

SOUTH AFRICAN ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC
ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT

25th ANNUAL CONFERENCE

PROGRAMME

27 September - 03 October 2026

Durban International Convention Centre

Conference Theme

Growth and Sustainability through Improved Governance: Reimagining
Institutions, Leadership and Development in a Changing World

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Masters and PHD Colloquium And Workshop (09:00-13:00)
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Sessions

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Excursion & Community Project



POTJIEKOS

Competition

Time: 10:00-16:00

Venue: TBC

Chair: TBC

UNISA

VS

DPSA

NSG

VS

UNIZULU

SAAPAM

VS

PSETA

TUT

VS

DPME

DUT

VS

MUT

PSC

VS

KZN GOVERNMENT

Sunday, 27 September 2026

DAY 1 Registration & Workshops

REGISTRATION

Sunday, 07:00-16:00 | Monday, 08:00-13:00 | Tuesday, 08:00-13:00

Municipal Manager's Panel

Venue: TBA | Time: 09:00- 11:00 | Chair: Ms Nomfundo Faith Dlamini

Dr Risenge Shilenge | Collins Chabane Local Municipality Manager

Dr Moatlhodi Dilotsotlhe | Provincial Executive Representative In the City of Matlosana

Dr Jasper Ngobeni | Bushbuckridge Local Municipality Manager

Mr Edward Jantjies | Overstraand Local Municipality Manager

WORKSHOPS

Masters and PHD Colloquium and Workshop

09:00 - 13:00

- 30 Seats
- Grants and Funding
- Rating
- Partnership and Visits
- Research Contract Work

tsulufelo@saapam.co.za
5 CPD Points to be allocated

Research Writing

09:00-13:00

- 30 seats available
To confirm for this workshop.
Send the email to

reamogetse@saapam.co.za

5 CPD Points to be allocated

Policy Brief, Media Training and OpEd writing clinic

09:00-13:00

- 30 seats available
To confirm for this workshop.
Send the email to

lazarus@saapam.co.za

5 CPD Points to be allocated

PANEL DISCUSSION | Theme: Future Of South Africa

Time: 11:00-13:00 | Venue: To be announced | Chair: Prof Busani Ngcaweni



Ms Thembi
Simelane

Minister of Human
Settlement



Dr Mmusi Maimane

Chair of Standing
Committee of
Appropriations



Dr Malusi
Gigaba

Member of
Parliament



Dr Nasiphi Moya

Executive Mayor of
the City Of Tshwane



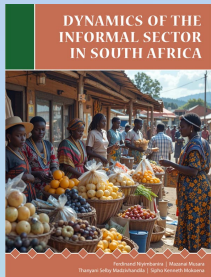
Mr Lukhona
Mnguni

South African
governance, politics
and development
specialist

LUNCH: 13:00-14:00

BOOK LAUNCHES

Time: 14:00-16:00 | Venue: To be announced | Chair: Prof Robert Nkuna



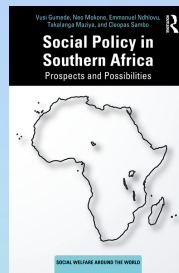
**DYNAMICS OF THE
INFORMAL SECTOR
IN SOUTH AFRICA**

Author: Edited by Ferdinand Niyimbanira;
Mazanai Musara; Thanyani Selby;
Madzivhandila and Sipho Kenneth Mokoena

Publisher: South African Association of Public
Administration and Management
ISBN: 978-1-0492-2377-3

Launch Time: 14h00 - 14h30

Book Link: [Download](#)

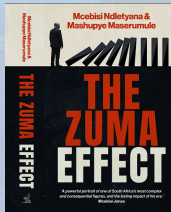


Vusi Gumede, Neo Mokone, Emmanuel Ndhlovu,
Takalanga Maziya and Cleopas Sambo
**Social Policy in
Southern Africa**
Prospects and Possibilities

Author: Vusi Gumede, Neo Mokone, Emmanuel
Ndhlovu, Takalanga Maziya and Cleopas Sambo

Launch Time: 14h30-15h00

Book Link: [Download](#)



Author: Mcebisi Ndletyana &
Mashupye Maserumule

Change the cover

Launch Time: 15h00-15h30

Book Link: [Download](#)



Editors: Busani Ngcaweni, Sinelisiwe Thwala, Ayabulela Diakavu

This book is one of two volumes that examines democracy and politics in South Africa over the last three decades. Bringing together leading scholars and practitioners, the book critically evaluates the successes and challenges of post-apartheid governance, paying particular attention to key issues such as government dysfunction, political corruption, and economic transformation. Multidisciplinary in approach and bridging theory and practice, the book is an essential resource for reimagining South Africa's democratic future. It will appeal to students and scholars of public administration, governance and politics in Africa and beyond, as well as practitioners and policymakers.

Launch Time: 16h00-16h30

Book Link: [Download](#)

WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP

PANEL DISCUSSION

Time: 16:00-17:30 | Venue: To be announced | Chair: Ms Shivanthini Nagalingam-Potter



**Ms. Pinky
Kekana**

Deputy Minister
for Public Service
and
Administration



**Prof Puleng
LenkaBula**

UNISA Principal
&
Vice-Chancellor



**Dr. Sunshine
Myende**

Executive
Chairperson of the
National Youth
Development
Agency (NYDA)



**Ms.
Lindiwe
Rakharebe**

(CEO of
Durban ICC)



**Dr Phathiswa
Magopeng**

Executive Director of
Press Council of
South Africa

WELCOME CEREMONY

Time: 18:00 - 21:00 | Venue: To be announced | Chair: To be announced | Theme: Traditional Attire

Opening and Welcome

Prof Nokukhanya Jili-Mbanjwa, SAAPAM Vice-President

Welcome Address: Mr Cyril Xaba, Executive Mayor of EtheKwini Metropolitan Municipality

MESSAGES FROM PARTNERS

Prof Puleng Lenka Bula: Vice-Chancellor and Principal of the University of South Africa

Prof Nokuthula Winfred Kunene: Vice-Chancellor and Principal of the University of Zululand

Prof Thandwa Mthembu: Vice-Chancellor and Principal of the Durban University of Technology

Prof Tinyiko Maluleke: Vice-Chancellor and Principal of the Tshwane University of Technology

Prof Rushiella Songca: Vice-Chancellor and Principal of the Mangosuthu University of Technology

Adv Melanchton Makobe: DG-Department of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation (DPME)

Mrs Phindile Mkwana: DG National School of Government (NSG)

Dr Kennedy Maimela: Chairperson of Public Service Sector Education & Training Authority (PSETA)

Prof Somadoda Fikeni: Chairperson Public Service Commission (PSC)

Mr Willie Vukela: DG Department of Public Service and Administration (DPSA)

MESSAGES OF SUPPORT FROM GLOBAL FRATERNITY

AAPAM | IASIA | SAAPS | ASPA | Tanzania | China | Russia | India

Address: Inkosi Mzamo Buthelezi | Minister for the Public Service and Administration

Monday, 28 September 2026

DAY 2

Opening Session

Time: 09:00-11:00 | Venue: | Chair: Prof Nokukhanya Jili (Vice-President: SAAPAM)

(09:00 - 09:10) SAAPAM President's Welcome Remarks: Prof Kgothatso Shai

(09:10 - 09:25) Professor Puleng LenkaBula Vice-Chancellor and Principal of the University of South Africa

(09:25 - 09:40) Professor Nokuthula Winfred Kunene Vice-Chancellor and Principal of the University of Zululand

Address

(09:40 - 10:00) Mr Thami Ntuli Premier of KwaZulu-Natal Province

Keynote Address

(10:00 - 10:30 His Excellency, Deputy President of the Republic of South Africa: Mr Paul Mashatile (TBC)

Closure

Director-Generals Panel

Venue: TBA | Time: 11:00-12:00 | Chair: TBA

Mrs Phindile Mkwanazi DG: National School of Government (NSG)

Adv Melanchton Makobe DG-Department of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation (DPME)

Ms Irene Mathenjwa Acting DG- Public Service Commission (PSC)

Mr Willie Vukela DG: Department of Public Service and Administration (DPSA)

Mrs Bontle Lerumo CEO: Public Service Sector - Education & Training Authority (PSETA)

Mr Zukile Mvalo Administrator: Local Government Sector - Education & Training Authority (LGSETA)

Dr. Nkosenye Zulu DG- KwaZulu-Natal Province

Speed Network

Time: 12:00-13:00 | Venue: To be announced | Chair: Mr Nyiko Mabunda

Delegates have an opportunity to engage with various leaders of departments. The Speed Network help delegates to quickly expand their network by facilitating brief, structured interactions with many people in a short amount of time. It's a time-efficient way to make numerous connections, exchange information, and potentially identify future collaborators or partners. Delegates are encouraged to use this opportunity.

LUNCH: 13:00–14:00



Annual General Meeting

Venue: Durban ICC

Time: 14:00-15:00

Chair: Professor Kgothatso Shai

Agenda

- Presidency Report
- Executive Director's Report
- Financial Report

Ambassador's Panel

Venue: TBA | Time: 15:00 - 16:00 | Chair: Ms Karabo Mohale (Commissioner ICASA)

Ms Miao Miao | Consular - General of the People's Republic of China

Ambassador Sibusiso Ndebele | APRM

Ambassador Vuyiswa Tulelo | South African Ambassador to Vietnam

Prof Siphamandla Zondi | University of Johannesburg

Session 1A

Time: 16:00-17:30 | Venue: To be announced | Chair: Dr Nduduzo Ndebele (NWU)

Theme: Economic Growth, Innovation and Regional Development

Full Names	Topic
Galaletsang Monyaki (University of the Free State)	Institutional Friction and Economic Spillovers: A Kinetic Approach to Special Economic Zones (SEZs) in South Africa
Avumile Sigayela (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	Enhancing local economic development strategies to stimulate economic growth in South Africa: A case study of a selected municipality
Ntuthuko Sydwell Lekhuleni (Tshwane University of Technology)	Exploring the Socio-Economic Impact of Foreign National-Owned Spaza Shops on Informal Markets: A Case of Tshwane Metropolitan Municipality
Rhukanani Florence Mabunda (University of South Africa)	Challenges Experienced by Small, Medium and Micro Enterprises in Limpopo: The Case of Limpopo Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Nolizwi Mahlati & Sunjay Balkaran (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	Enhancing Road Accessibility in Nyandeni Local Municipality: Impacts on Commuters and Local Economy

Session 1B

Time: 16:00-17:30 | Venue: To be announced | Chair: Mr Joseph Mudau (TUT)

Theme: Governance, Institutions, Leadership and Decolonisation

Full Names	Topic
Mokgadi Ngoepe-Ntsoane & Sifiso Fana Mdluli (University of South Africa)	The Professionalisation of Extension Services and Its Impact on Agricultural Productivity and Farmer Satisfaction in South Africa
Olaleke Alao & Lusanda Juta (Durban University of Technology)	Re-imagining Governance for Sustainability: Institutional Capacity, Policy Coherence, and Development Consequences in Africa
Olukayode Lasisi & Charlene Roets (University of South Africa)	Auditing and Public Sector Accountability: Evaluating the Effectiveness of Performance Auditing in Enhancing Good Governance in South Africa
Colin Cruywagen (Department of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation)	A conceptual framework for crisis management in national government
Halima Khunoethe (KwaZulu-Natal Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (COGTA))	Bridging the Gap in Early Childhood Development: A Comparative Governance Analysis of South Africa and China

Session 1C Time: 16:00-17:30 Venue: To be announced Chair: Dr Constance Motsitsi (UP) Theme: Development Planning, Service Delivery and Sustainability in Urban and Rural Contexts	
Full Names	Topic
Babalwa Pamla & Zwelinzima Ndevu (Stellenbosch University)	From grassroot up: Community centric planning and traditional leadership in driving sustainable rural development in Mjika kuTsolo, Eastern Cape
Ziyanda Mavovana (Nelson Mandela University)	An Assessment of Community Expectations and Satisfaction with Water Service Delivery in Makana Local Municipality
Francisco Dyantyi (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	Evaluating the Effectiveness of Infrastructure Development Projects in Enhancing Sustainable Service Delivery in Mnquma Local Municipality
Nontandazo Qasha (Alfred Nzo District Municipality)	The effectiveness of ward committees (WCs) as mechanisms for facilitating meaningful public participation in the Integrated Development Planning (IDP) process within Matatiele Local Municipality in the Eastern Cape
Azwihangwisi Faith Muthambi (University of Venda)	A Governance Framework for Achieving Sustainable Livelihoods in Grassroots Communities in Transfrontier Conservation in Southern Africa: The Case for Further Study

Session 1D Time: 16:00-17:30 Venue: To be announced Chair: Dr Terrence Malobela (UFS) Theme: Governance, Institutions, Leadership and Decolonisation	
Full Names	Topic
Gail Abrahams, Sinval Kahn & Xolile Thani (University of South Africa)	Decolonising governance through Ubuntu Led ethical leadership: An Africanised perspective
Lakela Kaunda (National School of Government)	Tracing women's voices as thought leaders in the democratic South Africa: A critical analysis of their representation in State of the Nation Addresses, 1994–2024
Hasani Zitha (University of Venda)	The implications of the concluded court cases on the public procurement process in the South African public sector
Patrick Thabiso Dlomo Nkosinathi Mahlalela (Tshwane University of Technology)	A Call for Government Intervention to Strengthen the Effective Implementation of the SAPS Strategic Plan in Combatting Crime of Armed Robbery at Soshanguve Block L Area: Possible Solutions and Recommendations
Lindi Sindelo Rozenda Hendrickse (Cape Peninsula University of Technology)	Good Governance in Comparative Context: Insights for Strengthening South Africa's Public Sector
Costa Hofisi and Joseph Daitai (North West University and Great Zimbabwe University)	The political economy of digital interoperability and resistance to e-governance within the ministry of local government in Zimbabwe

Session 1E Time: 16:00-17:30 Venue: TBA Chair: Prof Kholofelo Rakubu (TUT) Theme: Mix	
Full Names	Topic
Boipelo Khunou & Tshepiso Ndlovu (Tshwane University of Technology)	Human Rights or Lawlessness? A Critical Assessment of the role of Human Rights Institutions and NGOs in challenging state law enforcement in South Africa
Mduduzi Christopher Ntuli (University of Zululand)	Evaluating Section 139 Intervention in municipal governance. Evidence from a Selected Local Municipality in South Africa
Siviwe Mditshwa (Department of Cooperative Governance & Traditional Affairs)	Clan-Based Leadership and Its Implications for Accountability in South African Public Administration
Lerato Makgolane & Dr Rochelle Wessels (University of South Africa)	The effectiveness of Employment Equity Implementation: The case of Department of Employment and Labour
Buhle Ndoda (University of South Africa)	Violence, Chaos, and Degeneration: Analysing Unemployment and Xenophobic Conflict in South Africa

Session 1F Time: 16:00-17:30 Venue: TBA Chair: Dr Johnny Pieterse (NSG) Theme: Economic Growth, Innovation and Regional Development	
Full Names	Topic
Bramwell Kundishora Gavaza Obrain Tinashe Murire (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	Reimagining township entrepreneurship as a catalyst for inclusive economic growth and innovation in South Africa
Manala Shadrack Maahe (University of Mpumalanga)	Efficacy of Government-funded incubators for women-owned enterprises in Mpumalanga Province
Confidence Ndlovu (University of Mpumalanga)	Street Vending and Local Economic Development: Exploring Informal Innovation in Mbombela Local Municipality, South Africa
Sifundo Mdhluli & Vain Jarbandhan (North-West University and University of Johannesburg)	From Rhetoric to Results: Developing a Framework for Transformative Youth Development in KwaZulu-Natal
Gideon Walter Mutanda (University of South Africa)	Disaster risk management by local governments in the Global South

Session 1G Time: 16:00-17:30 Venue: TBA Chair: Dr Sandiso Mahlala Theme: International Relations, Global Governance and Decolonial Development	
Full Names	Topic
Mndeni Ndwandwe (Tshwane University of Technology)	South Africa's Role in Global Governance and Continental Politics: A Case of African Union (Au)
Mahlatse Given Sevhake (North-West University)	Digital Sovereignty in Sub-Saharan Smart Governance as a Pathway to Decolonised Policy
Thoriso Ntlailane Mabutho Shangase (North West University)	An Appraisal of Foreign Policy Objectives During the First Ramaphosa Administration: Cooperation and Competitiveness in the Implementation of the Trias Political Doctrine
David M Maimela (University of South Africa)	Working Title: The Changing Geopolitical Balance of Power and the pursuit of South Africa's National Interests
Johnny Pietersen (National School of Government)	Linguistic Framing in Public Policies of South Africa: Does it Reflect Good Intentions or Deceptions

Session 1H Time: 16:00 – 17:30 Venue:TBA Chair:Dr Botshabelo Maja Theme: Development Planning, Service Delivery and Sustainability in Urban and Rural Contexts	
Full Names	Topic
Joseph Mudau (Tshwane University of Technology)	Land Expropriation Act: Curse or Blessing?
Lindokuhle Nhlenyama (University of Zululand)	Strategies to address social determinants of health disparities in the uMhlathuze Municipality KwaZulu-Natal of South Africa
Alungile Matiwane (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	The Impact of Urbanisation on Municipal Infrastructure Development: A Case Study of Mnquma Local Municipality
Tumelo Seema & John Molepo (Tshwane University of Technology)	The Non-Profit Sector as a Catalyst for Youth Employment in South Africa
Ncedile Simayile (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	Effectiveness of Electronic Document Management System to Improve Service Delivery: A Case Study of The City of Johannesburg

Session 1I Time: 16:00-17:30 Venue: TBA Chair: Prof Bongazama Dondolo TUT Theme: MIX	
Full Names	Topic
Xolile Carol Thani, Lucky Moticoe, Gail Abrahams & Gideon Mutanda (University of South Africa)	Economic Revitalization of old Mining Towns to Improve Local Economic Development: A Systematic Review
Mmakwena Violet Hlotse (University of Limpopo)	Monitoring and Evaluation as a tool for Sustainable Service Delivery in South Africa
Chris Mhlongo (University of Limpopo)	The Feasibility of Digital Voting in South Africa: A Voter-Centered Analysis of Trust, Digital Literacy, and infrastructure in Mpumalanga Province.
Ndabezitha Tenza (Harry Gwala District Municipality)	Assessing Coalition Governance in South Africa’s Local Government: Enhancing Democracy or Undermining Service Delivery?
Sam Ramolobe (Yunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	Democratic Consolidation and the Legislative Vacuum for Disability Rights in South African Local Government

Session 1J Time: 16:00-17:30 Venue: To be announced Chair: Dr Lakela Kaunda (NSG) Theme: Digital, Smart and Future Governance	
Full Names	Topic
Katlego Leshabane & Winnie Mathebula (National School of Government)	Building AI Capability in the Public Service through Micro learning
Yamkela Ntando (iYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	The use of digital governance to overcome natural disasters in OR Tambo District Municipality
Mbusi Mdingi (Public Service Coordinating Bargaining Council)	E-governance, artificial intelligence, and public service innovation in South Africa
Presilla Nethavhanani (University of Limpopo)	The influence of social media on South African criminal activities

PROFESSOR VIL-NKOMO LECTURE : 18:00-20:00

Chair: Prof Lucky Mathebula

**Message of Support: Mr Seiso Joel Mohai | Deputy Minister
of Planning Monitoring and Evaluation**

Professor Mashupye Maserumule to deliver the lecture.



