programme Executive who is responsible for the implementation of the Unisa's digitisation strategy in teaching and learning. She also serves as the Chairperson of the Online Examination Committee which coordinates activities and key stakeholders in ensuring the delivery of successful online examinations. Ms P. Kamolane has held various roles including School Director of Applied Accountancy in the College of Accounting Sciences, Acting Head of Tuition and Learner Support, Acting Chair of Department in the Department of Auditing, and Senior Lecturer in Auditing. Ms. P Kamolane specialises in Corporate Governance principles including King IV, Companies Act and Auditing Profession Act. She was previously an audit manager at Deloitte and was with the firm for 6 years. There, she gained extensive auditing experience in the Financial Services industry. Her client list included Standard Bank, First Rand Limited Group, Imperial Bank, Rand Merchant Bank, Wiphold, MFC, and TCTA. She also had an opportunity to be seconded to Deloitte's New York Office for a period of 3 months where she audited an investment firm.

She qualified as a Chartered Accountant in 2011 and has completed her Master of Commerce in Accounting Sciences. She is currently registered for her Ph.D. focusing on Digital Transformation Implementation Strategies in Higher Education Institutions.

RESPONDENTS

Dr Karin McGuirk

Dr Karin McGuirk is currently a senior lecturer in the Department of Information Science at the University of South Africa (UNISA). She holds a PHD in Information Science (UNISA) and a Postgraduate Diploma in Museology (UP). Her research interests include information philosophy, informatisation, knowledge and literacy approaches, and readership. Dr McGuirk serves on the executive committee of the Association of Southern African Indexers and Bibliographers (ASAIB) and is a member of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) and the Literacy Association of South Africa (LITASA).

Prof Itumeleng I Setlhodi

Prof Itumeleng I. Setlhodi is an associate professor in education leadership, management, and quality. She is currently acting Director, Academic Quality Assurance and Enhancement at the University of South Africa. Her roles include providing leadership in overseeing the facilitation of academic QA and enhancement processes, developing tools for internal QA processes and management and works closely with the Heads of QAE towards assuring and enhancing quality in the colleges.

Prof Setlhodi supervises Master and Doctoral students, among others. She also participates in the engaged scholarship of M&D support and supervision as well as in the scholarship of QA. She also participates in research projects nationally and internationally, in collaboration with other institutions of higher learning. And has co-edited a book and published several outputs.

Through engaged scholarship, she is involved in training and development of school leaders, school management teams and learner leaders in schools. She also participates in the development of the QA in HE short learning programme, aimed at empowering QA practitioners with quality assurance, enhancement, and management skills.

PAPER PRESENTERS

Name	Institution
Dr Maggy-Beukes Amiss	University of Namibia (UNAM)
Dr Moses Hlongoane	UNISA
Dr Sefora Alice Mkuzangwe	UNISA
Prof Philip Uys	University of Adelaide (Australia)
Dr Sadrag Panduleni Shihomeka	University of Namibia (UNAM)
Dr Tommie Hamaluba	Botswana Open University (BOU)
Dr D Chetty	UNISA
Dr Therina Theron	Stellenbosch University

Dr Maggy Beukes-Amiss

Dr Maggy Beukes-Amiss is a senior lecturer within the University of Namibia with close to nineteen (19) years of teaching/academic and research experience within the Department of Social Sciences, Information Science Section, at the University of Namibia, where she also fulfilled various teaching and leadership roles since 1995. For the past nine (9) years, since 2015, she has been the Director of the Centre for Open, Distance and eLearning (CODeL), now restyled into the Centre for Innovation in Learning and Teaching (CILT) at the University of Namibia from June 2021. She holds an MSc Degree in Electronic Information Management (EIM) from Robert Gordon University (RGU), Aberdeen: Scotland and a PhD in Computer-integrated Education (CiE) from the University of Pretoria, South Africa, and other technical qualifications in the field of ICT and eLearning. She oversees the entire strategic direction/vision and activities in the Centre for Innovation in Learning and Teaching and plays an active role with her various management team members and staff in the implementation of Learning, Teaching, Assessment, Academic and eLearning policies, strategic platforms, tools etc.

