



TEACHING & LEARNING BEST PRACTICE CONFERENCE

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

Emerald Hotel Vanderbijlpark, 26 - 27 May 2026

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

Day 1: 26 May 2026

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 08:00-09:00 | Registration and Coffee & Tea | |
| 09:00-09:30 | Prof Linda Du Plessis, Prof Mpho Chaka & Dr Esmarie Strydom | Welcome and Opening Master of Ceremonies: Prof Lerato Mdaka |
| 09:30-09:50 | Prof Re-an Müller & Ms Nicolene van Rooyen | “Show, Don’t Tell”: ELEVATE (Enhancing Learning and Engagement with Virtual Authentic Training Experiences) |
| 09:50-10:35 | Dr Mari Van Wyk, University of Pretoria | Keynote Address: Mirror, mirror on the wall, what influences the experience of them all? Subtitle: Mob mentality, Performance engagement, and virtual reality in postgraduate online learning |
| Fostering graduate attributes and innovation in teaching and learning | | |
| 10:35-10:55 | Prof Alwiena Blignaut | “Show, Don’t Tell”: Level up learning: Game-based teaching |
| 10:55-11:05 | Dr Janien Linde | Lightning Talk: Found Poetry as Creative Learning Opportunity: An Experiment in Multimodal Teaching |
| 11:05-11:30 | Body break | |
| 11:30-11:50 | Dr Chilombo Banda | Presentation: Press Play Using Game Shows to Transform Mass Communication Pedagogy |
| 11:50-12:10 | Mr Aphiwe Ntloko | “Show, Don’t Tell”: Empowering First-Year Social Work Students: Experiential Learning and Self-Awareness for Transformative Education |
| 12:10-12:30 | Mr Koos De Villiers, Dr Anette Degenaar & Ms Thato Zethi | Presentation: Bridging Theory and Practice: Enhancing Graduate Employability through Industry-Linked Social Media Projects |

Day 1: 26 May 2026 (Continued)

| | | |
|-------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| 12:30-12:50 | Prof Catrien Wentink | Presentation: Using movement and culturally responsive teaching to satisfy the needs of Self-determination theory in my music theory classes. |
| 12:50-13:00 | Prof Anneke Moolman & Ms Estie Lubbe | Lightning Talk: Guest Lectures in Assurance Education: Exploring PGDA Students' Learning Experiences and Perceptions |
| 13:00-13:10 | Dr Werner Gresse | Lightning Talk: Pedagogy of discomfort in the Labour Relations classroom: Teaching uncomfortable and controversial themes |
| 13:10-13:20 | Mr Charl Gertse | Lightning Talk: From Item Analysis to Peer Learning: Innovating Assessment for Student Success |
| 13:20-13:40 | Prof Yvonne-Marié Brand | Lightning Talk: Fostering graduate attributes through community-embedded brass pedagogy |

13:40-14:25 Lunch

Integration of artificial intelligence in teaching, learning, and assessment

| | | |
|-------------|---|---|
| 14:25-14:45 | Ms Musa Masiza, Prof Vicki Koen & Dr Tamlynn Jefferis | Presentation: MindJoy AI Tutor: Advancing Guidance in Proposal and Report Writing for Psychology Honours Students |
| 14:45-15:05 | Dr Estie Gresse | Presentation: Blending AI with Case Law Summaries in Problem-Based Family Law Learning: A Pedagogical Approach to Student Success |
| 15:05-15:25 | Ms Eunice Pretorius & Ms Fotiene Avrakotos-King | "Show, Don't Tell": Using Coding & Robotics to Promote Learning Engagement Across Modules |
| 15:25-15:35 | Dr Nombuso Zondo | Lightning Talk: From Formula to Meaning: Using Data to Develop Statistical Thinking |
| 15:35-16:20 | Prof Anné Verhoef | Fishbowl Conversation: New Opportunities and Challenges of AI for Teaching and Learning |

Leadership and mentorship in Teaching and Learning

| | | |
|-------------|--|---|
| 16:20-16:30 | Mrs Mittah Malebo Magodiello, Mr Rodney Nel & Dr Oliver Gore | Digital Poster (click to view): Peer mentors' experiences of supporting first-year students in a South African University |
| 16:30-16:40 | Dr Manuela Fernandes-Martins & Dr Musara Lubombo | Lightning Talk: Reimagining SoTL in Contexts: Insights from a South African Multi-Institutional Benchmarking Study |
| 16:40-17:00 | Dr Asiphe Mxalisa | Invited Talk: Reimagining Classroom Mentorship as Collective Care, Not Invisible Labour |