Tuesday, 29 September 2026

DAY 3

Plenary : 09:00-11:00

Topic: Accountability and Service Delivery

Chair: Prof Halima Khunoethe

Adv. Kholeka Gcaleka

The Public Protector

Advancing Ethical Governance and Administrative Justice:
Strengthening Accountability and Public Trust in Democratic
Institutions



Mr Risenga Maluleke

The Statistician-General Evidence-Based Governance for Sustainable
Development: Harnessing Official Statistics to Strengthen Public Policy,
Accountability and Service Delivery



Ms Alcie Muller | Head of Portfolio

The Office of the Auditor-General of South Africa

Strengthening Accountability for Improved Public Service Delivery:
From Audit Outcomes to Sustainable Governance Performance



Prof FM Lucky Mathebula

Public Policy Analyst, Columnist and Founder of The Thinc Foundation



Mr Godfrey Mashamba | DDG: Evaluation, Evidence and Knowledge Systems



Session 1A Time: 11:00 – 13:00 Venue: TBA Chair: Masa Sylvester Matodi Theme: Governance, Institutions, Leadership and Decolonisation	
Full Names	Topic
Tafwauli Phiri and Stellah Lubinga (University of Pretoria)	Financial inclusion as development governance
Juliet Boitumelo Siwela (University of South Africa)	Fiduciary Leadership in Public Office: Ethics and Accountability in South Africa
Mataywa Busieka (Department of Public Service and Administration)	Deconstructing the Epistemic Dissonance: Bridging the Trust Gap between Global Governance Models and African Institutional Realities
Nkosivumile Promise Mavenge (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	The Importance of Ethics and Responsibility in Leadership: Fostering Trust and Strength in Governance Areas
Sanelisiwe Madolo, Buti Lekonyane and Gail Abrahams (University of South Africa)	Effective Municipal Leadership to Improve Service Delivery: Waste Management and Sanitation at Govan Mbeki Local Municipality
Obakeng Kganyape (Durban University of Technology)	Ethical Leadership as a Catalyst for Effective Municipal Service Delivery: Lessons from Mangaung Metropolitan Municipality
Mthokozisi Sydney Luthuli and Xolisa Makubalo (Durban University of Technology)	Reform Is a Leadership Choice: Executive Accountability in Waste Management
Clifford Mhlanyukwa Duma (University of Zululand)	Investigating Chieftainship Governance and Service Delivery in Ubuhlebezwe Local Municipality, KwaZulu-Natal

Session 1B Time: 11:00 – 13:00 Venue: TBA Chair: Prof Valery Louw Theme: Local Government, Democracy and Political Dynamics	
Full Names	Topic
Vuyani Langa (IYunibesithi Walter Sisulu)	Strengthening Municipal Governance for SDG 16: Moving Beyond Cadre Deployment Towards Effective, Accountable and Inclusive Institutions
Nsizwazonke Yende (University of Mpumalanga)	Democratizing Traditional Leadership or Traditionalizing Local Government? Rethinking Governance Hybridity to Reduce Protests and Improve Service Delivery in South Africa
Nyawo Gumede (Sol Plaatjie University)	Public Administration, New Municipalism and Political Decentralization: Critical Post-Colonial Challenges and Contestations of Power and Local Autonomy

Ntombikayise Mandisa Bhomoyi (University of South Africa)	Climate Change Governance at the Local Level: Institutional Challenges and Policy Responses in South African Municipalities
Vukosi Mathonsi (North-West University)	A House Built on Sand’ – navigating the instability of coalition governance in South African local government: Opportunities, Trends, and Prospects
Sicelo Mniki (University of Fort Hare)	Value-Based Leadership Challenges Facing Eastern Cape Municipalities: A Governance and Effective Leadership Perspective
Kumbirai Mwadiwa and Lazarus Maleho (Vaal University of Technology)	A Quantitative Analysis of the Fourth Industrial Revolution's Impact on Corporate Communication in a Selected Gauteng District Municipality

Session 1C

Time: 11:00 – 13:00 | Venue: TBA | Chair: Dr Milly Paile

Theme: Governance, Institutions, Leadership and Decolonisation

Full Names	Topic
Mthuthuzeli Swartz (University of Fort Hare)	Fostering an inclusive mental health support culture in the South African public service: Middle role and contribution
Sethuthuthu Lucky Vuma (University of Limpopo)	From the University of the North to the University of Limpopo: A Laboratory for Manufacturing Leadership
Moshohli Kenneth Malatji (University of South Africa)	Traditional Leadership, Communal Land Governance and Development Planning: Towards a Hybrid Afrocentric Model of Rural Local Governance in South Africa
Maria Matshidiso Kanjere (University of Limpopo)	Ethical Leadership for Effective Water Management in a South African Local Government: Contextualising Sustainable Development Goal Six
Abegail Lindiswa Mpontshane (University of KwaZulu Natal)	The Role of Judicial Commissions in Strengthening Accountability: A Case Study of the Madlanga Commission
S'dumo Masilela, Daniel Nkosinathi Mlambo, Joseph Mudau and Shangolirimini Demana (Tshwane University of Technology)	Investigating The Political and Administrative Leadership Transition and Its Effects on Service Delivery: A Case Study of The Department of Culture, Sports and Recreation in Mpumalanga Province
Itumeleng Tshoose (University of Limpopo)	The value-laden framework in improving governance in public administration, South Africa
Angela Montana (National School of Government)	Understanding the Human Element of Corruption in the South African Public Sector: A Desktop Study

Session 1D Time: 11:00 – 13:00 Venue: TBA Chair: Prof Rozenda Hendricksse Theme: Digital, Smart and Future Governance	
Full Names	Topic
Khuliso Kennedy Maimela and Ernest Kanakana Mutenda (PSETA and IPSEIPSA)	Incentivising Innovation: A Framework for Rewarding Knowledge Use in South Africa’s Public Sector
Lindani Maphumulo (University of Western Cape)	Harnessing E-community Networks for Sustainable Community Development in the Digital Era: A Case Study of the Digital Divide in South Africa
Bongumusa Ngema and Ravinder Rena (Cape Peninsula University of Technology)	Artificial Intelligence and Public Compliance Monitoring in Local Governance: A South African Municipal Case Study
Mosekama Osia Mokhele (Nelson Mandela University)	Missing Voices in Action: When Women’s Perspectives are Ignored in Disaster Risk Reduction
Vincent Dumisane Mahlangu (Mopani TVET College)	Ethics and accountability: improving service delivery in the South African municipalities
Ndivhuwo Doctor Sundani (University of South Africa)	A Systematic Review Assessing Digital Media as a Communication Channel in the South African Local Government Context
Tshepisho Diako and Aphiwe Vilakazi (National Department of Social Development)	The Electronic Monitoring and Evaluation System (eMEs) for Social Development Sector
Lucia Masilela and Danielle Nel-Sanders (University of Johannesburg)	Anticipatory Governance for Algorithmic Resilience: Governing Artificial Intelligence and Algorithmic Bias in an Era of Wicked Risks

Session 1E Time: 11:00 – 13:00 Venue: TBA Chair:Prof Zweli Ndevu Theme: Higher Education Governance, Decolonisation and Transformation	
Full Names	Topic
Alungile Matiwane (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	Assessing the impact of digital transformation on service delivery decline and institutional closure in South African Post Offices: A case study of OR Tambo district municipality
Martie Bergh and Eugenie Wolff (National School of Government and University of Pretoria)	Reimagining Digital Pedagogy for Transformation: Cognitive Engagement of Adult Learners in Virtual Higher Education Contexts
Zamikhaya Gotyi (University of Fort Hare)	Administrative Hiatus: Leadership Instability in South Africa’s Tvet Sector—Evidence from the Eastern Cape Province

Baseza Totobayo (IYunibesithi Walter Sisulu)	Academic Freedom under Organisational Restructuring: Implications for Teaching Practice and Academic Work in Higher Education
Maijane Mashamaite (University of Limpopo)	Leadership Skills Development for Public Administrators in South Africa: Curriculum Implications and Sector Demands
Thembelihle Brenda Makhanya (University of Mpumalanga)	Navigating Decolonial Realities in Social Work Education and Practice: Uncovering the Voices
Abubakar Sambo Mohammed and Efada Udoh Ramatu Boyi (Federal University Kashere, Gombe State and Karatu Foundation Library)	Promoting A Strong Reading Culture Via Mobile Book Box Scheme: A Study of Karatu Mobile Library Foundation Initiative
Dr Khuliso Kennedy Maimela and Ernest Kanakana Mutenda (PSETA and Institute of Public Sector Ethics and Integrity Management Professionals)	Towards a Framework for Post-PhD Deployment and Accountability in South Africa's public sector

Session 1F

Time: 11:00 – 13:00 | Venue: TBA | Chair: Prof Kedibone Phago

Theme: Economic Growth, Innovation and Regional Development

Full Names	Topic
Suzan Motsheoa Mohapi (University of South Africa)	Climate change effects on the water supply crisis in South Africa: The case of Rustenburg Local Municipality
Seboka Kopung (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	Governance and Financing of Sustainable Water Infrastructure through Public-Private Partnerships
Earl Mmushi Malau and Oniccah Monimang Motloun (University of Johannesburg)	Giving Direction to Digital Transformation: A Transformative Innovation Policy as a catalyst for Local Economic Development and Inclusive Growth
Ritshidze Nethengwe and Thanyani Madzivhandila (University of Limpopo)	Electricity Supply Disruptions and Small Business Sustainability in Tshilamba Rural Township, South Africa: A Sustainable Infrastructure Development Perspective
Sandile Mkhwanazi (North-West University)	Interrogating 'Development' in Local Economic Development in South African local government landscape: How vague conceptualisation affects development
Christofer Van Rooyen (Department of Social Development)	Revitalising Youth Skills Development Model in rural municipalities
Themba Khanyiso (Regenesys Business School)	The Role Of Parental Influence In Shaping The Next Generation In Black-Owned Family Businesses In South Africa
Zamikhaya Gotyi (University of Fort Hare)	Enabling Cooperative Development through Legislation and Policy Implementation: A Case Study of the Chris Hani District Municipality, South Africa

Session 1G Time: 11:00 – 13:00 Venue: TBA Chair: Prof Rochelle Wessels (Unisa) Theme: Development Planning, Service Delivery and Sustainability in Urban and Rural Contexts	
Full Names	Topic
Maxwell Sentiwe, Bongeka Kauleza and Zimisele Tomose (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	Exploring service delivery strategies to enhance sustainable service delivery: case of selected municipalities
Mary Mthembu and Richard Mthethwa (University of Zululand)	Local Government Empowerment in Eradicating Poverty and Inequality: Perceptions from the Salamanga Community in Mozambique
Sihle Edmund Mpanza (Tshwane University of Technology)	The challenges of adequate service delivery provision under coalition-led government
Benita Leonie Petersen (University of the Western Cape)	Power, Paternalism, and Precarity: Interrogating the dynamics of housing and identity in semi- rural towns in the Western Cape, 1999 - 2024 (South Africa)
Lihle Klaas and Danielle Nel Sanders (University of Johannesburg)	Critical Success factors for Inclusive Human Settlements in the City of Cape Town
Sipho Dibakwane (National Department of Transport)	Implementation of the bus rapid transit system as public transport reform: A case study of city of Johannesburg
Themba Mfanafuthi Lukhele (University of Mpumalanga)	Application of Design Thinking Approach to enhance a Locally Based System of Grassroot Innovations and Entrepreneurship to drive Local Economic Development in South Africa
Anathi Koko (University of Limpopo)	Spatial Inequalities and Access to Quality Education: A Sociological Study of Rural Schooling in Post-Apartheid South Africa

Session 1H Time: 11:00 – 13:00 Venue:TBA Chair: Ms Faith Nyaka (NSG) Theme: Governance, Institutions, Leadership and Decolonisation	
Full Names	Topic
Annah Mokgadinyane (Tshwane University of Technology)	A critical analysis of Governing Board diversity as a crucial success factor for successful service delivery
Monument Thulani Bongani Makhanya (University of Zululand)	Analysis of South African Public Sector Employee Participation in Environmental, Social, and Governance Initiatives through Behavioural Insights on Corporate Citizenship: A Bibliometric Analysis
Nhlanhla Sibusiso Malinga Hlengiwe Nomzamo Mabizela (Durban University of Technology)	Strengthening Ethical Leadership and Accountability in South African Local Government: Evidence from Mkhondo Local Municipality
Napjadi Letsoalo (University of South Africa)	Indigenous Ethical Governance: Insights from Sepedi Proverbs on Leadership and Accountability

Guswin de Wee (University of the Western Cape)	The Masakhe Ladies' Stokvel in Gugulethu, Cape Town as an indigenous practice and social innovation for improving livelihoods: a public governance perspective
Lerato Sono (University of Pretoria)	Intrapreneurship as a relational practice: Insights from Ubuntu and Adaptive Leadership in the South African Public Service
Andiswa Miggels and Nkosi Mkhize (North-West University)	Gendered Glass Ceiling and the Municipal Leadership Ambition Gap in South Africa
Isaac Mafusini Nkosi (University of Mpumalanga)	Investigating The Influence of Transformational Leadership on Educators' Citizenship Behavior: Implications for Public School Administration

Session 11 Time: 11:00-13:00 Venue: TBA Chair: Dr Gladys Matseke (NSG) Theme: MIX	
Full Names	Topic
Lerato Radebe (University of South Africa)	Digital Transformation and Innovation in Higher Education: A South African Perspective
Zandile Gqweta, Zimisele Tomose and Zuko Jafta (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	No Consequences, No Services? Examining Consequence Management and Sustainable Service Delivery in Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality
Adelaide Selemela (University of Limpopo)	Governing Climate-Induced Mobility through Circular Economy: Urban Resilience and Service Delivery in Johannesburg's Informal Settlements
Witness Maluleke (University of Limpopo)	The slain South African Police officer's legacy lives on: A Rural Criminologist's history and public service
Siphiwe Zukisa Madlala (Cape Peninsula University of Technology)	Linking 4IR Skills to Entrepreneurial Intentions: A Conceptual Framework for Reimagining Institutions
Nkosingiphile Mkhize (North-West University)	Gamification in public sector anti-corruption initiatives: A state-of-the-art review
Lulamile Donacious Hanabe (Nelson Mandela University)	Municipal Integrated Development Plan and Budget Alignment Gaps: The Integrated Service Delivery Realities
Rabelani Faith Muthaphuli (Department of Transport)	Bridging the Inland Maritime Skills Gap: Reimagining Regional Development and Institutional Performance in the SADC North-South Corridor

Session 1J Time: 11:00-13:00 Venue: TBA Chair: Theme: Digital, Smart and Future Governance	
Full Names	Topic
Katlego Leshabane & Winnie Mathebula (National School of Government)	Building AI Capability in the Public Service through Micro learning
Yamkela Ntando (iYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	The use of digital governance to overcome natural disasters in OR Tambo District Municipality
Mbusi Mdingi (Public Service Coordinating Bargaining Council)	E-governance, artificial intelligence, and public service innovation in South Africa
Zandile Gqweta & Owen Madalambana (iYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	The perceptions of Underprepared students for University Academic Literacy Demands using Artificial Intelligence
Presilla Nethavhanani (University of Limpopo)	The influence of social media on South African criminal activities
Ayanda Sebetha (Tshwane University of Technology)	Evaluating Teachers Perspectives of AI Text Generation Tools on Student Assessment Quality in Rural Secondary Schools: A Case Study of Ga-Mathabatha Village in Limpopo Province
Zimasa Dlamini, Nduduzo Ndebelea and Richard Mthethwa (University of Zululand and University of KwaZulu Natal)	Leveraging Information and Communication Technologies to Enhance Tourist Experiences in eThekweni Metropolitan Municipality
Kegomoditswe Kenosi (University of the Witwatersrand)	Algorithmic decision making in public administration

Session 2A Time: 14:00 – 16:00 Venue: TBA Chair: Mr Dumisani Hlophe (DPSA) Theme: Development Planning, Service Delivery and Sustainability in Urban and Rural Contexts	
Full Names	Topic
Mbali Ndumo (University of KwaZulu-Natal)	The Enigma of Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Resilience in Local Government
Qolane Mashaba (University of Limpopo)	Ethical Leadership and Accountability in South African Municipalities: A Study of Service Delivery Outcomes
Richard Zwakele Ndovela, Cecile Gerwel-Proches and Mogie Subban (University of KwaZulu-Natal)	Exploration of post-settlement patterns on land restitution projects in King Cetshwayo District Municipality
Qolane Mashaba (University of Limpopo)	Ethical Leadership and Accountability in South African Municipalities: A Study of Service Delivery Outcomes

Loraine Boitumelo Mzini, Zandile Pitso and Zanele Thabethe (North-West University)	Bridging the Capacity Gap: An Analysis of Bursary Control Mechanisms in Addressing Municipal Skills Shortages
Sekgatlamang Eunice Mogorosi (North-West University)	Effective Municipal Water Leakage Management: The case of Lekwa-Teemane Local Municipality.
Mary-Anne Monyobo, Costa Hofisi and Nyawo Gumede (North West University and Sol Plaatjie University)	Assessing the implementation of Integrated Development Planning in service delivery: The case of Mahikeng Local Municipality
Ntsako Makamu and Seboka Kopung (University of South Africa and IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	Evaluating the impact of Monitoring and Evaluation on Policy Implementation

Session 2B

Time: 14:00 – 16:00 | Venue:TBA | Chair:Prof Willie CHinyamurindi (UFH)

Theme: Local Government, Democracy and Political Dynamics

Full Names	Topic
Siphokazi Willie (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	Examining the implementation of good governance principles to enhance sustainable development: The case of Chris Hani District Municipality
Michael Chauke (Tshwane University of Technology)	Integrated Oversight and Accountability in the South African Local Government
Makungu Nukerk and Thulisa Samela (Tshwane University of Technology)	The Role of Public Participation in Local Governance in Mpumalanga.
Mbali Ndumo (University of KwaZulu-Natal)	Political Oversight and Municipal Performance Auditing: Challenges and Opportunities
Tebogo Matoane-Nkabinde and Joseph Mudau (Department of Social Development and Tshwane University of Technology)	The Gatekeepers' Paradox: A qualitative analysis of the impact of institutional patriarchal attitudes, cultures and traditions in perpetuating the gendered barriers for women's electoral participation in Mpumalanga: Local government elections (2016 – 2027) in perspective.
Limpho Rakhoba and Pulane Molomo (Central University of Technology)	Local Government, Democracy and Political Dynamics in Lesotho: Examining the Interface between Councillors and Traditional Leadership under the Local Government Act
Siyasanga Ngwabeni (EDUVOS)	Populism at the Polls: Reconfiguring Ethics and Public Trust in South Africa's Local Government Sphere
Kholofelo Penelope Pudi (Tshwane University of Technology)	Systemic Challenges to Governance and Ethical Integrity in South African Public Administration and Their Implications