She is extremely passionate about, technology-enhanced learning and teaching opportunities, ODL and eLearning capacity-building activities, related research and serves as a reviewer of various conferences in the field of eLearning. She has been involved in eLearning capacity-building activities, ICT and eLearning policy and strategy development in Namibia and various countries in Africa and internationally. She also made several contributions to the broader Namibian society in various roles as Chairperson of Boards within the Telecommunication Industry. She has been involved in eLearning capacity-building activities in Namibia and various countries in Africa and internationally on behalf of UNAM, NOLNet, GIZ and GESCI. Dr Maggy Beukes-Amiss was listed under the elite top 10 category of Africa's Movers and Shakers in Corporate Online Learning 2018.

Dr Moses Hlongoane

I am currently the Acting Deputy Executive Dean of the College of Accounting Sciences. Previously occupied positions as senior lecturer and Director of School. Worked as trainee Accountant at PricewaterhouseCoopers (2001 -2004) and joined the University of Johannesburg as a lecturer (2004 -2008). Joined Unisa (2008 till today) as lecturer. I have an interest in school governance and public sector accounting. Hold a BCompt (Unisa); BCompt Hons (Unisa); MCom international accounting (University of Johannesburg), PHD (Unisa). Trained various public sector servants on PFMA. Assisted in school governors training and financial management policies of schools.

Dr Sefora Alice Mkuzangwe

An experienced and qualified Higher Education Sector role-player with a Doctorate degree in Education management and over 20-years' experience in Programme Management, Accreditation and Qualification Registration, Academic Planning, Administration and Leadership in South African Universities. Sefora Mkuzangwe offers an extensive skill-base garnered across the following spheres: Academic Planning, Programme management, Accreditation and Academic Quality Assurance, Higher Education Policy, Academic Administration, Admissions and Student administration.

She has held a range of varied roles that higher education and cross these tenures; she has supported diverse aspects of strategic planning quality assurance; university operations leadership; project implementation; people leadership; financial & resource management.

Her value-added participation in the Academic Arena extends to personal development, with a research focus on the Scholarship of Open Distance Education, Quality Assurance in Higher Education [Curriculum Assessment, Academic Planning & Higher Education Policy, Management & Governance].

Key to Sefora' s success is her robust capacity to form solid alliances with internal and external stakeholders, including Academic Leadership, South African regulatory bodies, and various other Professional Bodies. She closely collaborates with diverse industry bodies to maximise on transformational activities and projects across varied academic areas for both Formal and Non-Formal Academic Programmes.

Prof Philip Uys

Prof Dr Philip Uys has worked as a senior educational consultant in some 16 developing countries, full-time educational technology leader and practitioner for over 20 years in Australia, New Zealand, Botswana and South Africa, and Adjunct Associate Professor Education at University of Adelaide. The work has been funded mostly by the EU; ADB; USAID; UNICEF; GIZ; and the Commonwealth of Learning (COL). He focuses on enabling educational innovation and quality through leadership and educational technology. He has a PhD in Education and Communication from the Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand and has extensive academic teaching and research experience. More info at www.globe-online.com

Dr Sadrag Panduleni Shihomeka

Dr Sadrag Panduleni Shihomeka, a teacher by profession, is a media and communication practitioner, specialised in social media and youth politics. He holds a PhD in Media and Communication from Erasmus University Rotterdam, The Netherlands, MBA, and a B. Ed (Secondary). Currently he is the Head of Department for Higher Education and Lifelong Learning and a Senior Lecturer for Media and Educational Technologies at the University of Namibia. In 2021, Dr Shihomeka was a Research Sprint fellow on the African Digital Sovereignty, at The South African Research Chair in Industrial Development, University of Johannesburg in collaboration with the Alexander von Humboldt Institute for Internet and Society, Berlin, Germany. As an ICT4D researcher, Dr Shihomeka, presented, and published in online learning and teaching, digital human rights, gender studies, as well as conferences, projects and seminars associated to e-Mourning and Post-death Digital Presence, online violence, e-ethics, and marginalisation of women online areas to promote digital literacy, digital romance, e-democracy, e-addiction, e-deception, and cyberbullying to empower citizens with digital skills.

