

Digital Skills Summit

11 - 12 March 2020

Birchwood Hotel &
OR Tambo Conference
Centre, Gauteng

Research Colloquium

12 March 2020 (DHET accredited +
Scopus indexing)

Postgraduate Symposium

13 March 2020

It is about people.



Research Colloquium Call for Papers

Important dates:

- Call for Papers sent out: 10 October 2019
- Paper submissions deadline: 31 January 2020 (extended)
- Reviewer comments distributed: 14 February 2020
- Updated paper submissions due: 28 February 2020
- Summit dates: 11 -12 March 2020
- Colloquium dates: 12 -13 March 2020
- Post Graduate Symposium: 13 March 2020

Submission link:

<https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=digitalskills2020>

Colloquium Proceedings:

978-0-6399275-5-8 Digital Skills Colloquium 2020 (print)

978-0-6399275-6-5 Digital Skills Colloquium 2020 (electronic)

Registration fee:

Registration is sponsored by NEMISA.

1. DIGITAL SKILLS RESEARCH COLLOQUIUM CALL FOR PAPERS

We invite you to submit your research, case studies, research in progress and practitioner reports to the Digital Skills Colloquium and Postgraduate Symposium 2020, hosted by NEMISA at the Birchwood Hotel and OR Tambo Conference Centre in Boksburg, Gauteng.

The research colloquium aims to bring together practitioners, academics and other stakeholders who are working towards addressing the triple challenges of poverty, unemployment and social inequality through digital skills.

2. DIGITAL SKILLS COLLOQUIUM 2020

There is change happening in the world that has significantly altered the environment for every organisation including government. The scale and scope of the change is what makes all the difference. The way that organisations respond to these changes in the environment determines their survival. The nature of this digitally transformed organisation cannot be foretold as every organisation will respond according to their local and global environment. There are however some uncomfortable realities; manufacturing jobs are not coming back, and even if they did, the manufacturing industries are necessarily more capital not labour intensive (Stiglitz, 2017). Globally, we are experiencing rising unemployment and income inequality and an increased demand for high skilled labour (Glenn, Florescu and Project, 2019)

We seek research, case studies, research in progress and practitioner reports and models that portray the NEMISA collaborative ethos between government, industry and other sectors.

The Digital Skills Colloquium is structured as a two-day conference where speakers are invited to submit their research or practitioner papers for consideration for inclusion into the programme. There will also be plenary sessions and guest speakers to provide additional opportunities for practitioners and stakeholders to share insights.

3. DIGITAL SKILLS SUMMIT 2020

The 4th Industrial Revolution (4IR) has seen the advances of new digital innovations such as 3D printing, embedded devices and artificial intelligence, changing and sometimes

disrupting the traditional understanding of work and life. South Africa is already beginning to experience the effect of the 4IR in the job losses in many sectors of the economy. While there have been job losses, the 4IR also presents unique opportunities for new types of digital skills.

Being ranked at 67th position in the 2018 Global Competitive Report of the World Economic Forum, indicates how South Africa is still not ready for full inclusion into the 4IR. ICT adoption in South Africa is similarly ranked at 85th and 116th on digital skills.

NEMISA's collaborative programme includes finding pathways to identify entrants with potential that do not have the normally required entrance qualifications; supporting under-prepared students; introducing work-integrated learning and practical components into programmes.

NEMISA, in keeping with the significance of digital skills, is building digital skills capacity at all levels and to all people of South Africa, including:

- **Digital literacy:** The ability of individuals to use digital tools and facilities to perform tasks, to solve problems, to communicate, to manage information, to collaborate, to create and share content and to build knowledge, in all areas of everyday life and for work.
- **ICT practitioner skills:** The skills/capabilities required for researching, developing and designing, managing, producing, consulting, marketing and selling, integrating, installing and administrating, maintaining, supporting and service of ICT systems.
- **(Sector) User digital skills:** The digital skills for work in a specific sector, type of organisation or profession. These skills are a generic digital skill set for office use or business, or a specific skill set applicable to various sector (e.g. the graphics industry, or health), or to a profession, or a combination of both.

- **Digital Leadership skills:** The capabilities needed to exploit opportunities provided by digital technologies, notably the internet, digital devices, and the new media:

4. POSTGRADUATE SYMPOSIUM

There is an important postgraduate symposium offering a platform for Honours, Masters and Doctoral students to share their research and receive mentoring support. The purpose of the symposium is to give students and their supervisors the opportunity to engage in high-level intellectual discourse on digital skills in South Africa. The opportunities at the symposium include student oral presentations and abstracts, and presentations from leading academics in the area of digital skills.

We welcome the academic and practitioner community at large to register to attend and support the students. We also encourage postgraduate students to volunteer as session chairpersons and registration officials.

