



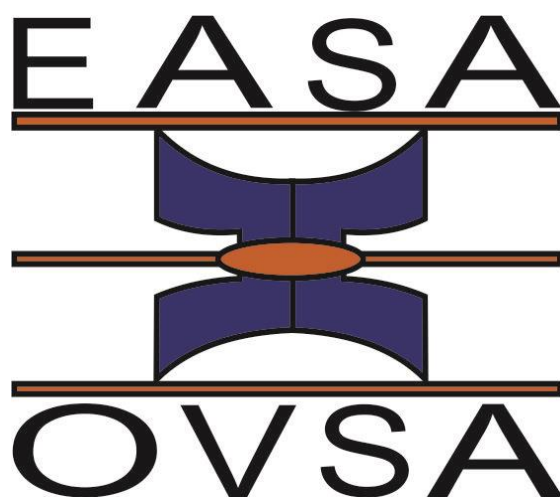
# EASA Newsletter

## Issue 1, 2022



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# 1. Introducing the 2022 EASA Executive



**Prof Funke Omidire**  
Chairperson



**Dr Tony Mpisi**  
Outgoing Chairperson



**Prof Johnnie Hay**  
Secretary



**Prof Ruth Mampane**  
WERA representative



**Prof Elize du Plessis**  
Incoming Chairperson and  
Website Coordinator



**Prof Raj Mestry**  
Treasurer



**Prof Ronel Ferreira**  
SAJE Executive Editor



**Dr Candice Livingston**  
Chairperson of the 2022 EASA  
Organising Committee



**Prof Eldrie Gouws**  
Additional Member



**Dr Sameera Ayob-Essop**  
International Collaboration  
and  
Postgraduate Student  
Involvement



**Dr Fumane Khanare**  
SIG's and Additional Member

## 2. From the Outgoing Chairperson's desk

EASA has once again managed to remain active, in spite of the insecurity and anguish caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. Our continued growth is reflected by our membership that continues to grow as well as our finances remain healthy, thanks to the unrelenting efforts of Prof Hay and Mestry.

I am delighted to announce that Prof Omidire has taken over the reins from me as Chairperson at our executive Committee meeting held on the 7<sup>th</sup> of March 2022 in Cape Town. Prof Omidire has been part of the executive committee and has served in various capacities. I have no doubt that with her competence, energy, and innovative thinking, that the association will be steered to even greater heights under her leadership. I am sure you will join me in congratulating her.

In an attempt to fill the portfolio of incoming chairperson, a call has already gone out for nominations for a replacement. An announcement in this regard will be made once the nomination process has been completed.

In another exciting development, Dr Essop has been nominated to steer the Internalisation and Postgraduate Student Development portfolio. She has already shared some interesting, fresh and ground-breaking ideas for which we are looking forward to. We wish her well in this portfolio. On a rather less exciting note, Prof Dicker tendered her resignation as member of the executive committee. Although we are sad to lose her experience and expertise, we do grant her the time to enjoy her retirement with her family loved ones. We further wish to express our heartfelt gratitude for the enormous contribution she has made to EASA over the many years. In our constant endeavour to support early career academics and postgraduate students, another insightful webinar, entitled, Research funding "game": Playing to win, was presented by prof Linda Theron, from the University of Pretoria on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of November 2021. We would like to encourage our members to please attend these inspiring webinars.

We further extend our sincerest gratitude to Prof Omidire for taking the initiative and leading this process.

The WERA Conference took place from 7-9 July in Santiago, Spain, with prof Mampane, Omidire and a colleague presenting an EASA Symposium. The next WERA Conference joins the EARA conference from 22-25 April 2022 in San Diego, USA – and EASA is again invited to present a symposium. A big thank you to prof Mampane for representing the association so well on this platform.

Prof Ferreira's team as executive editor of the South African Journal of Education has been extended for another five years and the journal will continue to operate from the University of Pretoria. The journal has sustained its high standing as leading journal in Education research of Africa. Thanks to Prof Ronel Ferreira and her team for the conscientious work.

The EASA website is fully operational, and we encourage members of regularly visit the website for the latest announcements and development of the association – a big thank you prof du Plessis for all her efforts in this regard.

Sadly, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, we have not been able to have the annual EASA conference for the past two years. With restrictive measure being lifted globally, as well as locally, we have decided to finalise a date for the EASA annual 2023 conference. The conference will be hosted by Cape Peninsula University of Technology (CPUT) and Two Oceans Graduate Institute (TOGI). The conference will be held from the 08-11 January 2023, at the Century City Hotel & Conference Centre in Cape Town. The call for abstract is out and the organising committee is hard at work, under the leadership of Dr Candice Livingstone. We would also like to extend a special work of Thanks to the organising team for their patience and willingness to constantly adjust conference plans, because of the uncertainty created by the Covid-19 pandemic.

In conclusion, I would like to thank members of the association for allowing me the opportunity to lead the association as chairperson during my rather extended tenure. It has indeed been a great learning experience for me. I would like to also thank members of the executive committee who were always there to advise and support me. Thank you once again.