Dr Tommie Hamaluba

Dr. Tommie Hamaluba boasts an illustrious 30-year career in public service, with a diverse background encompassing secondary school teaching and his current role as a Programme Developer for Business Subjects at a university. His extensive academic journey includes a PhD, MBA, BBA, DSE, PDOSOM, PGCEQAE, CDEP, along with multiple certificates in technology-enabled learning. Driven by a passion for education, he continues to shape and enhance the academic landscape, blending his rich expertise in business subjects with a dedication to fostering innovative learning experiences. Dr. Hamaluba is a true advocate for knowledge dissemination and empowerment through education.

Dr Denzil Chetty

Denzil Chetty is a graduate of the University of KwaZulu-Natal. He holds an academic position in the College of Human Sciences (CHS) at the University of South Africa (UNISA). Since 2017, he has been seconded to lead strategic institutional projects in teaching, learning and student support. In 2017, Chetty was seconded to the Office of the then Pro-Vice Chancellor. He established the UNISA Open Learning Portal, which hosts MOOCs for public knowledge consumption and student skills development in a 0-rated portal. In 2019-2020, Chetty coordinated the DHET UCDP Project on Tutor Development, building the digital and pedagogical competencies of e-tutors. In 2020 Chetty established the Academic Development Open Virtual Hub (ADOVH) through a DHET University Covid-19 Responsiveness Grant. ADOVH is an incubator for digital innovation in teaching, learning and student support.

Through a subsequent DHET UCDP grant (2021-2023), Chetty heads a project to enhance student support and 4IR readiness for an ODeL environment. As part of this project, Chetty established collaborations with Microsoft and RGB Gaming, where UNISA is the first higher education institution in Africa to use Minecraft for Education to develop students' critical 4IR digital competencies. Chetty holds various awards, including 2003 Abe Bailey Fellowship (United Kingdom); the 2011 UNISA Award for Innovation in Teaching and Learning; the 2014 Shanghai Open University African Visiting Scholar (China); and the 2015 UNISA Excellence Award in Teaching and Learning. Chetty has authored several accredited articles, book chapters, and a single-authored book publication served as guest editor for several special journal issues and participated in several national and international conferences

Dr Therina Theron

Therina Theron is Senior Director: Research and Innovation at Stellenbosch University (SU) since 2008. She is the immediate past-President and serves on the Executive Committee of the Southern African Research and Innovation Management Association (SARIMA). She serves as Chair of the International Network of Research Management Societies (INORMS) 2023 congress hosted by SARIMA in Durban, South Africa next year. She is also co-Chair of the Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU)'s Supporting Research Community steering committee.

18

PANELLISTS

Name	Institution
Prof Bantu Morolong	Botswana Open University (BOU)
Prof Thulani Zengele	University of South Africa (UNISA)
Mr Jan Nitschke	Namibian College of Open Learning (NAMCOL)
Dr Phineus Sebopelo	Botswana Open University (BOU
Dr Ngepathimo Kadhila	University of Namibia (UNAM)
Mr Motale Nkgoang	University of South Africa (UNISA)
Prof S Khehla Ndlovu	University of South Africa (UNISA)
Dr Belingtone Mariki	Institute of Adult Education (IAE-Tanzania)

PANELLISTS

Prof Bantu Morolong

Bantu Lulu MOROLONG is Associate Professor in the School of Social Sciences at Botswana Open University (BOU). She holds a PhD in International/Intercultural Educational Policy Studies and Rural Sociology, MA in Sociology (rural sociology) and a BA Ed. (Education, English and Sociology). Her career path spans more than 40 years of university service. She has taught, re-searched, published, and presented at local and international meetings with research interests in educational policy on higher education and ODL, rural development, gender inequalities, contin-uing and non-formal education, indigenous knowledge systems, and the potential role of ICTs in poverty reduction.

