

RESEARCH AND INNOVATION HYBRID CONFERENCE

15 -17 August 2023

Emperors Palace, Kempton Park, South Africa

ODeL in the Global South

Opportunities in times of volatility,
uncertainty, complexity, and
ambiguity (VUCA)

Define tomorrow.



Joint hosts:

Research, Postgraduate Studies, Innovation and Commercialisation
UNESCO Chair on Open Distance Learning



ANNOUNCEMENT OF CALL FOR PAPERS

in ODeL research and innovation for the

**2023 Open Distance
and eLearning (ODeL) Hybrid Conference**

15-17 August 2023

**Onsite: Emperors Place, Kempton Park, South Africa
Broadcast live**

Papers are invited from both established and emergent academics, researchers and scholars for the Unisa Research and Innovation 2023 Open Distance and eLearning hybrid conference (in person and broadcast), which will be held from 15-17 August 2023 (pre-conference workshops 14 August). The aim of the conference is to encourage discourse about research in open distance and elearning (ODeL) in a globally connected digital era.

I. Conference Theme

ODeL in the Global South

Opportunities in times of volatility, uncertainty, complexity, and ambiguity (VUCA)

II. Sub-themes

Specific sub-themes delegates might want to consider include, but are not limited to, the following:

- 4IR - Artificial Intelligence, robotics, internet of things, block chain technology and smart software
- Addressing the digital divide
- Education and the Metaverse
- The datafication of teaching, learning and student support
- Platformisation and commercialisation
- Micro credentialing
- New learning technologies and its impact on pedagogies
- Increasing access to educational opportunities, inclusivity
- Opening education, science, and publishing
- ODeL postgraduate supervision
- Academic integrity in a ODeL context
- Student support in an online environment
- Human resource management in ODeL
- Support for staff wellness in ODeL

III. Conference Structure

- Pre-conference workshops (14 August) – proposals invited
- Plenary sessions with keynote addresses by invited speakers
- Panel discussions where invited experts will debate topical and pertinent ODeL research issues
- Scheduled breakaway sessions of full paper presentations; work-in-progress and shorter papers will also be considered
- An ODeL Postgraduate Student Consortium
- Icebreaker and networking session – 15 August 2023
- Gala dinner – 16 August 2023

IV. Important Dates

Call announcement	5 February 2023
Second call for papers	13 March 2023
Final call for papers (reminder)	17 April 2023
Deadline for workshop proposal titles	14 April 2023
Conference registration opens	2 May 2023
Deadline for extended 1000-word paper extract	31 May 2023
Deadline paper submission for ODeL Postgraduate Student Consortium	31 May 2023
Notification of paper acceptance and feedback	21 June 2023
Notification of workshop proposal acceptance	21 June 2023
Notification of paper acceptance for ODeL Postgraduate Student Consortium	21 June 2023

Submission of paper for presentation	18 July 2023
Pre-conference workshops	14 August 2023
Conference	15-17 August 2023
Final chapter submissions from authors wishing to have their chapters considered for publication in the ODeL 2023 book	15 September 2023

V. Ethical and Scholarly Etiquette

- The Research and Innovation Conference is organised as a scholarly event.
- The papers submitted for presentation will be reviewed through the ScienceOpen platform.
- Selected quality papers will be invited to submit papers for a book. More details regarding the format and submission process will be communicated in 2023.

To register your interest or for more information please contact: odelconference@unisa.ac.za

NOTE: Kindly cc Prof Moeketsi Letseka, Project Leader: UNESCO Chair on Open Distance Learning in all correspondence: letsekamoeketsi66@gmail.com