5. COLLOQUIUM TRACKS

We anticipate four different genres of papers:

- **Full papers** reflecting completed research – should not exceed 14 pages including references.
- **Short papers** reporting research in progress or practitioner papers – should not exceed 6 pages including references.
- **Posters** graphically sharing a practitioner, research or academic concept.
- **Case studies** – should not exceed 6 pages including references and exhibits.
- **Abstracts** – should not exceed 3 pages including references.

The following tracks representing NEMISA thematic areas are available:

Track theme	Track Chair	CoLab Hosted at
Digitalisation	Dr Colin Thakur	Durban University of Technology
Digital Agro-tourism	Prof Mpho Chaka	North-West University
Teaching and Learning in the 21 st Century	Dr Farivar Rahimi	University of Limpopo

Cybersecurity	Prof Tembisa Ngqondi	University of Mpumalanga
Philosophy, methods and practices	Prof Hugo Lotriet	University of South Africa
Digital Inclusion and transformation	Dr Leona Craffert	University of the Western Cape
Digital Literacy	Ms Antoinette Lombard	Vaal University of Technology
ICT for Rural Development	Ms Sibukele Gumbo	Walter Sisulu University

6. BACKGROUND

NEMISA has a mandate to develop capacity in South Africa to ensure that South Africans have the necessary digital skills to meaningfully and productively participate in a digital economy that is driven by rapidly advancing technologies. NEMISA aims to promote and guide the development, training, learning, research, and innovation of digital skills in South Africa.

NEMISA has established an innovative research network focusing on digital skills with links to public and / or private university networks locally and internationally. The aim of the network is to “provide the evidence-based basis, through research and other available means, for decisions on how to innovatively address the opportunities and systemic challenges in achieving digital skills capacity in South Africa”. We seek solutions that are application oriented and make a tangible social and economic difference.

The Digital Skills Summit and Research Colloquium 2020 aim to grow the innovative practitioner and research network through providing a platform for government, academia, industry, education and civil society to share research, data and trends that will contribute to refining the mandate to develop the necessary digital skills capacity of South Africa.

7. RESEARCH COLLOQUIUM SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Submit papers using the following link:

<https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=digitalskills2020>

Full papers should have completed analyses and documentation of results.

Papers should be submitted as a '.pdf' or '.docx' file using the outlined Colloquium template or Postgraduate Symposium Abstract Template. The template can be found requested from Ms Nkosikhona Msweli on mswelnt@unisa.ac.za. It is also provided along with this Call for Papers.

Please ensure that you upload your paper to the track closest to the focus of your paper.

The Conference committee has established a maximum of 2 papers per author (including co-authored papers). Any submissions beyond this limit by a given author will be eliminated from the review process.

Author(s)' name(s) should not appear in the body of the paper and the abstract. References to institutions, sponsors, and unpublished/published works should be removed if these references will identify any author.

English is the language of the Conference and of all submissions. Any submission that violates the above guidelines may be eliminated from the review process.

8. PUBLICATION

Accepted papers will be published as part of the Proceedings with the following ISBNs:

978-0-6399275-5-8 Digital Skills Colloquium 2020 (print)

978-0-6399275-6-5 Digital Skills Colloquium 2020 (electronic)

9. SUMMIT AND COLLOQUIUM ORGANISING COMMITTEE

Summit Chairs

Prof Mpho Chaka

Dr Leona Craffert

Prof Hossana Twinomurizi

Research Colloquium Chairs

Prof Tembisa Ngqondi

Prof Hossana Twinomurinzi

Postgraduate Chairs

Dr Tendani Mawela, University of Pretoria

Prof Annelie Jordaan, Vaal University of Technology

Programme Chairs

Ms Sibukele Gumbo

Ms Antoinette Young

Ms Victoria Tau

Mr Mogandren Govender

Ms Nkosikhona Msweli

Programme Committee

Andrew Scholtz, University of Limpopo

Annelie Jordaan, Vaal University of Technology

Antoinette Lombard, Vaal University of Technology

Antoinette Young, National Electronic and Media Institute of South Africa

Bukelwa Ngoqo, University of Mpumalanga

Colin Thakur, Durban University of Technology

Doc Fick, National Electronic and Media Institute of South Africa

Farivar Rahimi, University of Limpopo

Leona Craffert, University of the Western Cape

Mpho Chaka, North West University

Sibukele Gumbo, Walter Sisulu University

Tembisa Ngqondi, University of Mpumalanga

Tendani Mawela, University of Pretoria

Hossana Twinomurinzi, University of South Africa

Nkosikhona Msweli, University of South Africa

10. QUERIES

Please feel free to contact Ms Nkosikhona Msweli with any queries on mswelnt@unisa.ac.za or 011 670 9085.