Session 2C Time: 14:00-16:00 Venue: TBA Chair: Dr Matyaiwa Busheka (DPSA) Theme: Digital, Smart and Future Governance	
Full Names	Topic
Malete Daniel Sebake and Kevin Khosa (Municipal Demarcation Board)	Exploring a Digital Spatial Platform of the Municipal Demarcation Board to Enhance Electoral Data Sharing
Tshegofatso Mphela (Tshwane University of Technology)	Assessing E-Governance in the Public Sector: A case of Unemployment Insurance Fund
Reginald Ndwamai (University of Venda)	Towards Future-Ready Public Institutions: A Conceptual Framework for Digital and Smart Governance Transformation
Lindokuhle Mkhize and Mogie Subban (University of KwaZulu-Natal)	How Artificial Intelligence advances data-driven governance: The role of performance management in public sector resilience
Ernest Mutenda (Institute of Public Sector Ethics and Integrity Management Professionals of South Africa)	The End-to-End E-Procurement Gap: Why Partial Digitalisation Fails to Transform Public Procurement in South Africa.
Sonayena Kenneth Nokele (University of South Africa)	A Multi-Theoretical Framework for Understanding the Adoption of AI Text-Generation Technologies in South African Higher Education
Mmatshopo Khanya (University of South Africa)	Border Management Authority's Response to South Africa's Border Governance Challenges
Nyawasedza Phellecy Lavhelani (University of Venda)	The impact of e-governance on public sector innovation in South Africa, Vhembe District

Session 2D 14:00-16:00 Venue: TBA Chair: Dr Kennedy Maimela (PSETA) Theme: International Relations, Global Governance and Decolonial Development	
Full Names	Topic
Thomas Ramovha (University of Limpopo)	Bridging State Capacity Gaps Through International Cooperation: Evaluation of the South Africa–Cuba Technical Support Programme (SACTSP).
Raymond Bonnie Makofane (University of Limpopo)	South Africa's Support for Palestine: A Counter-Hegemonic Foreign Policy Rooted in Liberation Heritage

Sifiso Ndlovu (University of Mpumalanga)	Can the master’s tools ever dismantle the master’s house? An analysis of the coloniality of the modern state-system in Africa
Thethinene Singata (University of South Africa)	Africa’s New Alliances: How African States Are Redefining Global Ties Through the Diverging Foreign Policy Strategies- A Case Study of South Africa and Burkina Faso.
Nokonwaba Andiswa Gcume (Durban University Technology)	Advancing Pan-African Entrepreneurship through Progressive Support Ecosystems: A Qualitative Case Study of South Africa, Burkina Faso, and Namibia
Muyamba Mangu	Colonial Extractive Governance and the Violation of the Right to Development in South Africa: A Historical Analysis.
Chidochashe Nyere (Thabo Mbeki African School of Public and International Affairs)	Decolonising International Relations for Just Global Governance
Promise Raseala (University of South Africa)	Turning Turbulence into Transformation: How Crises Can Catalyse Bottom-Up, City-Led Urban Resilience in South Africa

Session 2E Time: 14:00-16:00 Venue: TBA Chair: Dr Caphus Maleka (TUT) Theme: Local Government, Democracy and Political Dynamics	
Full Names	Topic
Tebogo Josiah Lebakeng Mbekezeli Mkhize (University of South Africa)	The implications of the interface between human security and political instability in South Africa
Douglas Ndumiso Magagula, Ricky Munyaradzi Mukonza and Rasodi Khutso Manyaka (Tshwane University of Technology)	The Effects of Intergovernmental Relations on Disaster Management: A South African Local Government Perspective
Khanya Mlambo and Sanjay Balkaran (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	Redeveloping Disaster Management Through Participatory Governance: A Case Study of Payne Location in King Sabata Dalindyebo Local Municipality, South Africa
Shaphule Machaba Johannah (University of South Africa)	Investigating the effects of service delivery on coalition-led municipalities in South Africa

Zuko Jafta, Zimisele Raymond and Tomose (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	The Effectiveness of the Current Policies and Programs in Promoting Youth Participation in Political Decision-making: A Case of King Sabatha Dalindyebo Local Municipality in the Eastern Cape
Zwelithini Mokwena and Dr Zukiswa Mqolomba (Tshwane University of Technology & Public Service Commission)	Lessons that can be drawn by local government from recent public sector reforms of PAMA, PSA, and Professionalisation Framework: Why insulation of the public administration politics matters
Anuoluwapo Durokifa and Maonei G Mangwanya (University of Free State)	Persistent Service Delivery Failures in Maluti-a-Phofung Local Municipality: The Role of Governance and Financial Management
Bangaphi Tshaka (Independent)	Measuring the extent to which Provincial Government exercise Section 154 prior to invoking Section 139 interventions

Session 2F Time: 14:00-16:00 Venue:TBA Chair: Dr Rasodi Manyaka Theme: Governance, Institutions, Leadership and Decolonisation	
Full Names	Topic
Zweli Mokwena (Tshwane University of Technology)	Voter Turnout as a Sign of a Testing Tool for a Healthy Democratic Principles in Local Government Elections: can compulsory voting be a solution?
Thembela Serame, Murendeni Ramaru and Ramalobe Kutu (Nelson Mandela University and IYunivesithi Walter)	Enhancing Service Delivery through Financial Accountability in Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality: A Critical Review
Thabo Thole and Tumo Paulus Kele (Tshwane University of Technology)	Institutional Voids, Ethical Governance, and Public Value Creation in Local Government: Evidence from Limpopo Province
Frank Lekaba (University of South Africa)	Reimagining the role EMB's in a changing political culture in Africa; integrity and un/acceptability of electoral outcomes.
Maxhobandile Ndamase and Yamkela Ntando (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	Student chapters as pathways for professional identity formation in public administration: South African Association of Public Administration and Management Perspective
Precious Babalwa Nxumalo (North-West University)	Integrating Governance, Development, and Sustainability to Enhance Service Delivery: A case study of JB Marks Local Municipality

Khotso Nkoe (Sol Plaatje University)	Investigating the financial sustainability of the district municipalities within the district municipalities
Nomsa Ncamani and Zimisele Raymond Tomose (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	The impact of governance instability on the provision of basic public services: A case of Enoch Mgijima Local Municipality, Eastern Cape.

Session 2G Time: 14:00-16:00 Venue: TBA Chair: Dr Sifiso Ngcobo (DPME) Theme: Higher Education Governance, Decolonisation and Transformation	
Full Names	Topic
Jabu Mphurpi (Tshwane University of Technology)	Re-imagining the University as a Laboratory for Integrity: Cultivating Ethical Leadership for Sustainable Governance and State Capacity
Siyacela Nzuzi (University of Zululand)	Curriculum Responsiveness and Graduate Outcomes: Aligning South Africa's Higher Education with Labour Market Demands
Glen Legodu (University of Free State)	Foregrounding African Knowledge Systems in Natural Sciences: Advancing Education for Sustainable Development in Pre-Service Teacher Education
Vusi Gumede (Durban University of Technology)	The Evolution of Research and Science in South Africa: Implications for Public policy
Elizabeth Faith Nyaka and Lester Brian Shawa (University of KwaZulu-Natal and National School of Government)	Transforming Higher Education through Micro-Credentials: Experiences of Senior University Academics in South Africa
Sonayena Kenneth Nokele (University of South Africa)	Adoption of Artificial Intelligence Text-Generation Technologies in Higher Education: A Systematic Review of Trends, Drivers and Ethical Implications
Madumetsa Godfrey Manamela (University of South Africa)	Digital inequality in South African higher education institution: reference to e-learning versus repositories deficiency
Dr Khuliso Kennedy Maimela Ernest Kanakana Mutenda (PSETA and Institute of Public Sector Ethics and Integrity Management Professionals of South Africa)	Agile Innovation: Thriving Amid Global Flux

Session 2H

Time: 14:00 – 16:00 | Venue: TBA | Chair: Prof Ricky Mukonza

Theme: International Relations, Global Governance and Decolonial Development

Full Names	Topic
Mogau Grace Letswalo (National School of Government)	BRICS, Decoloniality and Constrained Agency: South Africa's Role in Reimagining Global Governance from the Global South.
James Ndlovu (Durban University of Technology)	Assessing the impact of Artificial Intelligence and Data Analytics on Public Decision-Making: Key lessons for BRICS+ from a South African perspective
Benjamin Rapanyane (North-West University)	The role of the World Bank in the Promotion of Development in the African Continent
Cabanga Maluleka, Joseph Mudau and Bernard Sebake (Tshwane University of Technology and Central University of Technology)	Assessing the Brics Countries as an alternative to the Western Bretton Woods System: Implications for Global Economic Governance
Rasodi Manyaka and Edidiong Ayeni (Tshwane University of Technology)	Ethnic Agitation and the external vulnerability of Nigeria’s image in global politics
Masa Sylvester Motadi, Ngelekanyo Maduwa and Rudzani Mushueu (University of Venda)	Decolonising Global Governance: The Role of BRICS in Shaping a New Paradigm for International Relations and Development in the Global South
Lerato Mojaki (North-West University)	Emotion meaning and emotion episodes in the Setswana language group in the Northwest Province
Sipho Gideon Mantula and Lebakeng Josiah (Thabo Mbeki African School of Public and International Affairs)	How Elections Can Undermine Human Security and Critical Infrastructure Development in Africa

Session 2I

Time: 14:00-16:00 | Venue: TBA | Chair: Prof Thanyani Madzivhandila (UL)

Theme: MIX

Full Names	Topic
Maxwell Maseko (Cape Peninsula University of Technology)	Online Citizen Engagement in Municipal Governance: Camps Bay and Khayelitsha
Dumisani Hlophe (Department of Public Service and Administration)	Professionalising Local Government in Contexts of State Fragility: Linking Merit, Consequence Management, and Felt Accountability to Service Delivery Performance
Maureen Mogotsi, Gift Mmolotsane, Masindi Mashapha and Desiree Jason (Department of Social Development)	The Educational Outcomes of Learners Receiving Social Protection Services Grade 12 Class of 2025
Nthabiseng Khoza and Nkosinathi Mahlalela (University of Pretoria and Tshwane University of Pretoria)	Artificial Intelligence as a Catalyst for Transformative Ethical Education: Rethinking Student Learning Experiences
Njabulo Makhanya (University of South Africa)	Governing in Coalition: Public Administration and Governance Complexities in South Africa’s Government of National Unity
Philani Thusini (University of Johannesburg)	A root cause analysis of municipal financial distress in South Africa
Maruping John Tshipo (Office of the Premier North West Province)	Exploring the collective bargaining efficacy in a selected public sector department within the North West Province
Athi Phiwani (University of Pretoria)	Towards Sociology of Oceans: Coastal Livelihoods, Governance, and Community Struggles in Rural Marine Economies

Session 2J

Time: 14:00-16:00 | Venue: To be announced | Chair:

Theme: Governance, Institutions, Leadership and Decolonisation

Full Names	Topic
Mmabotse Blessing Mooke (Tshwane University of Technology)	Assessing the Relevance and Limitations of King V in Strengthening Risk Governance in Higher Education Institutions
Anna Mvubu (University of South Africa)	Measures used to address barriers to achieve equity target for women at Senior Management level: the case of Government Communication and Information System (GCIS)
Rasodi Manyaka and Edidiong Ayeni (Tshwane University of Technology)	Understanding Xenophobic Attacks in South Africa: Protection of Local Livelihoods or Economic Displacement?

Mabeba Christine Moremi (University of KwaZulu- Natal)	Workplace Violence Among Employees of the National Department of Public Service and Administration in Pretoria
Liyabona Gaushe (Yunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	Growth and Sustainability through Improved Governance: Reimagining Institutions, Leadership and Development in a Changing World
Kholofelo Rakubu (Tshwane University of Technology)	Acting Appointments as Governance Substitutes: A Criminological Analysis of Leadership Instability in the South African Police Service (SAPS)
Sixolisiwe Ntsasela and Valery Ferim (University of Fort Hare)	Contested Narratives on Political Scandals by the African National Congress in the Eastern Cape Province of South Africa
Dumisani Xaba (University of South Africa)	Punctuated contours in performance monitoring and evaluation in South Africa: A Systems Dynamics Perspective

Session 3A Time: 16:00-17:45 Venue: TBA Chair: Prof Shephard Malefane (UNISA) Theme: Economic Growth, Innovation and Regional Development	
Full Names	Topic
Mlondi Vilakazi (University of KwaZulu-Natal)	Repositioning Local Economic Development as a Frontier of State Capability in a VUCA World
Radipatla Rathaha (North-West University)	Exploring Sustainable Infrastructure Development Conundrum in the South African Construction Sector
Ncane Mandisa, Nomfundo Zondi, Martin Mulunda and Phumlani Dlamkile (Durban University of Technology)	Reimagining Local economic development and inclusive growth strategies for better service delivery in South Africa
Chris Mhlongo (University of Limpopo)	The challenges facing Small, Medium, and Micro Enterprises in South Africa: A case of the City of Tshwane Metropolitan.
Unawo Madyibi (Yunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	Assessing the socio-economic potential of the Agro-Industrial Hub in enhancing rural development- A case of Elundini Local Municipality
Zimisele Raymond Tomose, Kayode Olawumi and Mzuyanda Percival Mavuso (Yunivesithi Walter Sisulu and Fort Hare University)	Alternative strategies to assist the school governing bodies in promoting the quality of education in their schools: A Case of Selected Rural Secondary Schools in one Education District in the Eastern Cape.

Session 3B Time: 16:00-17:45 Venue: TBA Chair; Prof Sipho Mokoena Theme: Governance, Institutions, Leadership and Decolonisation	
Full Names	Topic
Didintle Mosimanekgosi, David Bogopa and Praise Ramaru (Nelson Mandela University)	Reframing Governance and Leadership Through Public Sector Professionalisation in South Africa: A Theoretical Inquiry
Nomahlubi Mhlauli and Ricky Mukonza (Tshwane University of Technology)	Transforming the Public Sector through Lifelong Learning in Digital Skills: A Theoretical Framework
Mxolisi Vilakazi (North-West University)	Leveraging the theory of invited spaces for participatory governance framework for Hospital Board in Mpumalanga Province, South Africa
Sakhile Hadebe (University of KwaZulu-Natal)	Trust Deficits, Institutional Decay and Democratic Governance in South Africa: Rethinking Accountability Beyond Formal Compliance
Sanoosha Badul and Subban Mogie (University of KwaZulu-Natal)	Strengthening Public Service Governance through Professionalised Employee Health and Wellness
Mandisi Mtingane (University of South Africa)	Challenges of Trust and accountability deficit in South African public institutions

Session 3C Time: 16:00-17:45 Venue: TBA Chair: Prof Dee Khoza (UNISA) Theme: Digital, Smart and Future Governance	
Full Names	Topic
Palesa Makhenyane, Xolisa Makubalo and Mpumelelo Ndlovu (University of Fort Hare)	A proposed framework of digital inclusion to enhance Participatory governance in South Africa
Vuyiwe Marambana (Joe Gqabi Economic Development Agency)	Ubuntu Engage: A community centered digital platform for inclusive municipal governance - Powered by Design Thinking
Terrance Molobela (University of Free State)	Enhancing Participatory Governance through E-participation initiatives in Local Government
Sibusiso Twala (Tshwane University Technology)	E-Governance and Administrative Service Delivery: A Digital Approach to Improving Institutional Efficiency at a University of Technology

Bongekile Yvonne Charlotte Mvuyana (Mongosuthu University of Technology)	Reimagining Affordable Housing in South Africa: Policy Innovation, Participatory Design, and the Potential of Tax Credits
Salome Rabodiba (University Of Limpopo)	Artificial Intelligence-Driven Digital Governance for Smart City Development: A Qualitative Case Study of Polokwane Municipality

Session 3D Time: 16:00-17:45 Venue: TBA Chair: Prof Lusanda Juta Theme: Development Planning, Service Delivery and Sustainability in Urban and Rural Contexts	
Full Names	Topic
Joseph Daitai and Oliver Mtapuri (University of KwaZulu-Natal and Great Zimbabwe University)	The efficacy of the Village Development committees (VIDCO) as a decentralized local government entity for inclusive grassroots development planning in the Gutu District of Masvingo Province
Vincent Motau (University of Venda)	Examining the Challenges Leading to the Non-Completion of Tender-Awarded Infrastructure Projects in Thulamela Local Municipality
Sonnyboy Kgotloana Manthata (Sefako Makgatho University)	Understanding trends and risk factors associated with Violence Against Women in South Africa: An analysis of Victims of Crime Survey Data (2013–2017)
Rose Namara (Uganda Management Institue)	Negotiating Development on Customary Land: Traditional Leadership, Communal Tenure, and Hybrid Governance in Regional Economic Transformation in Northern Uganda
Christofer Van Rooyen (Department of Social Development)	Analysing Youth Employment Models for Growth and Developing Skills in Twenty-Seven Rural Municipalities
Sifeziwe Makwaiba and Prudence Khumalo (University of South Africa)	Reimagining The Relationship Between Informal Traders And The Municipality: Towards Compliance Incentivisation, Engagement And Partnership

Session 3E

Time: 16:00-17:45 | Venue: TBA | Chair: Prof Byc Mvuyana (MUT)

Theme: Local Government, Democracy and Political Dynamics

Full Names	Topic
Paul Shimane Radikonyana (Municipal Demarcation Board)	Review of the 1998 White Paper on Local Government: A re-imagined vision or forced revival of Local Government aspirations in South Africa
Hlakaniphani Langa (Durban University of Technology)	Shared Power, Divided Authority: Governance and Administrative Challenges of Coalition Politics
Simphiwe Gumede (Mandosuthu University of Technology)	Human Capital Development and Local Government Administration in South Africa
Jonny Motsosi (Tshwane University of Technology)	Enhancing the Political-Administrative Interface for Resilient Municipal Governance in South Africa
Junior Mokele, Thandile Ncwana, Marcia Mkhize, Andile Magqirana and Uduak Johnson (Mangosuthu University of Technology)	Reimagining the Politico-Administrative Interface towards Sustainable Government: Best Practices for South Africa
Nkosingiphile Dumakude (University of Zululand)	Local government: Balancing democracy and political dynamics into service delivery, A case study of local municipalities governance in South Africa

Session 3F

Time: 16:00-17:45 | Venue: TBA | Chair: Prof Melvin Diedericks (NWU)

Theme: Development Planning, Service Delivery and Sustainability in Urban and Rural Contexts

Full Names	Topic
Seboka Kopung and Caroline Fulele (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu and Alpvest Institute for Futuretech)	The Impact of Social Responsibility on Sustainable Investment Projects
Nathunathi Mvunge and Sandiso Mahlala (University of Fort Hare and Sol Plaatje University)	Governance Challenges Affecting the Performance of Basic Education in the Eastern Cape Province of South Africa
Tando Matiti (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	An Assessment of the Effectiveness of Service delivery in a Selected Local Municipality in the Eastern Cape, South Africa
Christofer Van Rooyen (Department of Social Development)	Resilient Municipalities in Times of Crisis: EPWP Wounded Healers - Community-Based in the Social Sector
Luyanda Mtshali (University of South Africa)	Can 4IR Innovations Enhance Agricultural Productivity and Income Security for Small-Scale Farmers?
Zinhle Mthembu (University of Zululand)	Bridging the Knowledge Gap: Co-Creating Municipal Research Agendas through University-Community Engagement

