

## 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Academic Development Symposium

Unisa Western Cape Region - Cape Town

**Date: 11-12 September 2024**

### **Unpacking the intersection between academic support, co-curricular activities, and graduateness**

#### **Preamble**

In higher education, the discussion surrounding effective forms of academic support, the role of co-curricular activities, and the elusive concept of "graduateness" holds a central place in decision-making spaces related to effective forms of academic support. The dynamic and ever-changing environments of the 21st century, characterised by rapid technological advancements, increased accessibility, diverse student demographics, and evolving ideas of employability, require a deeper exploration of these intersecting domains. As Maxwell and Armellini (2019) point out, the concept of "graduateness" remains fluid, lacking a universally accepted definition or standardised framework for recognition. Instead, it encompasses a range of competencies that are perceived to align with the demands of today's workforce, with variations across institutions and global contexts (Warwick, 2016).

Amidst this complexity, co-curricular activities emerge as a significant catalyst for fostering the attributes essential for graduateness. These activities, which go beyond the formal academic curriculum, provide invaluable opportunities for students to develop vital skills, perspectives, and attitudes that promote both personal and professional growth. Whether through community engagement, leadership roles, cultural immersion, or entrepreneurial ventures, co-curricular experiences play a crucial role in shaping well-rounded individuals equipped for the challenges of the contemporary world.

Against this backdrop, this year's symposium aims to serve as a platform for the exchange of insights, best practices, and transformative experiences, aimed at enriching graduateness across diverse student cohorts.

Join us as we navigate the intersections of academic support, co-curricular engagement, and graduateness with purpose and passion.

For more information contact [ctntut@unisa.ac.za](mailto:ctntut@unisa.ac.za)

Link to join online: [tinyurl.com/2ktv75mj](https://tinyurl.com/2ktv75mj)

Provisional Programme

Programme Director: Dr Nicky Tjano  
Office of the VP: TLCESS Unisa

Wednesday, 11 September 2024		
Time	Topic / Item	Presenter / Facilitator
08h30 - 08h45	<a href="#">Welcome</a>	Acting Regional Director Western Cape
08h45 - 09h00	<a href="#">Opening Address</a>	<b>Prof Moroka Mogashoa</b> Acting Deputy Registrar
09h00 - 9h45	<a href="#">Keynote Address 1</a>	<b>Prof Meahabo Magano</b> Executive Director: Tuition and Facilitation of Learning
09h45 - 10h30	<a href="#">Keynote Address 2</a>	<b>Dr Kelebogile Makhetha</b> Senior Director of the Division for Student Affairs at Stellenbosch University
10h30 - 10h45	<a href="#">Questions and Answer</a>	
10h45 - 11h00	Tea	
Parallel Sessions		
Venue: B01	Venue: B02	Venue: B1-41
Chair: Vuyiswa Ngalo	Chair: Nicole Alexander	Chair: Musa Mavundla
Theme	Theme	Theme
<b>Integrating Academic and co-curricular activities in higher education</b>	<b>Community engagement and social innovation</b>	<b>Strategies to empower students for gradueness and global citizenship</b>
Enhancing student professional development through a Student Mentor Programme as co-curricular activity: A Pilot Study at an ODeL environment.  <b>Dr Shariefa Hendricks</b> <b>Dr Matome Jack Mashiapata</b> [11h15-11h45]	<a href="#">Community Engagement for Transformation: A pilot outreach programme on the Cape Flats.</a>  <b>Dr Bako Nyikun Audu</b> <b>Dr Mark Herbert</b> [11h15-11h45]	<a href="#">Preparing students for a diverse and international working environment: Addressing graduate attributes in the module Intercultural Communication</a>  <b>Faika Haroun</b> [11h15-11h45]
<a href="#">A Transformational Multidisciplinary Approach to Postgraduate Development</a> <b>Dr Ghouwa Ismail</b> [11h15-11h45] Venue B03		
Mentor perspectives on the first-year guide that we created for our mentoring programme  <b>Prof. Dale Taylor</b> <b>Mohammed Kajee</b> <b>Naseera Moosa</b> <b>Tsatsawini Mnisi</b> [11h50-12h20]	<a href="#">The role of higher education institutions in community engagement and social innovation in South Africa</a>  <b>Prof Dumisani Quiet Mabunda</b> [11h50-12h20]	<a href="#">Private Colleges vs Public Academic Spaces: Conversations on the Industry Readiness of Graduates.</a>  <b>Dr Carol Edson</b> [11h50-12h20]
How does humanising pedagogy shape the understanding of student leadership development in Higher education?  <b>Phumza Khwezilomso Qwaqwa</b> [12h25-12h55]	Evaluating the success of South African Law Enforcement in combating drug and substance abuse: Are we winning the fight?  <b>Mokopane Marakalala</b> [12h25-12h55]	<a href="#">‘It takes a village to produce a graduate’: Creating communities of learning through a first-year developmental course.</a>  <b>Bonani Dube</b> [12h25-12h55]
13h00-13h30	Plenary, closing, and word of thanks	
13h30-14h30	Lunch and Networking	