EASA Outgoing Chairperson

**Tony Mpsi**

### 3. Message from the secretary



Prof Johnnie Hay  
Secretary

#### 1. New members

We wish to welcome the following members who have joined EASA since October 2021:

Mr MN Maakana (Limpopo DoE); Prof Marien Graham (UP); Dr Jack Chipfiko (King's School White River); Mr Sabelo Nxumalo (UKZN) and Mr Teboho Ngubane (Student).

#### 2. Membership fees for 2022:

EXCO has reduced the 2022 feed for existing members to R225. Please make sure that you renew your membership for this year. For new members it is R450 and for students R100.

The following account should be used – and proof of payment submitted to the Secretary on [Johnnie.Hay@nwu.ac.za](mailto:Johnnie.Hay@nwu.ac.za)

EASA

ABSA rek. / acc. 010722047

Current Account

Reference: Initials and Surname

With thanks!

**Johnnie**

## 4. Website and Special Interest Groups (SIG)



**Prof Elize du Plessis**  
Incoming Chairperson and  
Website Coordinator

The EASA website has been a priority for the past few years currently under the leadership of Prof Elize du Plessis. Information on the web page includes inter alia the following: About EASA: (committee, constitution etc.); Membership; Conferences; Newsletters; SAJE; WERA; Academic Activities, Special-interest groups, and Job opportunities. Regular updates take place. Members are encouraged to visit the web page and they can also pay membership fees according to the information on the web page.

We furthermore invite all members to send ideas and information that may add value to the website as this provides a platform for EASA to showcase the work done by its members and the contributions made to Education research in South Africa.

Special Interest Groups were quiet during 2021 and we encourage all EASA members to engage and in the Special Interest Groups more actively, as these provide excellent platforms for networking and collaboration. Hopefully, we will meet in person in 2023 and the conference will provide a good platform again for SIG networking.

Best regards

**Prof Elize Du Plessis**



## 5. WERA



**Prof Ruth Mampane**  
WERA representative

World Education Research Association (WERA) is an association of major national, regional, and international specialty research associations dedicated to advancing education research as a scientific and scholarly field and EASA is a WERA member. Ruth Mampane is a WERA Council member (representing EASA interests). In Southern Africa, and currently as it stands, in Africa, only one education associations (EASA) have council representation in WERA. Education Associations are encouraged to join WERA so that their interests can be represented both nationally and globally.

WERA is an association of 28 national, regional, and international specialty research associations which aims to advance education research as a scientific and scholarly field world-wide to serve the public good. If you want to know more about WERA, you can access information from their website (<http://www.weraonline.org/>).

- WERA Officers:
  1. Mustafa Yunus Eryaman, President: [yunuseryaman@gmail.com](mailto:yunuseryaman@gmail.com)
  2. Ingrid Gogolin, Immediate Past President: [gogolin@uni-hamburg.de](mailto:gogolin@uni-hamburg.de)
  3. Bee Leng Chua, President Elect: [beeleng.chua@nie.edu.sg](mailto:beeleng.chua@nie.edu.sg)
  4. Joanna Madalińska-Michalak, Vice-President: [j.madalinska@uw.edu.pl](mailto:j.madalinska@uw.edu.pl)
  5. Felice Levine, Appointed Liaison: [flevine@aera.net](mailto:flevine@aera.net)
  6. Liesel Ebersöhn, Secretary General: [liesel.ebersohn@up.ac.za](mailto:liesel.ebersohn@up.ac.za)
  7. Rocio Garcia-Carrion, Secretary General Elect: [rocio.garcia@deusto.es](mailto:rocio.garcia@deusto.es)

- WERA Elects New Officers

Two outstanding scholars have been elected to serve as officers of the World Education Research

Association (WERA) in the positions of:

☒ Professor Liesel Ebersöhn, President Elect (two-year term) and

☒ Geovana Mendonça Lunardi Mendes, Vice President (two-year term).

- WERA visiting research awards

A joint call by the World Education Research Association (WERA), the International Association for the Evaluation of the Educational Achievement (IEA), and the Research Centre “Literacy in Diversity Settings (LiDS) at the University of Hamburg.

- Purpose of the Award (Why the Award):

This award enables visiting researchers to develop their own research project while benefiting from the individual support of experts from the partner institutes working in different fields related to international large-scale assessments, especially with a focus on diversity in education. The awardee will be privileged with direct access to data and resources of the partner institutes in carrying out their research projects.

### **Who can apply?**

Early-stage researchers and experienced researchers engaged in educational research from all nationalities are welcome to apply. All applicants must hold minimum masters or an equivalent degree.

### **How to apply**

- Please provide the following documents:
- Letter of request, including, the general objectives of your visit, and the specific activities you would like to focus on.

- Your CV with a record of publications (if applicable).
- A proposal or research protocol referring to the focus of your visit. This proposal must include the following items: Summary; Objectives; Literature review; Data; Methods, and expected results.
- The proposal must not exceed 2,000 words and must be written in English.