Session 3G Time: 16:00-17:45 Venue: TBA Chair: Prof Costa Hofisi (NWU) Theme: Governance, Institutions, Leadership and Decolonisation	
Full Names	Topic
Karabo Mokganya (Tshwane University of Technology)	The Big Elephant in the room: Lack of Ubuntu in leadership, an undiscussed problem in the South African public sector
Kgantshi Jones Ramatlhale, Xolani Thusi and Khensani Richard Chauke (University of Limpopo and University of Johannesburg)	From Compliance to Accountability: Interrogating the Role of the Service Delivery and Budget Implementation Plan (SDBIP) in South African Municipal Governance
Takunda Mathathu and Thanyani Madzivhandila (University of Limpopo)	Bridging Policy and Practice: The Ethical Role of Steward Leadership in South Africa's Just Energy Transition
Nosisa Mabetshe (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	Crime as a Social Development Failure: Rethinking Crime Prevention Beyond the Family in Marginalised Communities in O.R. Tambo and Alfred Nzo Districts, Eastern Cape, South Africa
Dumisani Xaba (University of South Africa)	An investigative study into good governance in the Non-Profit Sector in South Africa: A systems approach perspective
Christopher Phiri (Public Service Coordinating Bargaining Council)	Professionalisation of the South African Public Service

Session 3H Time: 16:00 - 17:45 Venue: TBA Chair: Prof Anthony Masha (WSU) Theme: Development Planning, Service Delivery and Sustainability in Urban and Rural Contexts	
Full Names	Topic
Sihle Mathumbu (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	The Role of Public Participation in Shaping the Planning of Local Development Projects: A case study of Mnquma Local Municipality, Eastern Cape.
Zwivhuya Arnold Nethonzhe and Murendeneni Praise Ramaru (Nelson Mandela University)	Community Development Workers as Agents of Governance in Enhancing Service Delivery And Local Development In South Africa
Nimrod Shadrack Mpondomse (Department of Public Service and Administration)	Monitoring & Evaluation of Development Interventions
Katlego Lamola (University of Limpopo)	Promoting Sustainable Development in South African Local government through Monitoring and Evaluation
Zamazulu Mthembu, Sybert Mutereko and Nduduzo Ndebele (University of KwaZulu-Natal)	Building Bridges: Key Factors Driving Public-Private Partnerships Infrastructure Development in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa
Refiloe Mosotho, Thanduxolo Fana and Sibabalwe Kela (Nelson Mandela University)	An Assessment of community satisfaction with water and sanitation service delivery at Sekhukhune District Municipality

Session 3I Time: 16:00-17:30 Venue: TBA Chair: Prof Elvin Shava (UJ) Theme: MIX	
Full Names	Topic
Eugenia Muzenda (Gauteng Provincial Legislature)	Insights into how the processing of Bills into Laws is monitored and evaluated in the Gauteng Provincial Legislature (GPL)
Masa Sylvester Motadi and Costa Hofisi (North West University)	Driven Governance and Artificial Intelligence in Enhancing Public Sector Performance and Resilience in smart cities through secondary data analysis
Luleka Marwarwa (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	Implementation of Rural Development Initiatives and the Political-Administrative Interface: A Case of a Rural Area in Mquma Local Municipality, Eastern Cape
Zwelakhe Maseko (University of Zululand)	Gentrification In Durban's Point Precinct and Its Impact on Access to Low-Cost Housing
Katlego Mosiemang and Nhlamulo Baloyi (University of South Africa)	The State of Civil Service Employee Health and Wellness Programmes in South Africa: A Systematic Review
Morore Wilson Sekhukhune (University of Limpopo)	A political economy analysis of microeconomic policy trajectories and their response to the unemployment crisis in South Africa, 2018 to 2025

Session 3J Time: 16:00 - 17:30 Venue: To be announced Chair: Theme: Digital, Smart and Future Governance	
Full Names	Topic
Talente Ncama (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	Youth Participation through Digital Technologies in Developing Smart Rural Villages of Mquma Municipality, Eastern Cape, South Africa
Gideon Walter Mutanda & Bethuel Ngcamu (University of South Africa)	Intangible cultural heritage under climate change. A systematic review of the impacts incorporating resilience strategies
Masindi Mashapha (Department of Social Development)	Incorporating new technologies into the non-profit organisation management system in South Africa
Elvin Shava (University of Johannesburg)	Utilising Artificial Intelligence to Enhance Public Procurement in Local Governments
Tshepiso Josephina Ndhlovu,, Jackinah Mokgokong & Daniel Nkosinathi Mlambo (Tshwane University of Technology)	Is the South African Government Ready to Prioritise User/ Citizen Experience in Improving Its Digital Services?
Khuliso Kennedy Maimela Ernest Kanakana Mutenda (PSETA and	Agile Innovation: Thriving Amid Global Flux
Alouis Chilunjika (National University of Lesotho/ University of South Africa)	
	Challenges and Prospects of E-Governance, AI and Public Sector Innovations in Lesotho

PSETA – UJ RESEARCH OBSERVATORY LAUNCH

Time: 18:00 - 18:30 | Venue: TBA | Facilitator: Ms Bontle Lerumo

- Prof Busani Ngcaweni | University of Johannesburg

FIRESIDE CHAT

Time: 18:30 - 19:30 | Venue: TBA | Facilitator: Dr Pedro Mzileni

The Honourable Mr Buti Manamela, MP Minister of Higher Education
and Training

- Prof Metjie Makgoba



EDITORS FORUM

Time: 19:30 - 21:00 | Venue: TBA | Chair: Professor David Mello

Panelists:

Professor Kedibone Phago | Journal of Public Administration

Professor Stewart Beale | Palgrave Macmillan

Dr Mary Mangai | Public Administration and Development

Professor Vusi Gumede | South African Journal of Science

Dr Tando Rulashe | Journal of Local Government, Research and Innovation

Professor Siphamandla Zondi | African Journal of Political Science

Professor Betty Mubangizi | African Journal of Governance and Development

Professor Victor Ojakorotu | African Renaissance

Wednesday, 30 September 2026

DAY 4

Panel Discussion

Time: 09:00-11:00

Chair: | Ms Yoliswa Makhasi

Theme: Building Capable and Ethical State

Panelists:

- Dr Nomusa Dube - Ncube
- Justice Raymond Zondo
- Prof Thuli Madonsela
- Prof Somadoda Fikeni
- Dr Imatiaz Ismail Sooliman



Session 1A

Time: 11:00 – 13:00 | Venue: TBA | Chair: Prof Zamokuhle Mbandlwa

Theme: Governance, Institutions, Leadership and Decolonisation

Full Names	Topic
Nqobizitha Sithole (KZN Department of Social Development)	Talent Acquisition, Talent Management and Talent Retention and how it affects service delivery in the Public Sector
Richard Mthethwa (University of Zululand)	Enhancing the Professionalisation of Public Sector Institutions: Strategies for Strengthening Accountability, Capacity, and Service Delivery
Mphathesithe Mkhize, Ntuthuko Mzinyane, Judith Mdletshe & Mlungisi Duma (Mangosuthu University of Technology, Tshwane University of Technology and Durban University of Technology)	State Capture and Ethical Governance in South Africa: Policy Lessons and Institutional Reforms for a Resilient Public Sector
Phumlani Dlamkile (Durban University of Technology)	The role of leadership in improving the professionalization of the public sector institutions in South Africa
Christopher Phiri (Public Service Coordinating Bargaining Council)	Professionalisation of the South African Public Service

Thabo Francis Saul Caiphus Mogotsi Maleka (Tshwane University of Technology)	Leadership, Ethics and Accountability In Governance: A Case Study for South African Municipalities
Tshimangadzo Azwianewi, Reuben Mabilu and Marlien Herselman (STADIO Higher Education and Limpopo Department of Social Development and NGEI Cluster (eGov), CSIR)	A Leadership-Centred Conceptual Framework for Enhancing Diversity Management in the South African Public Sector
Karabo Mokganya (Tshwane University of Technology)	Thusa Ngwana Geno: A concept for Ubuntu Values lessons for emerging ethical leadership: A new comprehensive birth to literature review

Session 1B Time: 11:00 – 13:00 Venue: TBA Chair;Prof Mogie Subban Theme: Digital, Smart and Future Governance	
Full Names	Topic
Mphumzi Dabula, Zamokuhle Mbandlwa & Omololu Fagbadebo (Durban University of Technology)	Disaster relief assistance in O.R Tambo District Municipality
Vanessa Neo Mathope (University of South Africa)	Advancing Digital, Smart and Future Governance through AI Enabled Records Management
Moloko Bernet Chokoe (Lephalale Municipality)	Digital Transformation And Artificial Intelligent In Fleet Management In The Public Sector: A Case Study Of Lephalale Local Municipality
Chamunorwa Huni & Meron Okbandrias (University of the Western Cape)	Disrupting Bureaucratic Culture: Readiness for digitalisation in South Africa’s Department of Home Affairs
Ray Clemence Tondo & Pregala Pillay (Stellenbosch University)	Artificial Intelligence and E-Governance as Engines of Public Sector Innovation: Building Sustainable Institutions for the Future
Manyano Nongogo (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	Evaluating the Effectiveness of Digital Platforms in Enhancing Public Service Delivery: A Case Study of WhatsApp and Mobile Applications in King Sabata Dalindyebo (KSD) Municipality
David Mello (University of South Africa)	Invoking Digital Monitoring and Detection in the fight against corruption in South Africa
Maxhobandile Ndamase & Enathi Mbebe (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	Digitalising local governance to enhance youth participation in municipal processes in South Africa

Session 1C

Time: 11:00 – 13:00 | Venue: TBA | Chair: Prof Lisa Vordu

Theme: Higher Education Governance, Decolonisation and Transformation

Full Names	Topic
Moshohli Kenneth Malatji (University of South Africa)	Reimagining Higher Education Governance Through African Epistemologies: An Afrocentric Anthropological Critique of Institutional Transformation
Kgantshi Jones Ramatlhale (University of Limpopo)	Claiming Transformation, Maintaining the Canon: A Study of Colonial Knowledge Reproduction in South African Universities
Zama Mthombeni (University of Johannesburg)	Black Women and the Politics of Institutional Whiteness in Higher Education
Pedro Mzileni (University of Zululand)	Studentification in Urban Austerity Crisis
Rhondeline Marais (University of the Western Cape)	Higher Education as an intermediary for food justice: University – Government – Industry collaboration in South Africa
Leigh Frantz (University of the Western Cape)	Reimagining Higher Education Governance Through Integrated Research Capacity Ecosystems: The R.I.S.E. Institutional Design Framework
Mamonare Magdeline Malapane (Tshwane University of Technology)	A Model for Transforming Historically Disadvantaged Universities in South Africa
Troy Musandiwa Silima (University of Mpumalanga)	The teaching of Ubuntu Values as an Approach to decolonise Public Administration

Session 1D

Time: 11:00 – 13:00 | Venue: TBA | Chair: Prof Rapanyane (NWU)

Theme: Economic Growth, Innovation and Regional Development

Full Names	Topic
Abongile Dlani (University of Fort Hare)	Examining The Ocean Economy Programme as a Catalyst for Economic Development in Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality
Sinakhokonke Mpanza (University of South Africa)	Conceptualisation Of Investment Readiness Mechanism for Non-Metropolitan Municipalities
Fattinald Rangongo, Sandiso Mahlala, Ephraim Tshobeka, Maphelo Malgas & Isaac Patsa (Sol Plaatje University)	An analysis of e-commerce and omnichannel integration in retail management curricula at selected South African universities and its perceived impact on graduate employability

Ngcebo Richard Vumase (University of Zululand)	The Challenges Faced by Small and Medium-Sized Tourism Enterprises (SMTEs) in the Surrounding Areas of Isimangaliso wetland Park: A Case Study of uMtubatuba
Aluncedo Zikhali & Mogie Subban (University of KwaZulu-Natal)	Youth as Catalysts for Sustainable Development: Lessons from Rural Entrepreneurship Initiatives
Anthony Kambi Masha (iYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	Female youth entrepreneurs at the King Sabata Dalindyebo Local Municipality: a portrait of progress in the context of their contributions to the economy and job creation
Engeline Ntombe'ntle Zwane (University of Limpopo)	Evaluating the Effect of the Sustainable Development Policy Implementation: Case of South African
Thandi Catherine Tshivula and Emmanuel Maemu (University of Venda)	Assessing the current status of E-Participation in the Implementation of Developmental Local Government: A Case of Vhembe District Municipality

Session 1E

Time: 11:00 – 13:00 | Venue: TBA | Chair: Mr Tshepo Mosiane (DPME)

Theme: Development Planning, Service Delivery and Sustainability in Urban and Rural Contexts

Full Names	Topic
Simangaliso Mbata & Zolani Tafeni (iYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	The role of Public-Private Partnership in infrastructure development: A case of Great Kokstad Local Municipality (GKM)
Maxhobandile Ndamase, Mahlodi Joyce Sethu & Mutuwafhethu John Mafunisa (iYunivesithi Walter Sisulu and University of Venda)	A strategic model for enhancing the monitoring and evaluation system of the integrated development plan implementation in King Sabata Dalindyebo Local Municipality
Khuthadzo Munzhelele & Tando Rulashe (Nelson Mandela University and University of Mpumalanga)	Bottlenecks In Municipal Infrastructure Grant Delivery for Water and Sanitation in a rural South African Municipality
Moorosi Leshoele (University of the Free State)	Access to Housing and Residential Land in Urban Centres in South Africa: A Closer Look at Johannesburg Housing Crisis
Cry Zitha (University of South Africa)	Extortion and Protection Fees: Challenges to the Sustainability of Townships-Based Small Businesses in South Africa
Mogau Lebepe, Costa Hofisi and Nyawo Gumede (North-West University and Sol Plaatjie University)	The effect of New Public Management principles on water provision: A case of Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality (2019-2023)

Tuseku Dieudonne Tumba (Thabo Mbeki African School of Public and International Affairs)	Does Environmental Justice Matter? Spatial location and Service Delivery in South African Municipalities
Aviwe Sityana and Sareesha Pillay (Nelson Mandela University)	An Analysis of The Implementation of Batho Pele Principles on Service Delivery Within Public Hospitals: A Case of Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality

Session 1F

Time: 11:00 – 13:00

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Venue:TBA

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Chair: Prof Mokgadi Ngoepe - Ntsoane (UNISA)

Theme: Governance, Institutions, Leadership and Decolonisation

Full Names	Topic
Sandiso Mahlala (Sol Plaatje University)	Political Corruption and State Capture: Threats to Democratic Governance and Social Cohesion in Post-Apartheid South Africa
Lindani Maphumulo (University of Western Cape)	The Role of Intelligence in Shaping Government Structures and Enhancing Human Security: A Critical Analysis of Its Impact
Mbulelo Khalani & Tando Rulashe (Eastern Cape Provincial Treasury and University of Mpumalanga)	Examining the effectiveness of the Eastern Cape Provincial Treasury technical support interventions in strengthening municipal governance and improving audit outcomes for enhanced service delivery: A case study of selected municipalities
Zolani Tafeni & Ndikho Pinini (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	Exploring The Significance of Effective Governance in The Public Sector: A Case of the Department of Water and Sanitation in Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality, Eastern Cape Province
Phuti Alfred Patrick Mabotha, Morongwa Annamarie Bopape (University of South Africa)	Beyond the Stench: Decoding Systemic Leadership Failure in South Africa's Wastewater Crisis and its Assault on SDGs and Agenda 2063
Ntsindiso Errol Mdindana (University of KwaZulu Natal)	The Impact of Continuous Formal Learning on the Professionalisation and Innovation of the Public Sector: A case of Eastern Cape Provincial Treasury
Shangolirimini Demana (University of South Africa)	Reconfiguration of the approach to professionalization of public service to build a capable state: A South African perspective
Ramalobe Kutu and Murendeni Ramaru (IYunivesity Walter Sisulu and Nelson Mandela University)	Enhancing Service Delivery through Financial Accountability in Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality: A Critical Review

Session 1G

Time: 11:00 – 13:00 | Venue: TBA | Chair: Prof David Mello (UNISA)

Theme: International Relations, Global Governance and Decolonial Development

Full Names	Topic
Clayton Hazvinei Vhumbunu (University of Free State)	Reimagining North-South Partnerships: BRICS Diplomacy as a Catalyst or Cataclysm for Equitable Governance in the Global South?
Moses Alphons Kaunyana (K Protocol and IGR Training Solutions)	South Africa's Foreign Policy and State Protocol: Evolution from Apartheid to Post Apartheid Democratic Dispensation
Jabu Makhubela, Rasodi Manyaka & Ricky Mukonza (University of Limpopo)	Assessing the effectiveness of the SADC Protocol in Advancing Internationalization of higher education: A Theoretical Review
Rabelani Dagada (University of South Africa)	South Africa Should Import Skilled Labour to Export Manufactured Products
Daglous Makumbe (University of the Western Cape)	Research Notes on African Moves to Decolonize International Criminal Law: A Façade or a Reality?
Themba Nkosi (Department of Public Service and Administration)	Governance Laundering: Exploring the exploitation of Legal and Regulatory Loopholes in South African Public Service
Luck Boy Tebogo Makhubedu (University of Johannesburg)	The impact of operational systems on productivity growth of the small-scale masonry brick manufacturing industry, Gauteng, South Africa
Fortune Maswanganyi (North West University)	Populist Political Communication and Vote-Seeking Behaviour in South African Local Governance

Session 1H

Time: 11:00-13:00 | Venue: TBA | Chair: Dr Wyawo Gumede (Sol Plaatjie)

Theme: Local Government, Democracy and Political Dynamics

Full Names	Topic
Ntsako Mathonsi & Sello Sithole (University of Limpopo)	Decentralisation of Administrative Powers Over the Housing Function from Provincial to Local Government: A Subject of Intergovernmental Dispute
Mawande Xabela, Zandile Gqweta & Regina Stofile (iYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	An analysis of the impact of the implementation of a provincial intervention under section 139(1) of the Constitution at Mnquma Local Municipality
Mandla Mbatha (Tshwane University of Technology)	Beyond the Politics-Administration Dichotomy: Political Interference and the Reconfiguration of Administrative Autonomy in South African Municipal Governance
Maxwell Sentiwe (iYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	The decline in voter turnout and the low levels of youth participation in South African elections

Bongeka Nosisi Kauleza,, Zimisele Tomose & Maxwell Sentiwe (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	The implications of illiterate performing oversight duties over the illiterate: A case study of a selected municipality
Thandile Ncwana, BYC Mvuyana & Puleng Sekekete. (Mangosuthu University of Technology)	"Reimagining Batho Pele through Public Participation in South African Municipalities

Session 1I

Time: 11:00-13:00 | Venue: TBA | Chair: Prof Matia Kanjere (UL)

Theme: MIX

Full Names	Topic
Ahmed Lawan (Federal University of Kashere)	The Utilization of Renewable AI and the Fight against Corruption in Nigeria: A Study of Independent Corrupt practices and other related offences commission (ICPC)
Tsundzukani Nkuna, Joseph Mudau & Joyce Ndou (Tshwane University of Technology)	Assessing The Effectiveness of Corporate Strategy Implementation at the South African Bureau of Standards
Deborah Mokgojwa (North-West University)	Higher Education Governance and Talent Management of Early-Career Academics in a South African University
Morongwa Annamarie Bopape (University of South Africa)	Policy Ambition versus Institutional Reality: Analysing the Transition from NATED (Report 191) to Occupational Qualifications in South Africa's TVET Sector
James Ndlovu & Charles Zungunde (Durban University of Technology and University of KwaZulu Natal)	Artificial intelligence and decolonising South African higher education curricula: towards integrating African epistemologies
Masa Sylvester Motadi (North West University)	Decolonising Higher Education Governance in the Digital Era through a Critical Systematic Review of Policy Frameworks and Institutional Transformation in African Universities
Adam Zaga Sibiya (Tshwane University of Technology)	E-government and Digital Transformation in South African Public Administration: An Interpretive Study of the Department of Home Affairs and Department of Public Service and Administration
Simphiwe Sambo , Nkosingiphile Mkhize & Andiswa Miggels (North West University)	Strategic Corruption in the Sub-Saharan Africa, the New Scramble of Africa.

