



# TEACHING & LEARNING BEST PRACTICE CONFERENCE

REDEFINING TEACHING, LEARNING, AND ASSESSMENT:  
DRIVING STUDENT SUCCESS IN THE DIGITAL AGE

Emerald Hotel Vanderbijlpark, 26 - 27 May 2026

[Click here to participate](#)

Call for presentations at the NWU Teaching and Learning **Best Practice Conference** that will be held on 26 and 27 May 2026.

The NWU Teaching and Learning **Best-Practices Conference** of 2026 aims to bring together academic and professional support staff in a collaborative space to showcase and exchange practical, innovative teaching, learning, and assessment practices in higher education, with a strong emphasis on entrepreneurship and classroom impact that stimulates their students' curiosity about their studies and the world of work.

The NWU Teaching and Learning Best Practice Conference will be hosted under the theme “**Redefining Teaching, Learning, and Assessment: Driving Student Success in the Digital Age.**” The conference will place a particular focus on how the new learning management system (LMS) can be integrated to enhance student engagement and learning.

To ensure the conference highlights impactful and relevant practices from across the institution, we would like to invite academic staff who champion teaching and learning to share examples of their work. The proposed focus areas include:

- Technology-enabled and blended learning practices using the LMS
- Student success and engagement in a digital era
- Fostering graduate attributes and innovation in teaching and learning
- Integration of artificial intelligence in teaching, learning, and assessment
- Leadership and mentorship in Teaching and Learning

We invite proposals in a variety of interactive and engaging formats that support sharing ideas, innovations, and practices in Teaching and Learning (T&L).

### **1. Conference Presentations – Best Practices in Teaching & Learning**

Presentations may focus on the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL), best practices in T&L, new ideas, or innovative approaches. Each presentation will be 15 minutes, followed by 5 minutes for questions.

### **2. Lightning Talks (5min)**

Each person may share 1–3 slides highlighting one idea or insight.

**Focus on:** What you tried, what worked, and what you learned.

### **3. Digital Posters with Live Pitches**

Presenters share their work through a digital poster accompanied by a brief live 2-minute pitch.

- Posters will be **accessible via QR code**
- Participants are encouraged to **continue discussions during the breaks**

### **4. “Show, Don’t Tell” Demonstrations**

Presenters will run a 10–15 minute demonstration as students would experience it, followed by about five minutes for discussion.

#### **Examples:**

- A 10-minute active learning activity
- A digital tool used *as students would experience it*
- A short assessment feedback technique

### **5. Fishbowl Conversations**

A collaborative discussion format designed to explore complex or potentially controversial themes in teaching and learning.

#### **Format:**

- Four chairs in the centre for the active discussion group
- Outer circle observes and listens
- One open chair allows participants to rotate into the discussion
- Final 10 minutes: whole-group synthesis and reflections

## Selection Criteria

The committee aims to curate a balanced and engaging program that showcases a range of perspectives, disciplines, and session formats.

Proposals will be reviewed by the conference committee using the following criteria:

- Alignment with the conference theme and to Teaching and Learning in higher education.
- Clarity and focus of the proposal and intended outcomes.
- Contribution to the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL), best practices, or innovation.
- Practical value for participants and potential for application in different contexts.
- Engagement and interactivity, where appropriate to the format.
- Diversity of perspectives and approaches across the conference programme.
- The conference committee will seek representation from all 3 campuses.

**Please submit your presentation proposals here by 2 April 2026:**

<https://forms.office.com/r/yGHuLTkKFB>

*\*You must be signed into your NWU Microsoft account to access the form.*

## Contact the conference team with any questions:

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Regards

*RETHA SERFONTEIN*

Retha Serfontein

Conference Coordinator

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