17:00-17:10 Q&A, Summary, **Cocktail and Dinner function follows at 17:30**

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

Day 2: 27 May 2026

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 08:00-08:30 | Registration and Coffee & Tea | |
| 08:30-08:45 | NWU LIS | Invited Talk: NWU Library Robot |
| 08:45-09:15 | Prof Chantel Muller | Invited Talk: Realities Worth Teaching In: A Cross-Faculty Exploration of Meta Quest 3 as an Immersive Teaching Tool |
| 09:15-10:00 | Ms Amanda Jankowitz, Wits University | Keynote Address: From Clicks to Quests: Using Game Design to Drive Student Success in the LMS Era |
| 10:00-10:20 | Dr Nisa Ayob & Dr Raymond Emekako | Invited Talk: When Students Stop Guessing: How Transparency and Real-World Learning Transform Engagement and Success in Higher Education |
| Student success and engagement in a digital era | | |
| 10:20-10:40 | Ms Phakamile Mazibuko | “Show, Don’t Tell”: From Text to Audio-Visual Learning: Using NotebookLM Podcast and Video to Enhance Student Engagement in Higher Education |
| 10:40-11:00 | Prof Mignon van Vreden & Prof Carolina Botha | Presentation: Playing with Purpose: Embodied Reflection for Teacher Identity Development in Higher Education |
| 11:00-11:20 | Mr Winsent Saunders | Presentation: Putting tax knowledge into action: Student perceptions of a tax simulation project to develop Professional Values, Attitudes and Acumens |
| 11:20-11:30 | Dr Luce Pretorius | Digital Poster (click to view): Expectation vs reality: rethinking how we prepare students for practice-based learning |
| 11:30-11:55 | Body break | |
| 11:55-12:15 | Dr Rochelle Marais-Botha, Prof Carisma Nel & Prof Elma Marais | “Show, Don’t Tell”: Enhancing Teacher Preparation through Mixed Reality Simulation: A Team Teaching Approach |
| 12:15-12:25 | Mr Gerhard Rodgers, Dr Shanae Theunissen, Dr Luce Pretorius & Dr Christiaan Bekker | Lightning Talk: Beyond content: scaffolding professional identity in Psychology |
| 12:25-12:35 | Ms Phathiswa Moyo | Lightning Talk: Using Tools to present work readiness and accounting |
| 12:35-12:45 | Mr Othusitse Maunatlala and Mr Ofentse Ngake | Lightning Talk: Rethinking Assessment in Collaborative Learning Environments: Ensuring Fairness, Accountability, and Student Success in the Digital Age |

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

Day 2: 27 May 2026 (Continued)

Technology-enabled and blended learning practices using the LMS

| | | |
|-------------|--|---|
| 12:45-13:30 | Prof Tiny du Toit, Mr Rudi Serfontein, Ms Tanja Eksteen & Mr Nathan Morgenrood | Fishbowl Conversation: iTrack: Taking attendance using a student card reader |
| 13:30-14:30 | Lunch | |
| 14:30-14:50 | Prof Martin Chanza | Presentation: Exploring the Relationships Between Student Perceptions, Engagement, and Learning Outcomes in Time Series Forecasting Using Animations: A Structural Equation Modeling Approach |
| 14:50-15:10 | Ms Selaelo Nonky Ramohoeba | "Show, Don't Tell": Scaling Engagement in Large Physics Labs: A Blended Learning Approach. |
| 15:10-15:30 | Ms Lulama Mabala, Dr Yolanda Stevens & Dr Cornelia Schreck | Presentation: From Silos to Synergy: Integrating Modules and LMS Design to Cultivate Graduate Attributes |
| 15:30-15:50 | Ms Mianda Erasmus, Ms Tebogo Matlou, Mr Lawrence Mamabolo, Ms Beandra Viljoen & Ms Roané du Preez | Presentation: Responding to the Challenges of the Digital Era: Blended and Technology-Enabled Practices in Large Class First-Year Psychology Teaching |
| 15:50-16:10 | Ms Tarryn Williams, Mr Kobus Le Roux, Mr Gene Mathey, Prof Lida Holtzhausen, Dr Musara Lubombo & Ms Skyler Pedro | Panel Discussion: Click, Build, Prepare: Lecturer Experiences from the NWU Learning Management System Pilot |
| 16:10-16:20 | Ms Nomthandazo Msimango, Mr Ace Tyu & Ms Tarryn Willaims | "Show, Don't Tell": To Infinity and Beyond: Transforming Teaching & Learning with ACADEX |
| 16:20-16:40 | Ms Zingisa Ngwane, Ms Letshego Harejane & Ms Orefile Malebo | "Show, Don't Tell": Aligned for Impact: Applying Constructive Alignment in LMS Design to Enhance Learning in the Digital Age |
| 16:40-16:50 | Q&A, Summary, End of day 2 | |



Click on the QR code or [here](#) to leave any questions or comments for the presenters