Session 1J

Time: 11:00-13:00 | Venue: To be announced | Chair: Dr Sareesha Pillay (NMU)

Theme: Higher Education Governance, Decolonisation and Transformation

Full Names	Topic
Nomfundo Gladys Khoza (Central University of Technology)	Universities as Catalysts of Innovation in Rethinking Skills Development for the Digital Economy
Walter Mthuthuzeli Mkosana (Central University of Technology)	Digital Transformation, Student Engagement and Data-Driven Governance in Higher Education: A Systematic Review and Integrative Framework
Hazel Moonsamy & Mogie Subban (University of KwaZulu-Natal)	Coalition Politics and Governance Outcomes in South Africa: A Case Study of eThekweni Municipality
Nomhle P Zatelela (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	Assessing integrated water and sanitation solutions for informal settlements in Makana Local Municipality, in the Eastern Cape Province in South Africa
Mafale Mildred Motupa, Kabelo Moeti and Masindi Mashapha (Tshwane University of Technology)	A comparative analysis of employee relations framework between South African Military Personnel and Public Services Act Personnel
Bayanda Mlamleli and Nontsikelelo Ndabeni (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	Exploring oral assessment as a strategy to mitigate academic dishonesty in the age of artificial intelligence in higher education: A selected higher education institution
Vuyani Goodman Langa and Tsholofelo Fanampe (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	Decolonising Institutional Power: A Qualitative Case Study of Governance Reform and Africanised Leadership in the Wake of the Rhodes Must Fall Movement in South African Universities
Immaculate Nkamogeleng Bogopa & Chanté Botha (University of Johannesburg)	The Role of Data-Driven Decision Making in South African MBA Curriculum Development: Evidence from South African MBA programmes

Session 2A

Time: 14:00 – 16:00 | Venue: | Chair: Prof Maijane Mashamaite (UL)

Theme: Development Planning, Service Delivery and Sustainability in Urban and Rural Contexts

Full Names	Topic
Unathi Khandanisa, David Bogopa & Kutu Sam Ramolobe (Nelson Mandela University and IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	Structural Barriers to Inclusion for Persons with Disabilities within Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality
Mafale Mildred Motupa, Kabelo Moeti and Masindi Mashapha (Tshwane University of Technology)	A comparative analysis of employee relations framework between South African Military Personnel and Public Services Act Personnel
Thomas Ramovha (University of Limpopo)	Towards A Sustainable Model for the Delivery of Housing in South Africa: A New Public Governance Perspective.
Wilson Majebele (University of Limpopo)	Intergrated development challenges associated with water supply in Madibeng Local Municipality, South Africa
Mpho Mganga and Themba Lukhele (University of Mpumalanga)	Analysis of the Communal Sense of Place Attachment to Public Parks Facilities in the Urban Neighbourhood in South Africa
Kgosi Nkgoang (Independent)	A User-Centred Assessment of the Implementation of Non-Motorised Transport Policy in a selected Metropolitan Area in South Africa
Mnqobi Banele Njoko (University of Limpopo)	Community-Based Resilience Strategies to Mitigate Inconsistent Potable Water Supplies in Lepelle-Nkumpi Local Municipality, Limpopo Province, South Africa
Zimkitha Mahlunqulu (University of South Africa)	The Disabling Effects of Gender-Based Violence: A Biopsychosocial Perspective

Session 2B Time: 14:00 – 16:00 Venue: TBA Chair: Prof Oshupeng Masong (UMP) Theme: Local Government, Democracy and Political Dynamics	
Full Names	Topic
Mandla Letlape (Thinc Foundation)	The death of the Executive Mayoral System-The impact of coalitions
Thandolwethu Nomarwayi (University of South Africa)	An appraisal of the 2026 local government elections from a trust deficit and voter turnout lens
Maluta Khomola, Mutshutshu Nekhavhambe and Langanani Mbedz (University of Venda)	Addressing Challenges in Local Economic Development Through Community Participation: A case of South African Local Municipalities
Zwivhuya Arnold Nethonzhe, Guswin De Wee and Kutu Sam Ramolobe (Nelson Mandela University, University of Western Cape and IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	Assessing the Effectiveness of Ward Committees in Facilitating Participatory Governance: A Case of Polokwane Local Municipality
Madikana Jackinah Mokgokong (Tshwane University of Technology)	Paradoxes and Challenges of Coalition Systems on Service Delivery in South Africa’s Local Government
Lulamile Hanabe (Nelson Mandela University)	Governance and Institutional Capacity: The Role of Political Stability in Long Term Planning
Alouis Chilunjika (National University of Lesotho/ University of South Africa)	Challenges and Prospects of E-Governance, AI and Public Sector Innovations in Lesotho
Fediam Nkuna (University of Venda)	Impediments of the Local Government Fiscal Framework impacting on Municipal Financial Sustainability

Session 2C Time: 14:00 – 16:00 Venue: TBA Chair: Dr Lerato Sono Theme: Digital, Smart and Future Governance	
Full Names	Topic
Kefilwe Thabayapelo (University of South Africa)	Advancing AI Readiness: Skills Development and Career Growth in Rural Municipalities
Beauty Zindi (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	Leveraging e-governance and Artificial Intelligence to enhance public sector innovation and service delivery in South African Municipalities
Abisha Kampira (Tshwane University of Technology)	Exploring Policy Cohesion on Digital Government as An Enabler of Youth Entrepreneurship: Towards A Policy Cohesion Matrix – South Africa
Yusuf Lukman and Kedibone Phago (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu and University of Mpumalanga)	Advancing e-Government Implementation through Digital Platforms in Rural Municipalities: Evidence from Eastern Cape, South Africa
Clarity Hutete and Shikha Vyas-doorgapersad (University of Johannesburg)	Leveraging 4IR Technologies for Data-Driven Water Governance: Insights and Lessons from African and Global Cases for Future-Ready Municipal Systems
Amos Shibambu (University of South Africa)	The impact of digital transformation on transparency of the local government administration in South Africa
Silma Koekemoer (Milpark Business School)	Contemplating SMART in the Smart Cities Concept
Pretty Faith Nyathi (MANCOSA)	Investigating the Adaptation of Audiovisual Production Technologies to Develop a Framework for Government Communication in Limpopo Province.

Session 2D Time: 14:00 – 16:00 Venue: TBA Chair: Prof Witness Maluleke Theme: Local Government, Democracy and Political Dynamics	
Full Names	Topic
Neo Refiloe Mofokeng & Nkanyezi Msimango (Tshwane University of Technology and Department of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation)	China-Africa Relationship in South Africa's International Relations in Trump 2.0: A BRICS-Inspired Delinking Perspective
Sibahle Michael Cele (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	Professionalizing the Political Career: Prospects for the Political-Administrative Interface

Sibusisiwe Nonhlanzeko Nyawo Zethembe Mseleku (University of Mpumalanga and University of KwaZulu Natal)	Rural Youth Entrepreneurship as a Catalyst for Local Economic Development: The role of Developmental Local Government
Siviwe Mditshwa (Department of Cooperative Governance & Traditional Affairs)	Citizen-Led Evaluation Through Protest Action: Implications for Local Governance and Service Delivery in South Africa
Edmore Ntini (University of KwaZulu- Natal)	Fragile Mandates: Toward a Theory of Transactional Coalitionalism in South African Local Councils
Sinelisiwe Thwala and Ayabulela Dlakavu (National School of Government and University of the Witwatersrand)	From Curriculum to Capacity: Assessing Higher Education’s Alignment with Local Government in South Africa
Dorcas Raesetsa Nyama and Rasodi Manyaka (Tshwane University of Technology)	Sustainable water service provision in the City of Johannesburg
Osemoboh Regis Wilson (University of KwaZulu-Natal)	Paradiplomacy as a Capacity Building Strategy for Good Governance at the Local Level in South Africa

Session 2E Time: 14:00 – 16:00 Venue: TBA Chair: Dr Guswin De Wee Theme: Governance, Institutions, Leadership and Decolonisation	
Full Names	Topic
Teboho Manenzhe, Mokgadi Julia Ngoepe-Ntsoane and Promise Xitshembiso Hlabane (University of South Africa, Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs)	Succession Planning as a driver of sustainable smallholder farming in Bushbuckridge, South Africa
Siziwe Adricia Mvanana Nikani, Thando Rulashe, Thanduxolo Fana, Sareesha Pillay (Nelson Mandela University and University of Mpumalanga)	Reimagining Public Sector Governance: Lessons from Professionalisation in South Africa.
Mary-Anne Monyobo (North-West University)	Moral Regeneration and Ethical Governance in South African Local Government: Rhetoric or Reality?
Selaelo John Mabeba (University of Limpopo)	Pondering Over the Professionalisation of The Public Service: Myth or Reality?

Metji Makgoba & David Letsoalo (University of Limpopo & University of South Africa)	Mining Charters in context of radical economic redress in the Neo-apartheid South Africa post-1994
Zimkhitha Ngqeleni (iYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	Assessing the Effectiveness of Decolonised Governance Structures in Enhancing Accountability and Trust in Public Institutions
Lothar Mbedzi (Tshwane University of Technology)	An Assessment Into the Role of Leadership in Enhancing the Values-Based Organisational Culture: An Empirical Study into A South African State Entity in the Financial Sector

Session 2F

Time: 14:00 – 16:00 | Venue:TBA | Chair: Prof Malefatsane Mofolo (WSU)

Theme: Higher Education Governance, Decolonisation and Transformation

Full Names	Topic
Andrew Semenya (Regenesys Education)	Are Universities Preparing “Future-Fit” Public Servants? A Critical Examination of Higher Education in South Africa
Vuyani Khumalo (Mangosuthu University of Technology)	Co-Creating Innovation in South Africa: Exploring Synergies between Universities, Government and Industry for Inclusive Development
Tau Nyaku (The National School of Government)	Conceptual Framework for Ubuntu Leadership for crisis management : Reflections from the National School of Government and Nala Municipality – Free State
Gibson Mbuso Nyathi (North-West University)	The Implementation of Integrated Strategic Planning Framework for Teacher Education and Development in Tshwane-West District
Khomotso Radebe, Kaizer Makole & Mogotsi Maleka (National School of Government and Tshwane University of Technology)	A Proposed Framework of Open Distance eLearning: The Case of the National School of Government
Joram Ndlovu & Hlengiwe R. Phetha (UKZN)	Higher Education Institutions-Industry Engagement Nexus in Accelerating the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals in South Africa
Anne Margaret Soldat & Ana Cristina Goncalves Weyers (University of Zululand)	"Community Engagement Through a Mentorship Program: A Case of a Higher Education Institution in South Africa
Dr Edmore Ntini (University of KwaZulu Natal)	Free to Speak, Governed into Silence: Epistemic Permissioning and the New Architecture of Academic Freedom in the Twenty-First-Century University

Session 2G

Time: 14:00 – 16:00 | Venue: TBA | Chair: Dr David Makhado

Theme: Governance, Institutions, Leadership and Decolonisation

Full Names	Topic
Nyawo Gumede (Sol Plaatje University)	Government of National Unity in South Sudan: National Decentralization Challenges and Governance Priorities in the Post -Conflict Epoch.
Mthokozisi Sydney Luthuli (Durban University of Technology)	What Does Waste Management Reveal About Local Government Governance?
Monument Thulani Bongani Makhanya (University of Zululand)	Intersection of Ubuntu and Emotional Intelligence in Developing a Predictive Model for Corruption Resistance in the South African Public Sector
Beauty Nonzwakazi Makiwane (Yunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	Women with Disabilities in Managerial Positions: Consequences and Solutions
Tafwauli Phiri (University of Pretoria)	Financial inclusion as development governance: Institutional performance and the transformative limits of microfinance in Malawi
Zolile Isak Chap & Shepherd Ramakatu Malefane (University of South Africa)	The exercise of administrative governance during change: A synopsis from the findings of the roles of public sector managers in the relocation of functions
Anthony Tshwarelo Malapane (Gauteng Provincial Legislature)	Complexities of Legislative Oversight in an Era of Coalitions in South Africa
Nametso Gae & Arthur Shopola (North West University)	Training and development needs and interventions for a professionalised local government sector

Session 2H

Time: 14:00 – 16:00 | Venue: TBA | Chair: Dr Nkosingiphile Mkhize (NWU)

Theme: Local Government, Democracy and Political Dynamics

Full Names	Topic
Julie Thopola (MANCOSA)	Performance Over Patronage: A Depoliticised Governance Blueprint for South African Municipalities
Jonny Motsosi (Tshwane University of Technology)	Towards an Integrated Leadership Framework for Effective Municipal Service Delivery: A Study of Selected Local Municipalities In The North West Province, South Africa.

Tebogo Matoane-Nkabinde (Department of Social Development)	Beyond numbers: a gendered reflection of women's substantive leadership and impact in consolidating women's empowerment and gender equality gains in local government, Mpumalanga Province.
Mike Leslie & Makgabo Mabotja (National Treasury)	Strengthening performance monitoring in local government: MFMA Circular 88 and harnessing data as an enabler of successful reform
Ndwakhulu Tshishonga (UKZN)	Towards Building Municipal Capacity through Organisational Development: A Case of Municipal Institute of Learning (MILE) in Durban
Peter Tsietsi Nyoni and Ricky Mukonza (Tshwane University of Technology)	Sustaining Section 139 (1) Interventions in Local Government in the Mpumalanga Province: The Case of Dr JS Moroka Local Municipality
Thamane Mahlangu (Tshwane University of Technology)	Reimagining the Political-Administrative Interface in South African Municipalities: Moving from Cadre Deployment to Merit-Based Governance
Osemoboh Regis Wilson (University of KwaZulu-Natal)	Paradiplomacy as a Capacity Building Strategy for Good Governance at the Local Level in South Africa

Session 2I

Time: 14:00-16:00 | Venue: TBA | Chair: Prof Sanjay Balkaran (WSU)

Theme: MIX

Full Names	Topic
Gilbert Matome Ramakgolo Charles Selemela (Limpopo Office of the Premier)	The effects of digital transformation on sustainable livelihoods in South Africa as a developing country: A Limpopo Province Perspective
Mphikeleli Mnguni (Institute of Public Sector Ethics and Integrity Management Professionals of South Africa))	Public participation and governance in the Socio-Economic Impact Assessment System: Lessons from the Revised White Paper on Arts, Culture and Heritage
Fortune Maswanganyi (North-West University)	Populist Political Communication and Vote-Seeking Behaviour in South African Local Governance
Okha Zwakala and Zolani Tafeni (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	Evaluating The Effectiveness of Government Water Projects: The Case of Intsika Yethu Local Municipality
Izimangaliso Malatjie, Busani Ngcaweni and Tebogo Gumede (National School of Government, University of Johannesburg and HSRC)	Pathways, Agency and Leadership Development: A Study of Women in Senior and Executive Leadership in the South African Public Sector

Mandla Makhanya (Public Service Commission)	From Aspiration to Enforcement- Reimagining Governance, Leadership, and the Public Service Commission in South Africa's Democratic Dispensation
Ndwakhulu Tshishonga (UKZN)	Ubuntu as a Framework for Decolonising Public Governance in South Africa
Jeremy Mitonga-Monga (University of Johannesburg)	Factorial validity of the French version of the Empathetic Leadership Scale within public high schools in a developing country

Session 2J

Time: 14:00 – 16:00 | Venue: To be announced | Chair: Prof Harry Mundzezhi (UNIVEN)

Theme: Local Government, Democracy and Political Dynamics

Full Names	Topic
Godwin Dube (Municipal Demarcation Board)	Differentiated restructuring and the carrot of autonomy in South African Local Government
Limpho Relebohile Rakhoba Pulane Molomo (Central University of Technology)	Local Government, Democracy and Political Dynamics in Lesotho: Examining the Interface between Councillors and Traditional Leadership under the Local Government Act.
Peter Baloyi & Ricky Mukonza (Tshwane University of Technology)	Sustainability of Local Government Funding in South Africa-A Critical Assessment of Traffic Fine Revenue Collection in the City of Johannesburg
Zamokuhle Mbandlwa (Durban University of Technology)	Local Government Elections and the Dynamics of Democratic Development in 2026 South African elections
Leanett Fanyana Ntuli	Action Research for Policy Innovation and Change Management in Local Government: A case study
Hazel Moonsamy & Mogie Subban (University of KwaZulu-Natal)	Coalition Politics and Governance Outcomes in South Africa: A Case Study of eThekweni Municipality
Sinelisiwe Thwala and Ayabulela Dlakavu (National School of Government and University of the Witwatersrand)	From Curriculum to Capacity: Assessing Higher Education's Alignment with Local Government in South Africa
Dorcas Raesetsa Nyama and Rasodi Manyaka (Tshwane University of Technology)	Sustainable water service provision in the City of Johannesburg

Session 3A

Time: 16:00-18:00 | Venue: TBA | Chair: Dr Mary Mangai

Theme: Economic Growth, Innovation and Regional Development

Full Names	Topic
Maledi Noluthando Fortunate Msani (University of Zululand)	Assessing the implementation of the district development model in enhancing water service delivery in king Cetshwayo district municipality.
Ntuthuko Sydwell Lekhuleni (Tshwane University of Technology)	Investigating socio-economic impact of foreign owned Spaza shops on the informal market in Tshwane
Zukisa Pato and Obrain Murire (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	Digital Citizen Engagement in Local Government: Assessing the Role of E-Governance Platforms in Enhancing Participation in Alfred Nzo District Municipality
Kgabo Morifi (Tshwane University of Technology)	Preserving Talent Management in the Gauteng City Region
Keabetswe Ndhlovu and Praise Ramaru (Nelson Mandela University)	The Developmental Costs of State Capture: Safeguarding Economic Institutions for Inclusive Growth in The Eastern Cape.
Teyise Nangamso (Nelson Mandela University)	Assessing The Role of Public Procurement on Inclusive and Gender-Sensitive Economic Participation in South Africa

Session 3B

Time: 16:00-18:00 | Venue: TBA | Chair: Prof Loraine Boitumelo Mzini (NWU)

Theme: Development Planning, Service Delivery and Sustainability in Urban and Rural Contexts

Full Names	Topic
Avumile Sigayela (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	Enhancing fiscal sustainability through improved governance in local government: A case study of a selected local municipality in the Eastern Cape
Asisipho Ngongo (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	Monitoring and evaluation of development interventions
Pebetse Masha and Silma Koekemoer (Milpark Business School)	The Perceived Link between Strategic Planning, Budgeting, and Strategic Objectives
Karabo Mohapanele (University of Zululand)	HIV/AIDS and COVID-19 Pandemic Effects on Changing Family Structures and Childcare in South Africa: An Exploratory Literature Review

Charles Selemela, Valery Nicoline Louw & Bethuel Sibongiseni Ngcamu (University of South Africa)	Towards inclusive Community Workers Programme: Exploration of Status of Representation and Barriers faced by Persons with Disability within Lepelle-Nkumpi Local Municipal Area
Godfrey Thabethe (University of Mpumalanga)	The Efficacy of Integrated Development Plan as a Tool for Enhancing Basic Service Delivery: A Case of Ehlanzeni District Municipality, South Africa