Thursday, 12 September 2024		
Time	Topic / Item	Presenter / Facilitator
08h30 - 08h45	<a href="#">Welcome and Opening Remarks</a>	Acting Regional Director Western Cape
08h45 - 9h15	Recapping of Day 1	<b>Dr Nicky Tjano</b> Programme Director
09h15 - 10h00	<a href="#">Keynote Address 2</a>	<b>Mr Kiewet Mhlongo</b> Acting Provincial Manager Small Enterprise Development Agency
10h00- 10h30	Questions and Answer	
10h30 - 11h00	Tea	
Parallel Sessions		
Venue: B01	Venue: B02	Venue: B1-41
Chair: Lesego Mothowagae	Chair: Diane Coetzee	Chair: Masegare Phaahla
Theme	Theme	Theme
Learning support strategies in higher education	Community engagement and social innovation	Strategies to empower students for gradueness and global citizenship
<a href="#">The Impact of Covid-19 and lockdown on students' lived realities at a South African University: Adopting a pedagogy of hope to realise the social purpose of higher education</a>  <b>Dr Venicia McGhie</b> [11h15-11h45]	Advancing adult learning and development in the red-zone districts of the Cape Flats: Inclusion and educational mobility through an Adult Night School initiative  <b>Yumna Alexander</b> [11h15-11h45]	<a href="#">Enhancing Postgraduate Success: Unveiling Innovative Academic Support Strategies in a Residential University Setting</a>  <b>Giles Stevens</b> [11h15-11h45]
<a href="#">Enhancing Physics Learning through the Problem Set-Tutorial Test Cycle</a>  <b>Dr Mark Herbert</b> <b>Dr Bako Nyikun Audu</b> [11h50-12h20]	Social media platforms as alternate pedagogical spaces: The integration of TikTok to facilitate English language development in formal learning environments  <b>Cohen Charles</b> [11h50-12h20]	<a href="#">From Student to Professional: How the Unisa Law Clinic transforms legal education</a>  <b>Reckon Beau Mathebula</b> [11h50-12h20]
<a href="#">Creating flexible opportunities in ODeL: Exploring the need for personalised learning experiences through monitoring and staff participation in distance learning</a>  <b>Rodney Mabusela</b> <b>Clifford Itumeleng Molefe</b> [12h25-12h55]	Revolutionising Justice: How the Incarceration Nations Network is Pioneering Transformative Prison Reform  <b>Kofi Danso</b> [12h25-12h55]	<a href="#">Bridging the Gap: Enhancing Graduate Attributes through Co-Curricular Engagement at a Distance Learning University</a>  <b>Chantal Adams</b> [12h25-12h55]
13h00 - 13h30	Plenary, closing, and word of thanks	
13h30 - 14h30	Lunch and Networking	