Prof Thulani Zengele

An Educationist for the past 43 years, in 2002, he joined the former TSA, now Unisa, as Lecturer, Senior Lecturer, Associate Professor and Full Professor in 2015 in the Department of Educational Leadership and Management. He has successfully supervised more than 25 M and D students with international publications in various accredited journals and book chapters. In 2019, he was the Head of Quality Assurance and Enhancement at the College of Education. He is now the Director of the Curriculum Transformation Unit at Unisa and the current Vice President of the Southern African Comparative and History of Education Society (SACHES).

PANELLISTS

Mr Jan Nitschke is the Director of Curriculum and Material Development at the Namibian College of Open Learning. The directorate develops new and revises existing programmes, curricula, and course material, using an innovative range of open learning methodologies. Mr Nitschke leads the college's Academic Advisory Team, which considers initiatives for programmes, learner support, research, and quality assurance. He holds a Master's Degree in Social Science from Umea University, in Sweden, and a Bachelor of Science from the University of the Western Cape, in South Africa, as well as a range of other tertiary qualifications. His experience spans physics instruction, teacher training, research, quality assurance and eLearning.

Mr Jan Nitschke

Dr. Sebopelo is currently the Director of the Office of Quality at Botswana Open University (BOU) and holds a Ph.D. from Open University Malaysia (OUM). Dr. Sebopelo also acquired a Bachelor's degree in social sciences from the University of Botswana, an MSc in Medical Sociology from the University of London, and a Master's in Business Administration, from the Management College of South Africa. Dr. Sebopelo also holds a Certificate in Quality Assurance from The Open Polytechnic of New Zealand and the New Zealand Organisation of Quality. Dr. Sebopelo also possesses a postgraduate certificate in Quality Assurance for Higher Education from BOU. Phineas is a Quality Practitioner with experience spanning over 20 yrs.

Dr Phineus Sebopelo

He is a qualified Quality Manager from DGQ, and a BOS ISO 9001:2000 Auditor/Lead Auditor. His quality management credentials, and experience involve setting up quality management structures, and developing quality policies and guidelines to enable self-assessments and external evaluation of the internal quality system. Within his portfolio of duties is the facilitation of institutional registration and programme accreditation with regulatory bodies.

PANELLISTS

Dr Ngephatimo Kadhila

Dr Ngepathimo Kadhila, Director of Quality Assurance at the University of Namibia, holds a PhD in Higher Education Studies from the University of the Free State; Master's in Education and Bachelor in Education from the University of Namibia; as well as Postgraduate Diploma in Higher Education from Rhodes University. He has extensively engaged with higher education management, curriculum development, teaching and learning, assessment (irrespective of mode of delivery), academic development, and research processes covering.

He has proven record in higher education quality assurance, including steering, advising, and supporting qualifications registration on national qualifications framework, accreditation, quality audits/reviews and curriculum development, implementation, monitoring and review. His research interest includes all these areas of practice. ORCID identifier: https://orcid.org/0000-0002-4805-4775
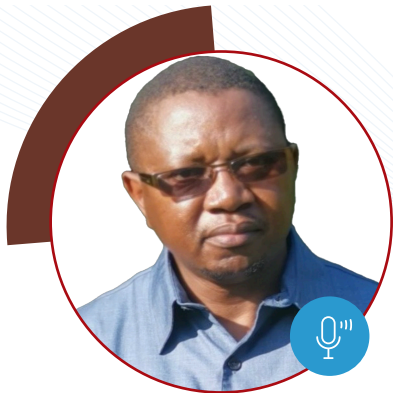
Mr Motale Nkgoang