Session 3C

Time: 16:00-18:00 | Venue: TBA | Chair:TBA

Theme: Digital, Smart and Future Governance

Full Names	Topic
Kevin Khosa & Paul Shimane Radikonyana (Municipal Demarcation Board)	A geospatial digital twin framework for integrated municipal planning and service delivery in rural South Africa.
Sharon Chilunjika (University of South Africa)	The role of digital health and data-driven governance in improving health outcomes in Lesotho
Kgalema Mashamaite (University of Limpopo)	Climate Adaptation Strategies in South Africa: Policy and Practice Gaps
Thato Ramoolla (University of Pretoria)	Institutional readiness factors for artificial intelligence adoption in the South African Public Sector
Sipho Mokoena (University of Limpopo)	Human Resource Capacity Required to Implement E-Government in the Rural Areas of the Limpopo Province, South Africa
Tasmin Jones (Nelson Mandela University)	Digital Smart and Future Governance: Transforming Public Administration

Session 3D Time: 16:00-18:00 Venue: TBA Chair: TBA Theme: Governance, Institutions, Leadership and Decolonisation	
Full Names	Topic
Mokgethwa Emmanuel Mogofe (City of Ekurhuleni)	Corporate Governance Benchmark for Gauteng Provincial Government Departments in South Africa
Lehlogonolo Moagi and Stellah Lubinga (University of Pretoria)	Institutional Readiness in the Professionalisation of the South African Public Sector
Leanett Fanyana Ntuli and Eustache Tanzala Kikasu (Durban University of Technology)	Exploring systems thinking in municipal leadership: Ethekwini's Metropolitan Municipality approach to developmental governance
Ernest Mlambo (Management College of South Africa)	Evaluating the Effectiveness of Internal Controls in Bursary Management using the COSO Framework: Limpopo Office of the Premier Case Study
Finhlo Mightness Shilowe (University of Limpopo)	Enhancing Governance and Leadership through the Professionalisation of Public Sector Institutions
Smangele Nkosingiphile Shandu (University of South Africa)	Towards Evidence-Based Solutions for Contraband in Correctional Facilities: Understanding Criminogenic Risks

Session 3E 16:00-18:00 Venue: TBA Chair: TBA Theme: Local Government, Democracy and Political Dynamics	
Full Names	Topic
Fundiswa Khaile (University of the Western Cape)	Coalition Government in Selected Metropolitan Municipalities: Implications for Service Delivery and Social Cohesion
Sihle Jongihlati (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	An analysis of the role of decentralisation in addressing vacancies in the Human Resource Management at Mnquma Local Municipality
Kgotola Khotso (University of South Africa)	Good Governance as a Panacea to Enhance Ethical Conduct within the South African Local Government
Ayakha Magxotwa (University of the Western Cape)	Intergovernmental Relations and Cooperative Governance as Catalysts for Integrated Service Delivery in an Era of Coalition Governments: Lessons from the District Development Model

Nqobile Sikhosana (North-West University)	The Impact of Political Recalls (Section 129 And 278 of The Constitution) on Local Government Service Delivery: A Case of the Bulawayo City Council, Zimbabwe
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Session 3F Time: 16:00-18:00 Venue: TBA Chair: TBA Theme: Development Planning, Service Delivery and Sustainability in Urban and Rural Contexts	
Full Names	Topic
Maphelo Malgas Zamashwabade Penelope Xaba	An investigation into the effect of supply chain management on sustainable service delivery: A case of Bushbuckridge Local Municipality
Sifiso Mofokeng, David Legodi Bogopa & Kutu Sam Ramolobe (Nelson Mandela University and IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	Administrative Capacity and the Right to Adequate Housing: Advancing SDG 11 in South African Local Government
Nonkazimulo Magwaza (University of KwaZulu-Natal)	The role of traditional leadership and local institutions in communal land development for Retail-led development.
Buyani Nkabinde (Durban University of Technology)	Urbanisation and Internal Migration as Drivers of Economic Growth in Developing Economies: Evidence from South Africa
Simon Matome Nkgapele (University of Johannesburg)	The Cost of Medical Negligence in South Africa: Implications for Financial Sustainability and Service Delivery in Public Health Systems
Zamikhaya Gotyi (University of Fort Hare)	Linking conservation and sustainable livelihoods: the participation of local communities in environmental conservation

Session 3G Time: 16:00-18:00 Venue: TBA Chair: Prof Richard Mthethwa Theme: Governance, Institutions, Leadership and Decolonisation	
Full Names	Topic
Eugene Beyonyi and Isioma Ile (University of the Western Cape)	Decolonised Water Policy: A case study of Bamessing (Nsei), Cameroon
Andisiwe Masheane (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	The Role of Ethical Leadership and Accountability in Mitigating Governance Deficits and Strengthening Public Sector Institutions
Eunice Chesa (North West University)	From Compliance to Accountability: The Influence of Ethical Leadership on Oversight Institutions
Tshedza Tshivhasa Sikhwari (Tshwane University of Technology)	The judicial commission of injury in South Africa: a dilemma of accountability, politics, and superstitions

Vuyisa Mhlontlo & Sareesha Pillay (Nelson Mandela University)	The Role of Ethics and Institutional Accountability in Advancing Food Security: A Case of the Eastern Cape
Mthokozisi Luthuli & Lindokuhle Ntuli (Durban University of Technology)	Community Resistance in Metropolitan Waste Management: Executive Perspectives

Session 3H 16:00-18:00 Venue: TBA Chair; Prof Lucky Mathebula Theme: MIX	
Full Names	Topic
Mutshidzi Silima, Nicholine Silaule & Thakane Dimpho Maelane (University of South Africa)	The Transparency Paradox: Balancing AI Innovation with Public Trust in Digital E-Governance
Ashleigh Shangare (Thabo Mbeki African School of Public and International Affairs)	Women’s Political Leadership and Transformative Governance in Africa: Reimagining Institutions for Inclusive Growth and Sustainable Development
Coceka Mva-Ntsepe (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	Investigating the Relationship between Interpersonal Communication and Mental Health in an Institution of Higher Learning
Ntobeko Magubane (National School of government)	Between Aspiration and Attrition: South Africa’s Developmental Trajectory into 2030
Nonhlanhla S'thabile Mkhize (Durban University of Technology)	Local Economic Development Initiatives and Women Empowerment in Rural Areas: A Case Study of Umgungundlovu District in KwaZulu-Natal
Welhemina Nthabiseng Mofokeng (North-West University)	Impact of Digital Public Infrastructure on NGO Financial Reporting and Transparency

Session 3I Time: 16:00-18:00 Venue: TBA Chair: TBA Theme: MIX	
Full Names	Topic
Retshidisitswe Blessing, Lebokollane & Mosebjadi Kabelo Mampa (Tshwane University of Technology)	Institutional Financial Policy and Student Access: Governance Challenges in South African Higher Education
Murendeni Praise Ramaru, Pillay Sareesha, David Bogopa & Ramolobe Kutu Sam (Nelson Mandela University)	Cross Sector Collaboration as a Strategic Imperative for Food Security in Vhembe District Municipality

Mosa Mofokeng & Nkosingiphile Mkhize (North West University)	Challenges and opportunities for Service Robots in Public Healthcare Sector: South African public clinics
Mataywa Busieka (Department of Public Service and Administration)	From Compliance to Convergence: Evaluating South Africa's 2025 Public Service Reforms through the African Charter's Vision of Pan-African Governance Standards
Tsepo Ernest Rangwato, Thandiwe Ncwana & Arthur Moraka Shopola (Tshwane University of Technology, MANCOSA and North West University)	Innovating public participation: A conceptual framework for blending technology and community engagement in municipal development planning in South Africa
Lethabo Maponya & Melody Chiume (University of Mpumalanga)	Entrepreneurial Innovation and Sustainable Systems Transformation: Evidence from Food, Water, Energy, and Health Systems in BRICS Economies

Session 3J Time: 16:00-18:00 Venue: To be announced Chair: Theme: MIX	
Full Names	Topic
Radipatla Rathaha (North-West University)	Analysis of Contributors to Disruptive Influences and the Erosion of Public Sector Institutional Governance Trust in South Africa
Hlengiwe Khoza (Tshwane University of Technology)	Exploring the extent of community involvement in the implementation of the indigent policy in Nkomazi Local Municipality
Bongiwe Dlodla, Mphathiseni Mkhize Bongekile Yvonne & Charlotte Mvuyana (Mangosuthu University of Technology)	Addressing leadership, ethics and accountability for effective governance in Public institutions
Molefi Matsieli (University of KwaZulu-Natal)	Governing Artificial Intelligence in Higher Education: A Systematic Review of Policy and Ethics
Thamsanqa Buys (Tshwane University of Technology)	Exploring the dearth and death of patriotism among South African citizens: causes, consequences and opportunities
Nomhle P Zatelela (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	Assessing integrated water and sanitation solutions for informal settlements in Makana Local Municipality, in the Eastern Cape Province in South Africa

Thursday , 01 October 2026

DAY 5

Session 1A	
Time: 09:00 – 11:00 Venue: To be announced Chair: Prof Isome Ille (UWC)	
Theme: Development Planning, Service Delivery and Sustainability in Urban and Rural Contexts	
Full Names	Topic
Lulamile Nicholus Sibanda, Charles Selemela and Kutu Ramolobe (University of South Africa and IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	Accelerating Climate-Resilient and Sustainable Food Systems: The District Development Model and Smallholder Agribusiness Value Chains in Gauteng Peri-Urban Agriculture
Siziphiwe Mxinwa and Sibusisiwe Nonhlanzeko Nyawo (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu and University of Mpumalanga)	Procurement Inefficiencies and Their Socio-Economic Consequences: Examining Service Delivery Gaps in South Africa
Normaliete Josey-Ann, Esau-Jantjies, Sareesha Pillay and Praise Ramaru (Nelson Mandela Uniersity)	Factors that hinder Child Maintenance Court administrative performance: Evidence from Wynberg Maintenance Court.
Ramokhojoane Paul Motsoeneng (University of South Africa)	The impact of climate change on water and sanitation resources in South Africa: A shift Towards an adaptive management approach
Primrose Sinazo Gwambe (University of KwaZulu-Natal)	Exploring the advancement of human resource business partnering in achieving organisational performance at eThekwini Metropolitan Municipality
Elizabeth Faith Nyaka and Lester Brian Shawa (University of KwaZulu-Natal and National School of Government)	Adoption of micro-credentials for public service professionalisation: Insights from senior managers in South Africa
Andrica Letsoalo Fuze (University of South Africa)	Impact of under representation of rural women in the AI and Just Energy Transition in rural South Africa
Babalwa Faith Vellem (University of Fort Hare)	Governance & Leadership: Decolonising governance, professionalising institutions, and ethical leadership

Session 1B Time: 09:00 – 11:00 Venue: To be announced Chair: Prof Sello Sithole (UL) Theme: Local Government, Democracy and Political Dynamics	
Full Names	Topic
Ampfarisaho Ashley Mudau (University of Limpopo)	Local government elections and democratic consolidation
Khayaalethu Thando Manxiwa (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	Political-Administrative Interface and Democratic Local Governance in Mquma Local Municipality
FM Lucky Mathebula (Tshwane University of Technology)	Coalition Government and the opportunity to reset the P/public S/service: The case for Public Service commissioning.
Nontandazo Qasha (Alfred Nzo District Municipality)	The role of ward committees (WCs) as participatory governance mechanisms in shaping Integrated Development Planning (IDP) processes within Matatiele Local Municipality in the Eastern Cape
Sinelisiwe Thwala and Ayabulela Dlakavu (National School of Government and University of the Witwatersrand)	From Curriculum to Capacity: Assessing Higher Education's Alignment with Local Government in South Africa
Dorcas Raesetsa Nyama and Rasodi Manyaka (Tshwane University of Technology)	Sustainable water service provision in the City of Johannesburg
Cabanga Maluleka, Oshupeng Maseng and Andile Sokani (University of Mpumalanga)	Digital Precarity and Youth Exclusion in African Public Administration: Rethinking E-Government Access in the Age of Informality
Dr Khuliso Kennedy Maimela and Ernest Kanakana Mutenda (PSETA and Institute of Public Sector Ethics and Integrity Management Professionals of South Africa)	Towards a Framework for Post-PHD Deployment and Accountability in South Africa's public sector

Session 1C Time: 09:00 – 11:00 Venue: To be announced Chair: Prof Ntsako Mathons Theme: Digital, Smart and Future Governance	
Full Names	Topic
Thamsanqa Dube (North-West University)	Integrating New Public Management and Classical Administrative Theory: A Theoretical Framework for Public Service Delivery
Akhona Bota (University of the Witwatersrand)	Profiling Systemic Misalignment in Integrated Planning and Governance: Explaining Persistent Fragmentation in the Eastern Cape Provincial Government
Naledi Dolomba (Office of the Premier)	A study of Women in Sustainable Farming and Biodiversity Conservation in Alice, Eastern Cape
Mandisa Kitunka and Seirah Ngcobo (Department of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation)	Using Rapid Evidence Approaches to Inform Decision Making: Lessons from the Welisizwe Programme

Bongani Nkosi, Joseph Mudau & Levy Ndou (Tshwane University of Technology)	Institutional and Governance Factors Affecting Water and Sanitation Service Delivery: A Case Study of Mbombela Local Municipality
Machanduke Lucas Shipalana & Bellah Maake (North West University)	Evaluating the implementation of revenue collection mechanisms for service delivery enhancement in the Greater Tzaneen Municipality
Kerotse Kekana (Stellenbosch University)	Exploring Feedbacks Between Community Resilience and Public Policy: Insights from Global Ecovillage Case Studies
Tatenda Nyabvudzi and Willie Chinyamurindi (University of Fort Hare)	Digital transformation in the South Africa public sector: Decent work as a psychological mechanism linking ICT practices to employee engagement

Session 1D Time: 09:00 – 11:00 Venue: To be announced Chair: De Arthur Shapola Theme: MIX	
Full Names	Topic
Sareesha Pillay and Zoliswa Made (Nelson Mandela University)	Indigenous language as a tool to enhance feedback mechanisms and public trust in South African localities.
Phakamani Dlamini (University of Mpumalanga)	The Influence of Whistle-Blowers on the Promotion of Employee Citizenship Behavior within the South African Public Sector is Noteworthy.
Khutso Delphus Maela (University of Venda)	Ethics and Accountability in Depoliticising Municipal Administration: A Critique of Cadre Deployment in South Africa
Tshepo Malik Kunene and Praise Ramaru (Nelson Mandela University)	An Investigation of Financial Control Mechanisms for Financial Accountability: A Case of Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality.
Hlengiwe Zulu and Pertunia Mahlangu (University of Mpumalanga)	The Functional Capabilities of Ward Committees in Facilitating Effective Community Participation within Integrated Development Planning in South Africa
Sibabalo Veli (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	An analysis of the water services at Yako Area, Amathole District Municipality, Eastern Cape
Seboka Kopung (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	Digital Innovations in Monitoring and Evaluation
Nicholine Silaule, Mutshidzi Silima and Dimpho Maelane (University of South Africa)	Artificial Intelligence Opportunities and Disruptions for public officials in the Department of Home Affairs in South Africa

Session 1E Time: 09:00 – 11:00 Venue: To be announced Chair: Prof Ferdinand ?? Theme: MIX	
Full Names	Topic
Shereen Sikwela & Melvin Diedericks (North West University)	The Professionalisation Gap in Private-to-Public Transitions: A Framework for Public Service Readiness
Rich Mashimbye (Thabo Mbeki African School of Public and International Affairs)	Decolonization and the precarity of African epistemology in mainstream South African universities
Luleka Velelo, Pauline Naidoo and Elvis Madondo (Durban University of Technology and University of Johannesburg)	Students' Perceptions of Social Media as a Communication Tool at a Selected Higher Education Institution in South Africa
Naledi Mkhombo (Tshwane University of Technology)	Factors Affecting the Adoption of Artificial Intelligence in Recruitment Processes within the Public Sector: A Case Study of Labour Centres in Limpopo Province
Matsoku Grace Mohlala (Tshwane University of Technology)	Barriers to effective communication in remote work environment, a case study of Department of Justice and Constitutional Development.
Kholofelo Rakubu (Tshwane University of Technology)	Acting Appointments as Governance Substitutes: A Criminological Analysis of Leadership Instability in the South African Police Service (SAPS)
Ntombesizwe Hallam, Willie Chinyamurindi & Nobulali Tsipa-Booi (University of Fort Hare)	Institutional trust, civic engagement and youth mental health: Evidence from a township community
Mkhululi Nceba Grawe & Thumeka Mzimeli (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	Reimagining Work-Integrated Learning for Public Relations Students in Online Environments: A study of in a South African University

Session 1F Time: 09:00-11:00 Venue: To be announced Chair: To be announced Theme: MIX	
Full Names	Topic
Lungile Penxa (University of the Western Cape)	Enhancing citizen participation through social accountability monitoring and advocacy at the local government level, South Africa
Siyasanga Sidumo and Zukiswa Roboji (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	Enhancing Municipal Governance through Real-Time Digital Monitoring Systems for Municipal Solid Waste Management

Thabo Keith Bob (Regenesys Education)	The Persistence of Weak Consequence Management in the City of Johannesburg Metropolitan Municipality: A Systemic Failure Undermining Operational Integrity
Nompumelelo Mokoena (Tshwane University of Technology)	Public Perceptions and Political Trust in the Madlanga Commission: A Case of Maladministration, Misconduct, and Corruption in Gauteng Province
Anathi Koko and Lebohang Seimela (University of Limpopo)	Developing Future-Fit Public Service: A Sociological Analysis of the South African Graduate Unemployment Study.
Gilbert Matome Ramakgolo, Charles Selemela and Theodore Nkadimeng Mahosi (Limpopo Office of the Premier?? and IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	The effects of digital transformation on sustainable livelihoods in South Africa as a developing country: A Limpopo Province Perspective
Sive Mbangiswano (Central University of Technology)	Rural Agribusiness Innovation as a Catalyst for Inclusive Regional Economic Growth in South Africa
Samuel Agunyai & Victor Ojakorotu (North west University)	Local Native Intelligence, Climate Change, and Sustainable development in Africa

Session 1G 09:00-11:00	
Venue: To be announced Chair: Dr Dr Izimangaliso Malatjie (NSG)	
Theme: MIX	
Full Names	Topic
Mphathesithe Mkhize, Vuyani Khumalo, Lawrance Abiwu and Simphiwe Gumede (Mangosuthu University of Technology)	Managing Ethical Dilemmas for Good Governance: Insights from Retired Senior Public Officials in South Africa
Revoniah Maboe and Arthur Shopola (South African Local Government Association and North West University)	Local Economic Development Practioners as catalysts of change in local government: A Public Entrepreneurship Outlook
Zukiswa Roboji (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	Greening Section 217 of the Constitution to integrate the Sustainable Procurement Model in Water Infrastructure: Policy Analysis
David Jourbert (West Coast District Municipality)	From Innovation to Sustainability: A Smart Governance Model for Revenue-Generating Municipalities
Amukelani Idah Ngobeni and Bonga Mdletshe (University of Mpumalanga)	Perceptions, Capacity and Digital readiness of Frontline Civil Service: An Empirical Evidence on the Implementation of E-governance in Mbombela Local Municipality

