



# 2025 Annual UNISA Research & Innovation Postgraduate Student Showcase

## Call for Abstracts

**Theme:**  
**“Relevant African Innovation”**

**Closing Date: 19 September 2025**

The College of Graduate Studies, in collaboration with the Directorate of Innovation, Technology Transfer, and Commercialisation and UNISA National Student Representative Council (NSRC), invites all 2025 registered Masters and Doctoral UNISA students to submit one abstract (**only 1 page**) per student to be considered for presentation at the Annual UNISA Research & Innovation Postgraduate Student Showcase, scheduled for **18 November 2025** during the UNISA Innovation Festival scheduled for **17 – 21 November 2025**.

### OVERVIEW

Africa has been a hub for innovation with a history of indigenous knowledge and creativity. The continent has produced cutting-edge research and innovation, positively impacting the communities and driving effective development, economic growth, technology advancement and entrepreneurship. UNISA has ten catalytic niche areas that will assist postgraduate to align their projects to address the needs of their society.

The 2025 Annual UNISA Research & Innovation Postgraduate Student Showcase aims for UNISA Masters and Doctoral students from all colleges to showcase solutions that address critical needs and challenges faced by our local communities. Postgraduate students will present their innovative findings and ideas while networking with peers, reputable academics and industry leaders.

Table 1: Students are invited to submit abstracts in any of the following disciplines

Discipline	Colleges
Arts and Humanities	CHS
Natural and Physical Sciences	CAES and CSET
Social Sciences	CAS, CEDU, CEMS, CLAW and SBL

#### ELIGIBILITY

- **Only** the 2025 UNISA postgraduate students registered for the Masters or Doctoral qualification.
- Research and innovations directly aligned with the theme “Relevant African Innovation”, offering a distinctive focus on the societal impact of your research.
- Prospective postgraduate student participants have not previously taken part in the Annual UNISA Research & Innovation Postgraduate Student Showcase under their current registered qualification
- UNISA staff studying through UNISA are not allowed to participate.

#### SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

- All submissions should be in **Arial, 11pt and 1.5-spaced**.
- Name and surname
- Student number
- The project title should be included in the abstract. (**Note that the title cannot be changed after submitting.**)
- Registered qualification and discipline (as indicated in **Table 1**). **Do not submit encrypted documents that will need passwords.**
- Articulate research objectives, methodology, key findings, and Impact and implications of the project (**Candidates who have not collected data are ineligible**).
- Fully and accurately complete the showcase submission form to be found on the link <https://forms.office.com/r/nHLKmqmQaK>
- Attached 1: Proof of registration
- Attached 2: ID/Passport copy

#### KEY DATES

- Closing date for the submission of the participation form: **19 September 2025**
- Training (provided the abstract is accepted): **15 October 2025**
- Mentorship (only for postgraduate students who attended the training): **4 – 5 November 2025**
- Attendance of the 2025 Innovation Festival: **17 – 21 November 2025**
- Presentation date of participants: **18 November 2025**
- Award Ceremony: **21 November 2025**

#### EVALUATION CRITERIA

- Originality and alignment with the theme
- Scientific innovation and potential societal impact.
- Rigour in research methodology and results
- Overall quality of the submission

## AWARDS

- Best oral presentation: Certificate and monetary award
- First runner-up oral presentation: Certificate and monetary award
- Second runner-up oral presentation: Certificate and monetary award

## RECOGNITION

- Best research presentation
- Most innovative solution and societal impact
- Outstanding interdisciplinary approach

## HOW TO SUBMIT

1. Visit our official website at <https://www.unisa.ac.za/Showcase>
2. Complete the submission form, ensuring all documents and materials adhere to the stated guidelines.
3. An acknowledgement email will confirm the successful submission.
4. Scan the QR link or click on: <https://forms.office.com/r/nHLKmqmQaK>

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**For further details, clarifications, or  
technical assistance, kindly contact us at:**

[showcase@unisa.ac.za](mailto:showcase@unisa.ac.za)