



# 7. Natural Sciences (Biotechnological studies)

## INVITATION: Working Group

1. Marine Studies, 2. Aviation and Aeronautical Studies, 3. Automotive, 4. Energy, 5. Space Study and Square Kilometer Array, 6. Fourth Industrial Revolution and Digitalisation, 7. **Natural Sciences (Biotechnological studies)**, 8. Health Studies/Medicine, 9. Feminist, Womanist, Bosadi Theorisations, 10. Student Support and Co-Curricular Activities.

## Working Group Session

You are cordially invited to the 1st 2025 series of CGS-facilitated Catalytic Niche Area Working Group meetings. The theme for series 1 is "Revisiting Catalytic Niche Area Relevance and Responsiveness With a 2025 Catalytic Niche Area Needs Assessment". In addition to serving a 2025 catalytic niche area agenda setting purpose, this series will tease out the scholarly and social power and potential of treating research excellence and efficacy as dynamics that can and should operate simultaneously rather than as mutually exclusive. In preparation for the session, please email your preliminary responses to the questions below to Prof Jessica Murray at [murraj@unisa.ac.za](mailto:murraj@unisa.ac.za) before the meeting:

- What are your catalytic niche area optimisation support needs?
- How, in your opinion, can UNISA's catalytic niche area interventions serve needs beyond academia, particularly the needs of stakeholders in industry, government, policy development think tanks, and civil society?
- Do you have specific questions about this catalytic niche area you would like us to address?

To anchor our discussion about relevant and responsive research, please consult the following reading:  
Verre, V., Milesi, D. and Petelski, N. (2023). "New Capacities and Enhanced Research Agenda for Science: Exploring Relational Cooperation with Industry" in *Knowledge and Process Management: The Journal of Corporate Transformation* 30 (4): 434-445.  
<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1002/kpm.1758>



**Monday, 31 March 2025**  
**11:00 – 12:00**

**REGISTER HERE**

<https://forms.office.com/r/1Ze4qPtPWU>

**FACILITATORS:**

Prof Stefan Schepers &  
Prof Jessica Murray