Tatenda Nyabvudzi and Willie Chinyamurindi (University of Fort Hare)	Digital transformation in the South Africa public sector: Decent work as a psychological mechanism linking ICT practices to employee engagement
Ayanda Goniwe & Silma Koekemoer (Milpark Business School)	A Review of Digital Adoption Frameworks to Identify Gaps Inhibiting Adoption, Integration, Growth, and Economic Inclusion of Informal Businesses
Mmachoene Ngoakwana Modiba, Kgalema Mashamaite & Thanyani Madzivhandila (University of Limpopo)	Bridging the Trust Gap: The Impact of Government-Community Relations on Service Delivery in South Africa

Session 1H Time: 11:00 – 13:00 Venue: To be announced Chair: TBA Theme: Mix	
Full Names	Topic
Lucky Boy Tebogo Makhubedu (University of Johannesburg)	An evaluation of the small-scale brick makers perception of key concepts of improving productivity within the brick manufacturing industry, Gauteng, South Africa
Sifundo Mdhluli (North-West University)	From Rhetoric to Results: Developing a Framework for Transformative Youth Development in KwaZulu-Natal.
Sibahle Gabisa (University of Free State)	The Role of Load-Shedding in Wastewater Management in eThekweni Metropolitan Municipality
Simamkele Menze (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	Flood Disasters, Vulnerable Communities, and Development Outcome: Examining Local Government Disaster Management in Mquma Local Municipality
Buyani Nkabinde & Thandile Ncwana (Durban University of Technology and MANCOSA)	Internal Migration and Governance in South African Municipalities: Implications for Inclusive Service Delivery and Sustainable Urban Development
Halima Khunoethe & Ashnee Heeralal (KwaZulu-Natal Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (COGTA))	Assessing the Efficacy of the District Development Model in South Africa: A Comparative Analysis of eThekweni Metropolitan and Zululand District Municipalities
Lothar Mbedzi (Tshwane University of Technology)	The role of Leadership in enhancing the Values-Based Organisational Culture: An Empirical study into a South African state entity in the financial sector
Leonia Ramataboe, Vivian Mabunda & Witness Maluleke (Independent Researcher, University of South Africa and University of Limpopo)	Lesotho Highlands Water Project Phase II: Integrating social justice and environmental resilience for rural communities

Session 1I Time: 11:00 – 13:00 Venue: To be announced Chair: TBA Theme: Mix	
Full Names	Topic
Masa Sylvester Motadi (North West University)	Decolonising Higher Education Governance in the Digital Era through a Critical Systematic Review of Policy Frameworks and Institutional Transformation in African Universities
Seboka Kopung and Kagiso Tsatsimpe (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu and North-West University)	Studying how reward systems and recognition affect project performance
Mandla Mbatha (Tshwane University of Technology)	Epistemic Justice and Curriculum Transformation: From Eurocentric to Afrocentric Knowledge Systems in South Africa’s Educational Discourse
Adam Zaga Sibiya (Tshwane University of Technology)	Balancing access and capacity in South African higher education: Assessing the need for additional Universities amid growing domestic and international first-year student demand
Daglous Makumbe (University of the Western Cape)	Producing What They Do Not Consume? Querying the Utility of University Education in a Dynamic Professional Environment: Insights from South Africa and Zimbabwe
Namhla Xholo (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	The Skills Mismatch and Youth Unemployment in South Africa Post-COVID-19
Elekanyani Nthangeni (University of South Africa)	Sustainable Leadership and organisational performance in the public sector
Phumlani Dlamike, Mphumzi Babula, Buyani Nkabine and Lindelwa Cele (Durban University of Technology)	Intersectoral relations for co-producing knowledge ecologies for rural development: A South African local government perspective (Eastern Cape)

Session 1J Time: 11:00 – 13:00 Venue: TBA Chair: TBA Theme: Development Planning, Service Delivery and Sustainability in Urban and Rural Contexts	
Name and Surname	Topic
Mjikwa Anesipho and Malefetsane Mofolo (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	Evaluating the effectiveness of infrastructure development projects in Mnquma Local Municipality
Vuli Madonsela (Tshwane University of Technology)	Challenges to Equitable Water Provision in Rural South Africa: A Social Justice Investigation of Swalala Settlement

Light Ubisi and Ntwanano Mathebula (University of South Africa and University of Johannesburg)	Repositioning Local Economic Development in South African Municipalities: A Theoretical and Conceptual Perspective
Mashudu Phatudi (Tshwane University of Technology)	The effects of the revised preferential procurement policy on supply chain management in a State-Owned Entity: The case of South African National Roads Agency
Caroline Seitshiro (University of Mpumalanga)	Planning, Coordination of Service Delivery, and Sustainability of Development with Regards to Water Resources in Rural-Urban Areas: Case Study Driekoppies, South Africa
Bongiwe Mphahlele (University of South Africa)	Can Digital Transformation Deliver Financial Inclusion for Rural Women in Africa? Opportunities and Persistent Barriers: Mpumalanga case
Kuhle Ntsuke-Ntsuke and Noluthando Matsiliza (University of Fort Hare)	Evaluating Quality in the Management of Waste at The Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality
Sakiel Monama, Tlou Millicent Ramoroka and Ngoako Johannes Mokoale (University of Limpopo)	The Dynamics of Informal Street Trading Towards Disaster Risk and Infrastructure Damage in South African Cities

Session 2A Time: 14:00 - 16:00 Venue: TBA Chair: TBA Theme: Economic Growth, Innovation and Regional Development	
Full Names	Topic
Happiness Makofane (University of Limpopo)	Contribution of Sustainable Infrastructure Development in Promoting Ecotourism
Brenda Roberts-Tebejane and Gaethijwe Letlhaku (JB Marks Local Municipality and SALGA Gauteng)	The role of the Municipalities on tuck-shop regulations affecting the national crisis of the township economy and the global crisis economy
Bongekile Mkhwanazi, Nokukhanya Jili-Mbanjwa and Andrew Enaifoghe (University of Zululand)	Enhancing small-scale agricultural sustainability through precision farming: implications for local economic development in Umhlathuze local municipality
Mankolo Xaverine Lethoko (University of Limpopo)	Multi-Level marketing based entrepreneurship as a vehicle for economic development job creation in South Africa: A case of Limpopo province
Dilakane Phasha (Limpopo Legislature)	Intersectional Blended Green Economy Framework: A Transformative Model for Strengthening Rural Municipal Planning, Resilience and Economic Diversification in Sekhukhune District, Limpopo Province

Isaac Nkoana and Kgalema Abbyton Mashamaite (University of Limpopo)	The Contributions of Small and Medium Enterprises towards poverty reduction in Makweng Townships, University of Limpopo
Sibusisiwe Ruth Nyoni, David Bogopa, Stephen Mago and Florah Modiba (Nelson Mandela University)	Language as an Institutional Barrier in South African Township Entrepreneurship Ecosystems
Tholakele Nyathi and Buti Lekonyane (University of South Africa)	Transforming Housing Delivery in Informal Settlements through Innovative Public Procurement Planning: The Case of Orange Farm Extension 10, City of Johannesburg

Session 2B	
Time: 14:00 - 16:00 Venue: TBA Chair: TBA	
Theme: Development Planning, Service Delivery and Sustainability in Urban and Rural Contexts	
Name and Surname	Topic
Sipho Mokoena (University of Limpopo)	Exploring Water and Sanitation Service Delivery Challenges and Public Financial Management in a Selected District Municipality, Limpopo Province
Fhatuwani Mudau, Ephraim Mahole and Langanani Mbedzi (University of Venda)	Evaluating the Effectiveness of E-Participation in Enhancing Municipal Service Delivery: A Case Study of Thulamela Local Municipality
Siphokazi Willie (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	Integrating Informal Community Feedback into Monitoring and Evaluation Systems: A Comparative Study of Urban Informal Settlements and Rural Villages.
Risenga Shilenge, Hasani Elia Zitha and Pandelani Harry Munzhedzi (University of Venda)	Strengthening Financial Resource Mobilisation for Service Delivery: Lessons from Vhembe District Municipalities
Meisie Rasakanya (University of South Africa)	Invisible Infrastructure Failure: Rethinking Municipal Maintenance Policy for Sustainable Service Delivery in the City of Tshwane Metropolitan Municipality
Unawo Madyibi (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	Assessing the socio-economic potential of the Agro-Industrial Hub in enhancing rural development- A case of Elundini Local Municipality
Tricxy Maureen Ubisi (Tshwane University of Technology)	Barriers and Opportunities in the Implementation of South Africa's Child Support Grant Policy: Lessons for Policy Improvement
Eunice Mohapi (University of South Africa)	The Desire for Public Service to Align Performance Management System with Organisational Performance.

Session 2C

Time: 14:00-16:00 | Venue: TBA | Chair: TBA

Theme: Economic Growth, Innovation and Regional Development

Full Names	Topic
Disebo Modise (Central University of Technology)	Self-Efficacy as the Gateway to Entrepreneurship Readiness: Building State Capacity through Creativity, Technological Literacy and Cognitive Capital in South African Higher Education
Ferdinand Niyimbanira and Rachel Nishimwe-Niyimbanira (University of Mpumalanga)	Who Borrows What, from Whom? Evidence of institutional Concentration over Competition in Chinese Lending to African Countries
Sifiso Vilakazi (North-West University)	The Price of Green: Examining the Tension Between Sustainable Urban Revitalisation and Social Equity in South African Metros
Mkateko Vivian Mabunda and Andrew Maswanganye (University of South Africa and Department of International Relations and Cooperation)	Assessing the Impact of One-Stop Border Posts on Trade Facilitation and Socio-Economic Development in South Africa: A Case Study of Beitbridge, Lebombo, and Oshoek Border Posts
Asanda Mazibuko and Mandisi Matyana (University of Zululand)	Municipal Systems Act as Catalyst to Promote Local Economic Development in King Cetshwayo District Municipality: A Unique Approach
Nokuthaba Zikhali (University of Mpumalanga)	Infrastructure, Digital Innovation, and Entrepreneurial Ecosystems: Implications for Regional Economic Growth in South Africa
Thembelihle Kunene (University of Mpumalanga)	Changing Public-Private Partnerships, Innovation, and Regional Development: A Thematic Review of Infrastructure-Led Growth in Emerging Economies
Delsile Daisy Dlamini (University of Eswatini)	Financial Literacy, Institutional Support and Market Orientation among Contracted Baby Vegetable Farmers in Eswatini: Implications for Sustainable Agricultural Development

Session 2D

Time: 14:00 - 16:00 | Venue: TBA | Chair: TBA

Theme: MIX

Full Names	Topic
Unathi Matyeke (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	From Inputs to Enablement: An Integrated Governance Framework for Learner Retention in South African Quintile 1-3 Schools

Mmakwena Raymond Molala & Paul Radikonyana (National School of Government and Municipal Demarcation Board)	Promotion of social cohesion in schools through languages promoted by the Basic Education Laws Amendment Act (BELA)
Maria Mmabore Molope & Tshedza Tshivhasa Sikhwari (Tshwane University of Technology)	Assessing Students’ Experiences in Securing Work-Integrated Learning: A case of the institution of higher learning in South Africa
Edward Eddie Gumede & Makamu Ntsako (University of South Africa)	Leveraging Artificial Intelligence (Ai) to Enhance Student Support Services (Sss) in the Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Sector
Sanah Tebogo Matloga (University of Venda)	Enhanced Community Engagement Between Universities and Local Communities with reference to the University of Venda in South Africa
Prince Gontse Motaung (North-West University)	Women’s representation –Gains Made; Gains Lost–: What can the 2024 GNU and 2021coalition tell us about the 2026 local government elections?
Amos Shibambo (Tshwane University of Technology)	Assessment of The Effects of Socio-Economic Conditions on The Financial (Non)Viability in South African Municipalities
Mzwandile Xaba & Nokukhanya Jili-Mbanjwa (University of Zululand)	An evaluation of Local Economic Development initiatives towards addressing socioeconomic challenges in the eThekweni Metropolitan Municipality

Session 2E Time: 14:00-16:00 Venue: TBA Chair: TBA Theme: MIX	
Full Names	Topic
Phakane Job Phahlamohlaka (Limpopo Department of Cooperative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs)	Cadre deployment in the era of coalition politics in local government: a conceptual analysis
Shriya Budhram (PSCBC)	From Xolobeni to Makhasaneni: The Role of Law and Community Agency in Shaping Environmental Justice
Kananelo Sekatle (University of Limpopo)	The Good Governance Principles on the Administrative Stability of Coalition Government in Lesotho
Mandlenkosi Mphatheni (University of Limpopo)	Technological and Social Innovations in the Field of Safety and Security: Interdisciplinary
Jacob Mashishi (Tshwane University of Technology)	Assessing Traditional Leaders’ Contribution in Curbing Covid-19 Pandemic in Limpopo’s Capricorn District
Dorcas Khosa (University of South Africa)	Capital Capture: Reflections from the Madlanga Commission of Inquiry

Matjhupe Tshidiso Muroa (University of Zululand)	Exploring the Management of Virements in the public service: An international perspective
Siyanda Xaba (University of Mpumalanga)	Digital Transformation and Innovation in Higher Education: A 4IR-Informed Study of Autodesk Sketchbook in Art Education

Session 2F Time: 14:00-16:00 Venue:TBA Chair:TBA Theme: MIX	
Full Names	Topic
Thumeka Mzimeli and Nolukhanyo Metula (University of Fort Hare)	Social Media- Driven Digital Transformation in Higher Education: Student Academic Engagement Perspectives
Stanley Ngobeni (Independent)	Climate Change Risks Mitigation: Insights from multiple case studies
Khethiwe Madima (University of Venda)	An investigation into the factors and prevalence of divorce in South Africa throughout the COVID-19 Pandemic: 2020 to 2022
Benneth Makgate and Tando Rulashe (University of Mpumalanga)	An Exploratory Analysis of Public Financial Management Reforms and Service Delivery: Lessons from a selected provincial department In South Africa
Christian Kayembe and Nkosi Mkhize (North-West University)	The Government of National Unity in South Africa: A Path to Corruption Risk Aversion or an Amplifier of Governance Vulnerabilities?
Hlengiwe Khoza (Tshwane University of Technology)	Exploring the extent of community involvement in the implementation of the indigent policy in Nkomazi Local Municipality
Phihlo Pitjeng Mosabala (National School of Government)	Aligning Emerging Programmes Pending Accreditation with Occupational Roles and Public Service Mandates: A Case Study of the National School of Government
Mashudu Musekwa (Tshwane University of Technology)	Artificial Intelligence and Academic Plagiarism in South African Higher Education: A reflection

LUNCH

Session 2G Time: 14:00 – 16:00 Venue: TBA Chair: TBA Theme: Digital, Smart and Future Governance	
Full Names	Topic
Mzwakhe Khasodi (North-West University)	Multifaceted role of digital technologies in reforming municipal revenue collection: Trends, barriers and prospects in South Africa
Zinhle Angel Khumalo (North-West University)	The role of digital transformation in enhancing service delivery: the case of local government
Pertunia Mahlangu and Hlengiwe Zulu (University of Mpumalanga)	Reimagining Inclusive Governance in the Digital Age: Bridging Digital Access Gaps in Online Public Service Booking Systems in South Africa
Magoane Jonas Makgoba (University of South Africa)	The Role of Procurement Digitalization in Enhancing Supply Chain Responsiveness in the public service of South Africa
Millo Matlawa, Sinelisiwe Thwala and Motlagabo Matseke (National School of Government)	Applying Machine Learning Time Series Models to forecast Household Food Access in South Africa, with the fuel price shock caused by geopolitical instability
Mahlatse Given Sevhake and Costa Hofisi (North-West University)	Managerial digital readiness in Smart City implementation as a determinant of governance Success
Yanelisa Ndatshe and Mosekama Osia Mokhele (Nelson Mandela University)	Misplaced Hope: The Role Of Social Inclusion Of People With Disabilities In South African Urban Multi-Hazard Contexts
Patric Mkhize (uMngeni Local Municipality)	Public Sector Professionalisation as an Antecedent for Good Governance in the Era of Gen Z Governance System

Session 2H Time: 14:00 – 16:00 Venue: TBA Chair: TBA Theme: MIX	
Full Names	Topic
Botshabelo Maja (National School of Government)	Self-Governance: Reimagining self ahead of Institutions
Modupi Selepe (University of Limpopo)	Commodification of Public Goods: A Structural and Policy Question.
Molefi Matsieli (University of KwaZulu-Natal)	Does Government Turnover Undermine Policy Continuity? Insights from E-Government Implementation in Lesotho
Motsumi Onkabetse Levy (independent Researcher)	Framework to Promote Financial Accountability, Good Governance and Service Delivery Efficiency in Selected Provincial Departments in the Northern Cape Province

Sibahle Sotondoshe (Nelson Mandela University)	Professionalising The Management of Service Delivery Protest by Law Enforcement in the Nelson Mandela Bay Metro
Paul Thabo Makokoe (Free State Department of Education)	Governance, Institutions and Effective Leadership
Maskhosana La-Portia, Mahlangu-Matjila & Rochelle Glynnis Wessels (University of South Africa)	Remote work is evolving into a fundamental component of contemporary organisational strategy
Kabelo Moeti & Kaizer Makole (Tshwane University of Technology)	An assessment of the extent to which South Africa is aligned to and delivering on Sustainable Development Goal 16, and the implications thereof for her developmental goals

Session 2I Time: 14:00 – 16:00 Venue:TBA Chair: TBA Theme: Digital, Smart and Future Governance	
Full Names	Topic
Thabang Bogopa (University of South Africa)	An Integrated Digital Intergovernmental Framework for the Legal Control of Explosives in South Africa
Retshidisitswe Lebokollane (Tshwane University of Technology)	E-Governance,artifical intelligence and Public sector innovation: How E -governance operates and deliver services
Lehlohonolo Malope (University of Free State)	Addressing Municipal-Level Policy Gaps in South Africa’s e-Health Implementation: Challenges and Opportunities
Nkwane Bashio, Lesiba Bennedict Moshoeu (University of South Africa and University of Limpopo)	Geopolitical Disruptions and the Digital Economy: Towards Building Economic Resilience Amid Digital Transformation in South Africa
Londeka Nxumalo and Nkanyiso Jalubane (University of KwaZulu-Natal)	Gendered Benefits of Moringa Cultivation for Household Food Security and Climate Adaptation in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa
Itumeleng Tshoose (University of Limpopo)	The Readiness of the South African Public Service in Embracing Artificial Intelligence: Dream or Possibility?
Rosinah Pillay (University of Limpopo)	Algorithmic Governance in South Africa: Harnessing Artificial Intelligence to Mitigate Corruption and Improve Public Service Delivery