Mr Motale Nkgoang holds the position as Regional Director of the Unisa Eastern Cape region. During his tenure at Unisa, he held various positions within the university, including chairmanship of the Regional Service Quality Committee, membership within the University Quality Committee, a Steering Committee member of the Registrar's Quality Peer Review, a Steering Committee member of the CHE Institutional Quality Audit and a former Coordinator of the Directorate: Regional Services Community of Practice groups. In addition, Mr Nkgoang is professionally associated with the Institute of Directors South Africa (IoDSA) and is also a member of the Eastern Cape HRD Council, which is chaired by the Eastern Cape MEC of Education and` it reports to The Premier of the Eastern Cape Legislature. Nkgoang holds various qualifications, including the degree of Masters in Business Administration (MBA) from the University of South Africa.

22

PROGRAMME SPEAKERS

Name	Institution
Pastor Elastus Nghifikepunye Handiba	Pastor
Prof LL Lalendle	UNISA
Mr A Kulubone	NAMCOL
Honourable Prof Peter Katjavivi	Government
Dr HV Murangi	NAMCOL

Prof Luvuyo Lumkile Lalendle

Professor Lalendle holds a PhD in Educational Administration and Leadership from Michigan State University. His focus has been on the meaning, construction, and practice of leadership in Higher Education in South Africa. He has been an active practitioner in the Higher Education Sector for over three decades.

He has risen from the ranks of being a Lecturer to that of Vice-Rector in a multi-campus context of a university. He has been a student leader and a Union Leader. His accomplishments include managing complex departments in strategy, planning teaching, research, and quality assurance in a large multi-campus University.

Mr A Kulobone

Mr Kulobone is the Director of Marketing, Enterprise Development, and ICT at the Namibian College of Open Learning. He holds a Masters's Degree in Management, a Masters's Degree in Political Science, a Post-Graduate Diploma in Education as well as a Bachelor of Arts. He started his career as a Secondary School teacher before joining the National Planning Commission Secretariat as a Regional Economic Planner, responsible for capital and income-generating projects for the Khomas Region, then later moved on to the Ministry of Health and Social Sciences as a Senior Researcher. He later left the Public Service and joined the Non-Governmental Organisations and Private Sector, where he held positions ranging from Manager of Programs to Chief Operations Officer responsible for Education at the Institute of Open Learning. In 2016 he joined the Namibian College of Open Learning as a Deputy Director responsible for Marketing, Human Resources, and Research Development and Quality Assurance.

Dr Heroldt V Murangi

Dr. Heroldt Vekaama Murangi has served as the CEO at the Namibian College of Open Learning (NAMCOL) since 2007. With a teaching background, he worked in the Ministry of Education after Namibia's Independence in 1990. Dr. Murangi earned his Higher Education Diploma and B.Ed. Honours from the University of Namibia, an M.Ed. in Adult Education from the University of Massachusetts, USA, and a Ph.D. in Education Management, Law, and Policy from the University of Pretoria, SA, focusing on student transition in open schooling. His expertise centres on policy development in human resources, open schooling, open distance eLearning (ODeL), and strategic planning. He's instrumental in establishing partnerships in ODeL. Dr. Murangi has authored articles and book chapters in this field, consulted in ODL for Rwanda and the Gambia, and held roles in education associations. Currently, he serves on boards for the Namibian Open Learning Network Trust (NOLNet) as well as on the Namibia Institute of Public Administration and Management (NIPAM) and previously chaired the Alexander Forbes Namibia Retirement.
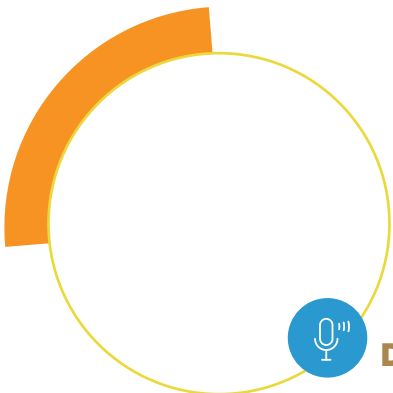
Programme Directors & Chairs of Panel Dicussions

