

Media Advisory

The 3rd International Conference on Higher Education Teaching, Learning and Student Support.

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The University of South Africa (Unisa) will hold the 3rd International Conference on Higher Education Teaching, Learning and Student Support at its Muckleneuk Campus in Pretoria on 04 – 08 May 2026, under the theme: “

Hope through Transformation: Advancing Sustainability, Inclusion, and Digital Innovation in Higher Education Practices”.

ITLC 2026 aims to bring together higher education professionals, researchers, and policymakers to address current challenges and opportunities in teaching and learning. Building on the previous conference, it focuses on transforming crises into opportunities for innovation, inclusion, and hope, especially through the use of digital technologies and Artificial Intelligence (AI) to create accessible and equitable learning environments.

The conference emphasises sustainability in a broad sense, including environmental, educational, and institutional well-being, alongside transformation through inclusive, decolonised, and human-centred practices. It seeks to address the challenges facing HE in the realm of resilience, transformation, artificial intelligence (AI), sustainability, digital inclusivity, and hope..

Ultimately, ITLC 2026 is designed to inspire practical change by showcasing innovative teaching methods, inclusive digital practices, and real-world applications of AI, helping institutions move toward more cohesive, equitable, and empowered learning communities.

ITLC 2026 is aimed at providing a robust and safe platform for HE practitioners, researchers, and allied stakeholders to explore, learn, contest, and share innovative, inclusive, and human-centred approaches/practices to teaching, learning, and student support. The conference will be focused on invoking best practices, debates, and discourses around inclusive digital technologies, AI, sustainable development, and transformation to create resilient, responsive, and wellness-oriented learning environments.

The Keynote Speakers include Professor Puleng LenkaBula, Principal and Vice-Chancellor (PVC) of Unisa and the institution’s first woman leader, is a leading feminist ethicist whose work spans social ethics, ecology, and Ubuntu. She is joined by Dr Azwinndini Christopher Tshivhase, Acting Vice Principal for Teaching, Learning, Community Engagement and Student Support (TLCESS) at Unisa, an expert in curriculum transformation and digital education, and Professor Thabo Msibi, Deputy Vice Chancellor (DVC) at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, a respected scholar in curriculum studies and gender in education, Dr Mokwi Morgan Maphutha, a Deputy Director for Teacher Education: DHET.

The programme also features pre-conference workshops targeted for Masters and Doctoral candidates and also a discourse from diverse group of academic leaders, researchers, and



practitioners from across Africa and globally, including experts in teacher education, digital learning, language and decolonial studies, psychology, and work-integrated learning (WIL). Together, they bring extensive experience in HE leadership, research, innovation, and policy, contributing to critical conversations on transformation, inclusion, sustainability, and the future of teaching and learning. Furthermore,

Members of the media are invited to attend and cover the conference as follows:

Date: 04 – 08 May 2026

Time: 08:00 – 16:00

Venue: ZK Mathews Great Hall, 2nd Floor, Winnie Madikizela-Mandela Building, Muckleneuk Campus, Pretoria.

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For RSVP's and interviews requests, please contact Unisa Senior Media Officers: Mr Tommy Huma on 072 218 6197 / 012 429 3981 / humartm@unisa.ac.za OR Mr Edgar Rathelele on 063 731 5456 / 012 429 3981 / ratheme@unisa.ac.za

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