Session 2J	
Time: 14:00 – 16:00 Venue: TBA Chair: TBA	
Theme: Higher Education Governance, Decolonisation and Transformation	
Full Names	Topic
Nompumelelo Dlamini (University of Zululand)	Enhancing Public Administration Education through Co-Teaching: Collaborative Pedagogical Practices in Higher Learning Institutions
Thakane Dimpho Maelane, Mutshidzi Silima and Nicholine Silaule (University of South Africa)	Bridging the Academic Research–Implementation Gap in South Africa Through Triple Helix Collaboration to Advance Technology Startups
Leo Muntu Sibiya (University of Zululand)	Academic Arrogance Towards Emerging Researchers: Implications for Nurture, Knowledge Production, and Scholarly Growth
Nomsa Skosana, Lebogang Boemo and Muzi Matfunjwa (South African Centre for Digital language Resources)	Digital Transformation in Work-Integrated Learning within Higher Education Institutions: A Case Study of the TUT SWiP Project
Ntwanano Mathebula (University of Johannesburg)	A Project for Decolonising the Public Administration Curriculum: A Case of South African Institutions of Higher Learning
Blessing Ntuli (Mongosuthu University of Technology)	Strengthening the capacity and career pathways of student housing professionals
Sixolisiwe Ntsasela and Valery Ferim (University of Fort Hare)	Contested Narratives on Political Scandals by the African National Congress in the Eastern Cape Province of South Africa

Session 3A	
Time: 16:00 – 17:30 Venue: TBA Chair: TBA	
Theme:	
Full Names	Topic
Premlall Ramlachan, Josephine Towani, Joanne Naidoo, Ntebatse Masetla and Zandile Mfeka (MANCOSA and Office of the Premier KZN)	Rethinking poverty alleviation: Infrastructure-led social protection and the cost of living in South Africa
Malefetsane Mofolo and Babalo Yekani (Iyunivesithu Walter Sisulu)	Twenty-Two Years of The EPWP Implementation in South Africa: A Case of The Selected Municipalities of The Eastern Cape Province
Hasani Patrick (Private)	Role of traditional leadership, communal land, and local institutions in development planning

Godfrey Thabethe (University of Mpumalanga)	Institutional Barriers to Integrated Development Plan Implementation and Their Impact on Basic Service Delivery in Ehlanzeni District Municipality
Sipho Mokoena (University of Limpopo)	Housing Service Delivery Challenges and Their Relationship with Public Financial Management in a Selected District Municipality, Limpopo Province
Tuseku Dieudonne Tumba upingashato Tafadzwa Luke (Thabo Mbeki African School of Public and International Affairs)	Infrastructure Decay and Municipal Service Delivery: Evidence from Electricity Outage Communications in Johannesburg's Inner City, Gauteng Province

Session 3B Time: 16:00-17:30 Venue:TBA Chair; TBA Theme: MIX	
Full Names	Topic
Dee Khosa (University of South Africa)	Capture in the Capital City: A case reflection of the Madlanga Commission of Inquiry
Jennifer Ngcobo (Mangosuthu University of Technology)	Transformative Work-Integrated Learning: A Synergistic Industry–University Approach to Graduate Preparedness in South African.
Lungelo Zulu (North-West University)	Exploring the Governance and Risk Environment in South African Municipalities: A Systematic Literature Review
Itumeleng Dube (University of South Africa)	User Satisfaction with e-government services: A case study of the Gauteng Department of Education
Neville Mangwiro (University of Witwatersrand)	Exploring the complexity of building Monitoring and Evaluation Frameworks for Science Granting Councils in the SADC Region for Sustainable Transition and Development
Phumzile Vicky Mashego (Tshwane University of Technology)	An Assessment of IDP on Municipality Service Delivery: A Case Study of Luphisi Community Within the City of Mbombela Local Municipality

Session 3C Time: 16:00-17:30 Venue: TBA Chair: TBA Theme: MIX	
Full Names	Topic
Ngudo Muthomi and Maluta Khomola (University of Venda)	Economic Growth Through Public-Private Partnerships: Rethinking Collaboration for Development
Paul Shimane Radikonyana (Municipal Demarcation Board)	Water tankers a sustainable access to drinkable and portable water in urban areas or "Mafia-like" business? The case of Hammanskraal in Tshwane Metropolitan Municipality

Dikeledi Patience Matlala (Tshwane University of Technology)	Examining Democratic Property Rights on Traditional Leadership and Land Allocation in Moletji Tribal Authority, Limpopo Province
Naledi Modise (North West University)	Governance and Political Will- Searching for Solutions
Mosekama Osia Mokhele (Nelson Mandela University)	Missing Voices in Action: When Women's Perspectives are Ignored in Disaster Risk Reduction
Ernest Mutenda & Khuliso Kennedy Maimela Institute of Public Sector Ethics, Integrity Management Professionals of South Africa and Institute of Public Sector Ethics and Integrity Management Professionals of South Africa	Building Internal Capability in South African Municipalities: A Framework for Reducing Consultant Dependency

Session 3D

Time: 16:00-17:30 | Venue: TBA | Chair: TBA

Theme: MIX

Full Names	Topic
Bright Muronda (Sol Plaatje University)	An e-participation framework to promote public participation in municipal decision-making
Khathutshelo Matshela (Tshwane University of Technology)	The use of Financial Disclosure to promote a corrupt-free public service
Lulamile Hanabe (Nelson Mandela University)	The Ethos of Public's Right to Know: The Human Right Factor for Meaningful Citizen Participation
Guswin de Wee and Amina Jakoet-Salie (University of the Western Cape and Nelson Mandela University)	The potential contributions and implications of civil society organizations to policy and governance: insights from a South African case
Babayo Sule (University of Namibia)	Christian Genocide Narratives/Framing and the Question of Nigerian Sovereignty
Phuti Manamela, Mogotsi Maleka and Masindi Mashapha (Tshwane University of Technology)	Organisational Support As a Determinant of Job Satisfaction in South African Higher Education Institutions

Session 3E Time : 16:00 – 17:30 Venue: TBA Chair:TBA Theme: Local Government, Democracy and Political Dynamics	
Full Names	Topic
Nandiswa Mpolweni (Durban University of Technology)	Assessing effects of coalition governance on the Integrated Development Plan (IDP) and its implementation in Nelson Mandela Metropolitan Municipality (NMMM)
Boikanyo Collins Nkwatle and Moraka Shopola (North West University)	Politics-administrative interface under municipal coalition-led councils in South Africa: implications for institutional memory
Mandisi Matyana (University of Johannesburg)	Clean audit in municipalities: jubilation or a concern for the citizens?
Chuma Mbaleki (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	Political Cycles and Public Expenditure Allocation: Testing the Political Business Cycle Hypothesis in South Africa
Samkele Luyol Mvenganya (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	Fostering Democratic Governance Through Citizen Participation: Exploring Pathways for Inclusive Engagement in South Africa: A Case Study of OR Tambo District Municipality
Bongazana Dondolo (Tshwane University of Technology)	Dressed in crisis: Rethinking governance responses to fast fashion waste in South Africa

Session 3F Time: 16:00 - 17:30 Venue: TBA Chair: TBA Theme: Mix	
Full Names	Topic
Cry Zitha (University of South Africa)	Extortion and Protection Fees: Challenges to the Sustainability of Townships-Based Small Businesses in South Africa
Koliswa Matebese-Notshulwana (University of South Africa)	Can legislative oversight be used as a strategic mechanism to enhance public sector accountability?
Bonga Blessing Mdletshe (University of Mpumalanga)	Displaced Community Aggression During Protests: An Emerging Threat to Infrastructure
Oupa Hlatshwayo (University of Limpopo)	The impact of corruption on the implementation of boreholes water projects and water sustainability crises at the Polokwane Local Municipality: Citizens' Perspective

Sihle Edmund Mpanza (Tshwane University of Technology)	The challenges of adequate service delivery provision under coalition-led government
Cabanga Maluleka, Oshupeng Maseng and Andile Sokani (University of Mpumalanga)	Digital Precarity and Youth Exclusion in African Public Administration: Rethinking E-Government Access in the Age of Informality

Session 3G Time: 16:00 -17:30 Venue: TBA Chair: TBA Theme: Mix	
Full Names	Topic
Simphiwe Zukisa Madlala (The Cape Peninsula University of Technology)	Linking 4IR Skills to Entrepreneurial Intentions: A Conceptual Framework For Reimagining Institutions
Mahlori Shivuri (University of Limpopo)	Beyond Technocratic Planning: Ethnographic Approaches to Integrated Development Plan Processes in Rural South African Municipalities
Phumla Lerato Mjweni (Alfred Nzo District Municipality)	What are the strategies to enhance public service delivery and citizen experience in South Africa
Khulekani Manqoba Phakathi (University of Zululand)	Challenges Faced by Small-Scale Farmers In Attempts to Enhance Food Security In Ulundi Local Municipality
Sihle Edmund Mpanza (Tshwane University of Technology)	The challenges of adequate service delivery provision under coalition-led government
Edmore Ntini (University of KwaZulu-Natal)	Free to Speak, Governed into Silence: Epistemic Permissioning and the New Architecture of Academic Freedom in the Twenty-First-Century University

Session 3H Time: 16:00 - 17:30 Venue: TBA Chair: TBA Theme: Mix	
Full Names	Topic
Charles Selemela, Lulamile Sibanda, Kutu Sam Ramolobe & Gilbert Matome Ramakgolo (University of South Africa, IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu and Limpopo Office of the Premier)	The Escalation of Gender Based Violence and Femicide as a Second Pandemic in South Africa: Perspectives from the Limpopo Province
Siziwe Mvanana Nikani, Sareesha Pillay, Thanduxolo Fana & Tando Rulashe (Nelson Mandela University and University of Mpumalanga)	Reimagining Public Sector Governance: Lessons From Professionalisation in South Africa

Nhlamulo Baloyi (University of South Africa)	The union of leadership and ethics: More than a one-night stand
Xoliswa Ntombela (Tshwane University of Technology)	Strategic Framework for Advancing Women in Leadership Positions: A Case Study of Tshwane North District Department of Basic Education
siseko Sako and Dhiren Allopi (Durban University of Technology)	The Future of Eastern Cape Gravel Roads: A Sustainability Challenge for Engineers and Communities
Ayanda Sebetha (Tshwane University of Technology)	Evaluating the Impact of AI Text Generation Tools on Student Assessment Quality in Rural Secondary Schools: A Case Study of Ga-Mathabatha Village in Limpopo Province

Session 3I Time: 16:00 -17:30 Venue: TBA Chair: TBA Theme: Mix	
Full Names	Topic
Sphephelo Zubane and Busisiwe Ntsele (Thabo Mbeki African School of Public and International Affairs)	Incorporating local knowledge and histories into school essays as an innovative strategy for decolonizing education: Progress and bottlenecks
Dr Khuliso Kennedy Maimela and Ernest Kanakana Mutenda (PSETA and Institute of Public Sector Ethics and Integrity Management Professionals of South Africa)	Towards a Framework for Post-PHD Deployment and Accountability in South Africa's public sector
Christoper Phiri (Public Service Coordinating Bargaining Council)	Professionalisation of the South African Public Service
Liso Nobanda (University of South Africa)	Bridging the Policy–Practice Gap: An Assessment of Gender-Based Violence Policy Implementation in South African Universities
Tricia Madonsela and Rasodi Manyaka (Tshwane University of Technology)	The Role of Artificial Intelligence in Transforming Higher Education: A Case Study of Tshwane University of Technology
Thato Motswakae and Melvin Diedricks (North West University)	Developing a multidimensional theoretical framework of organisational readiness for public health system effectiveness

Friday , 02 October 2026

DAY 6

Session 1A	
Time: 09:00 – 11:00 Venue: To be announced Chair: TBA	
Theme: Local Government, Democracy and Political Dynamics	
Full Names	Topic
Anthony Kambi Masha (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	The role of municipality programmes in the contribution of female entrepreneurship empowerment: perspectives from the king Sabata Dalindyebo Local Municipality, Eastern Cape Province, South Africa
Andile Sokani (University of Mpumalanga)	Gatekeepers and Grassroots: The Role of Political Parties and Communities in Empowering Women’s Participation in Local Politics
Buyani Nkabinde Thandile Ncwana (Durban University of Technology and MANCOSA)	Governance Responses to Internal Migration: Reimagining Public Participation for Adaptive and Resilient Local Government Systems (South Africa)
Xolisile Ngumbela (Central University of Technology)	Strengthening Governance and Service Delivery in Rural Municipalities: Reimagining Institutional Capacity and Community Participation in South Africa
Samkele Mvenganya (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	Fostering Democratic Governance Through Citizen Participation: Exploring Pathways for Inclusive Engagement in South Africa
Fortune Maswanganyi (North West University)	Populist Political Communication and Vote-Seeking Behaviour in South African Local Governance
Lulamile Donacious Hanabe (Nelson Mandela University)	Municipal Integrated Development Plan and Budget Alignment Gaps: The Integrated Service Delivery Realities
Langanani Mbedzi (University of Venda)	The Role of Governance in Promoting Sustainable Local Economic Development in Vhembe District Municipality

Session 1B	
Time: 09:00- 11:00 Venue: TBA Chair:	
Theme: MIX	
Full Names	Topic
Manqoba Mbatha (Durban University of Technology)	The effectiveness of the government-funded medical graduates placement programme in the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Health
Lerato Mmotlana, Kgalema Mashamaite and Thanyani Madzivhandila (University of Limpopo)	Sustainable Livelihoods in a Democratic South Africa: The Conceptions and Characteristics of Township Livelihoods

Londeka Nxumalo (University of KwaZulu-Natal)	A Policy Review of Rural and Township Economies in Local Economic Development in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa
Segotsi Malope Mabogoane (Gauteng Provincial Legislature)	Repositioning Citizens Towards the Centre of Service Delivery Excellence in Local Government
Zamikhaya Gotyi (University of Fort Hare)	Local Livelihood Diversification Strategies for Sustainable Rural Development in Coastal Communities in Ngqushwa Local Municipality, South Africa
Haseena Majid and Mogie Subban (University of KwaZulu-Natal)	From Participation to Agency: Stakeholder Mapping and BRAID Governance in KwaZulu-Natal's Disaster Risk Reduction and Flood Resilience
Predeshni Govender and Mogie Subban (University of KwaZulu-Natal)	Evaluating Governance Frameworks and Policy Implementation within South Africa's National School Nutrition Programme
Samuel Kaleke (University of Johannesburg)	Beyond Compliance: Culture, Commitment, and Change in African Public-Sector Reform

Session 1C Time: 09:00-11:00 Venue: TBA Chair: Theme: MIX	
Full Names	Topic
Ruth Nombuso Zuma (University of South Africa)	Unleashing Female Leadership Potential: Afrocentric Pathways to Transform Corporate Governance in Africa
Cabanga Maluleka, Joseph Mudau and Bernard Sebake (Tshwane University of Technology and Central University of Technology)	The theoretical propositions that underpin the separation of powers as the governance model to enhance oversight and accountability in Local Government
Bonolo Letlape (Municipal Demarcation Board)	Governance Coherence or Fragmentation? Assessing Alignment Between the Integrated Urban Development Framework and the Institutional Mandate of the Municipal Demarcation Board for Sustainable Urban Development
Daniel Nkosingathi Mlambo and Thamsanqa Buys (Tshwane University of Technology)	The African Corruption Enigma: Dissecting Chapter Fourteen (14) of the National Development Plan (NDP) Vision 2030. Will South Africa Have Weathered the Storm?
Siziwe Mvanana Nikani, S. Pillay, T. Fana & T. Rulashe (Nelson Mandela University)	Reimagining Public Sector Governance: Lessons from Professionalisation in South Africa
Gift Sambo, MT. Lukamba Michael Chasukwa (University of Malawi)	Political Demonstrations and Good Governance: A Closer Look at Protest Movements in Malawi

Samuel Agunyai & Victor Ojakorotu (North west University)	Local Native Intelligence, Climate Change, and Sustainable development in Africa
Johnny Pietersen (National School of Government)	Linguistic Framing in Public Policies of South Africa: Does it Reflect Good Intentions or Deceptions

Session 1D Time: 09:00 – 11:00 Venue: To be announced Chair: Mr Itumeleng Dube (UNISA) Theme: Mix	
Full Names	Topic
Anthony Kambi Masha (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	The role of municipality programmes in the contribution of female entrepreneurship empowerment: perspectives from the king Sabata Dalindyebo Local Municipality, Eastern Cape Province, South Africa
Andile Sokani (University of Mpumalanga)	Gatekeepers and Grassroots: The Role of Political Parties and Communities in Empowering Women’s Participation in Local Politics
Buyani Nkabinde Thandile Ncwana (Durban University of Technology and MANCOSA)	Governance Responses to Internal Migration: Reimagining Public Participation for Adaptive and Resilient Local Government Systems (South Africa)
Xolisile Ngumbela (Central University of Technology)	Strengthening Governance and Service Delivery in Rural Municipalities: Reimagining Institutional Capacity and Community Participation in South Africa
Samkele Mvenganya (IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu)	Fostering Democratic Governance Through Citizen Participation: Exploring Pathways for Inclusive Engagement in South Africa
Fortune Maswanganyi (North West University)	Populist Political Communication and Vote-Seeking Behaviour in South African Local Governance
Lulamile Donacious Hanabe (Nelson Mandela University)	Municipal Integrated Development Plan and Budget Alignment Gaps: The Integrated Service Delivery Realities
Zwivhuya Phangophango (University of Venda)	The Impact of Service Delivery on Human Rights in Vhembe District Municipality: Implications for Sustainable Development and Governance
Nomahlubi Mhlauli (Tshwane University of Technology)	Leadership, Ethics, and Accountability in South African Governance: Addressing Institutional Failures and State Capacity Constraints

GALA Dinner

18:00 - 22:00

Theme: Black Tie and Traditional Attire

Opening and Welcome - Prof Shai

Welcome Address (MEC: Rev Musa Zondi)

Key Note Address (Ms Maropeng Ramokgopa -
Minister of DPME)

Awards

Toast

Closure

Entertainment

Friday, 02 October 2026

DAY 6

Excursion and Community Project

LIST OF INSTITUTIONS

University of Pretoria	Public Service Sector Education and Training
Municipal Demarcation Board	University of Namibia
University of Witwatersrand	University of Venda
Nelson Mandela University	University of South Africa
Durban University of Technology	Office of the Premier
Sol Plaatjie University	North-West Provincial Legislature
University of Free State	National University of Lesotho
University of Fort Hare	Department of Social Development
University of Western Cape	Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs
University of Limpopo	KZN Government
Tshwane University of Technology	African Association for Public Administration and Management
MANCOSA	International Association of Schools and Institutes of Administration
University of Mpumalanga	The South African Association of Political Studies
Department of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation	he American Society for Public Administration
Department of National Treasury	The Cape Peninsula University of Technology
North-West University	Alfred Nzo District Municipality
IYunivesithi Walter Sisulu	Institute of Public Sector Ethics and Integrity Management Professionals of South Africa
National School of government	KwaZulu-Natal Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (COGTA)
University of Johannesburg	Great Zimbabwe University
University of Zululand	Harry Gwala District Municipality)
Mangosuthu University of Technology	Mopani TVET College
Stellenbosch University	Federal University Kashere
Vaal University of Technology	Karatu Foundation Library
Central University of Technology	Sefako Makgatho University
University of KwaZulu Natal	Uganda Management Institute
Limpopo Provincial Treasury	STADIO Higher Education
University of Western Cape	Limpopo Department of Social Development and NGEI Cluster (eGov), CSIR
Limpopo legislature	North West - South African Local Government Association
Department of Public Services and Administration	Milpark Business School
Regynesys Business School & Education	Thinc Foundation
Thabo Mbeki African School of Public and International Affairs, UNISA	City of Ekurhuleni
Public Service Co-ordinating Bargaining Council	JB Marks Local Municipality
	SALGA Gauteng