Name	Institution
Mr Nahum Namukwambi	Namibian College of Open Learning (NAMCOL)
Dr A Afunde	Namibian College of Open Learning (NAMCOL)
Ms Mabel Bothasitse	Botswana Open University (BOU)
Dr Eleanor Johannes	University of South Africa (UNISA)
Dr Edwig Karipi	Namibian College of Open Learning (NAMCOL)

Ms Mabel Bothasitse

Ms Mabel K. Bothasitse is a Quality Assurance Specialist at BOU and a graduate of the University of Botswana with Master of Education (Mathematics). I have acquired Certificate in the Basics of Total Quality Management through the University of South Africa (SHERQ), a certified ISO 9001:2008 Quality Management-Lead Auditor through the Botswana Bureau of Standards; External Quality Assurance for Higher Education course offered by IIEP and UNESCO; SAMTRAC Course (SHE). I have worked in teams to develop Quality Assurance Toolkits, QA Standards and Guidelines for Blended Learning; Graduate Employability Standards for DE for COL, taken part in internal, inter-institutional and external quality audits and review panels. I seat in national QA Committees for Botswana Bureau of Standards and the Quality Assurance Committee of Botswana Qualification Authority.

Dr Eleanor Johannes

Dr Eleanor Johannes is the Deputy Director: Quality Assurance & Enhancement at the University of South Africa (Unisa). Her current tasks include, among other things, coordinating internal and external reviews, formulating improvement plans, and reporting on review outcomes to internal and external stakeholders. She was a member of the Unisa team that developed the Unisa Quality Evaluation Instrument (UQEI) in 2011, and a member of the task team of the African Council on Distance Education (ACDE) Quality Assurance and Accreditation Agency (QAAA) that developed the Quality Toolkit for Evaluating Quality in Open and Distance Learning (including e-learning) in African Higher Education. Her current research interests include quality assurance in higher education; technology enhanced learning (TEL); postgraduate student support; access, equity, and inclusion of students with disabilities in STEM subjects. She is at present working with the Unisa research team on their project, Disability Management for Employees with Disabilities in an Open and Distance Learning Workplace.

Poster Presenters

Name	Institution
Dr Eleanor Johannes	University of South African (UNISA)
Prof LL Lalendle	University of South African (UNISA)
Ms Rachel Helen Matshoba	University of South African (UNISA)
Ms Refiloe Tsephe	University of South African (UNISA)
Ms Mabel Bothasitse	Botswana Open University (BOU)
Ms Boipelo Kesamang	Botswana Open University (BOU)

Ms Boipelo Kesamang is Director-Maun Regional Campus at Botswana Open University. She is a passionate Educationist with fifteen years working in an ODeL environment, transforming thousands of lives through her contribution in making educational opportunities accessible. She holds a Bachelor Degree-Science Education and a Masters of Education-Counselling and Human Services from the University of Botswana. Other training, among others, include Management Development Programme-University of Stellenbosch, Project Management-Calleam Consulting Vancouver, Gender Studies-University of Pretoria, and Certificate for Distance Education Practitioners-UNISA. Some of her research works can be found on ResearchGate, UNESCO Report 2018, and African Gender Institute Publishing.

Ms Boipelo Kesamang

Ms Rachel Helen Matshoba is a Quality Specialist at the University of South Africa. Her career in education spans over a period of over 28 years. She is currently working in quality assurance within higher education. She has acquired extensive experience within the regulatory environment in education and within higher education while working in the quality assurance and project management environment which entails accreditation, institutional audits, and national reviews. Both the regulatory environment and the higher education environment have exposed her to quality assurance measures which entail standard setting and development. She has a grasp of those subject matters mentioned above from a national South African and global perspective and understands the interfaces and symbiotic interlinkages.

Ms Rachel Matshoba

29

NAMIBIAN COLLEGE OF OPEN LEARNING (NAMCOL)
Jetu Jama
2031 INDEPENDENCE AVENUE, KATUTURA, WINDHOEK, NAMIBIA