

# 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)

## Provisional programme

### Wednesday, 11 September 2024

Programme Director: Dr Nicky Tjano

Teaching and Learning Strategy, Projects, and Portfolio Performance

Office of the VP: TLCESS

Time	Topic / Item	Presenter / Facilitator
08h30 - 08h45	Welcome	Regional Director Western Cape
08h45 - 09h00	Opening Remarks	Acting Deputy Registrar
09h00-9h45	Keynote Address 1	<b>Prof MD Magano</b> Executive Director: Tuition and Facilitation of Learning
09h45-10h30	Keynote Address 2	<b>Dr KC Makhetha</b> Senior Director of the Division for Student Affairs at Stellenbosch University
10h30-10h45	Questions and Answer	
10h45-11h00	<b>Tea</b>	
11h00- 13h00 (9 x 1 hour parallel sessions)	<b>Practice-based workshops</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Entrepreneurship</li> <li>• Community Engagement</li> <li>• Work Integrated Learning</li> <li>• Skills-based academic support</li> <li>• Learning support strategies?</li> </ul>	
13h00-14h00	<b>Lunch and Networking</b>	
14h00-15h00	Closing and Word of Thanks	

## Thursday, 12 September 2024

Programme Director:

Time	Topic / Item	Presenter / Facilitator
08h30 - 08h45	Welcome and Opening Remarks	Regional Director Western Cape
08h45 - 09h30	Keynote Address 2	<i>Someone from the world of work/ industry to address competencies required in the workplace.</i>
09h30-10h15	Respondent to Keynote address 2	Speaker to be identified from one of the HEI in the Western Cape
10h15-10h45	Questions and Answer	
10h45-11h15	<b>Tea</b>	
11h15-11h45	Parallel session (x 3)	
11h50-12h20	Parallel session (x 3)	
12h25-12h55	Parallel session (x 3)	
13h00-14h00	<b>Lunch and Networking</b>	
14h00-15h00	Plenary, closing, and word of thanks	