### **Closing date**

The deadline for your applications is June 1st, 2022. All applications are reviewed by an academic committee of the partner institutes. Candidates will be notified of acceptance or rejection within eight weeks of the deadline. Please be assured that the information sent by you is used only for the internal review process and will not be passed on to any third party.

For more information email: [wera@aera.net](mailto:wera@aera.net)

- **INFORMATION ON WERA FOCAL MEETING**

In 2022 WERA held a conference in collaboration AERA at San Diego USA, April 21-26. Prof Mestry

was EASA representative at this meeting. For future planning of conferences, member Associations, including EASA are advised to use the opportunity to request WERA Keynotes and Symposia during their annual conferences, this opportunity is open and available to all member associations. Associations can send an email ([WERA@aera.net](mailto:WERA@aera.net)) or visit the WERA website (<http://www.weraonline.org/>). WERA website is continuously revamped to ensure maximum exposure. Individual members and member associations are requested to contact the secretariat ([WERA@aera.net](mailto:WERA@aera.net)) with any questions or suggestions regarding WERA. Similarly, EASA members can utilise the opportunity WERA present of international exposure by sending information regarding important events related to EASA.

- Importantly, members of EASA are encouraged to send information to WERA secretariat (Prof. Ebersöhn: [WERA@aera.net](mailto:WERA@aera.net)) or to EASA-WERA representative:

ruth.mampane@up.ac.za regarding all journals (journals used by member associations) for exposure and opportunity for members to have access to multiple platforms for dissemination. The list of journals requested by WERA is not a list of WERA approved journals, but serves to provide a synthesis of journals used by member associations and it provides an opportunity for members to look at regional platforms for dissemination.

WERA Representative

**Prof Motlalepule Mampane**

## 6. Finance



**Prof Raj Mestry**

Treasurer

Congratulations to Prof Raj Mestry for being listed on the AD Scientific Index of World top 100 Education Scientists in South Africa 2022. We are indeed proud of you!

## 7. South African Journal of Education



**Prof Ronel Ferreira**

SAJE Executive Editor

The South African Journal of Education (SAJE) has continued to strengthen its position as leading journal in Education research in Africa. The journal is internationally accredited and increasingly attracts submissions by international authors. As a result, the number of general issues was increased over the past two years, with the number of articles per issue similarly moving up. Information on the submission of manuscript is available on the journal website.

## 8. Webinar Series for Early Career Academics and Postgraduate Students



Prof Funke Omidire  
Chairperson

The second EASA webinar took place on the 22nd of November 2021. The webinar was presented by Prof Linda Theron of the Department of Educational Psychology, University of Pretoria.

Professor Linda Theron is an Educational Psychologist and Full Professor in the Department of Educational Psychology, University of Pretoria, South Africa. Her clinical and research interest is in child and adolescent resilience, with a niche focus on how situational and cultural context nuance the multisystemic resources that matter most for the resilience of young people from chronically disadvantaged South African communities. She currently leads/co-leads multi-year resilience studies with sites in South Africa, India, Canada, and Russia, and has authored 100+ peer-reviewed publications about child and youth resilience. The National Research Foundation of South Africa rated Linda's resilience- focused work as internationally acclaimed and she is an elected member of the Academy of Science, South Africa (ASSAf).

The title of Prof Theron's presentation was "The research funding game: Playing to win". The webinar was well attended by EASA members and other invited guests. It was an interactive session with valuable insights on the processes involved in research funding applications. The comments and feedback from the participants attest to the value of the session.

In 2022, the focus of the webinar series will be on school-based interventions and support for teachers.

Kind regards

**Funke Omidire**

**Chairperson**

## 9. EASA 2023 Conference News



**Dr Candice Livingston**

Chairperson of the 2022 EASA  
Organising Committee

Never before has it been necessary to cancel an EASA conference due to a world-wide pandemic, but this was the unfortunate situation with the EASA conference in 2021 and 2022. With EASA 2023, the educational world is looking to the future with hope and positivity, as if looking over the wide ocean that will surround delegates in Cape Town in 2023. The EASA conference will be held at the Century City Hotel and Conference Centre in Cape Town from the 8th – 11th of January in 2023. The planning for the conference is progressing well and the first call has already been disseminated.

The theme of the EASA conference for 2023 is *OCEANS OF WISDOM, MOUNTAINS OF KNOWLEDGE, WINDS OF CHANGE*, and the topics for the different tracks are: Basic Education, Teacher Education,

Higher Education, Social Justice issues in Education, Digital Education, Language across the curriculum and the impact of the world-wide pandemic in education. It must also be noted that we have decided to include a virtual stream during this conference too, and delegates can register for this stream if they do not wish to attend the conference in person. Delegates are encouraged to register their abstracts at the following address: <https://inroll.behella.co.za/easa2022/register> We look forward to hosting the delegates in Cape Town next year.

## 10. International Collaboration



Dr Sameera Ayob-Essop

International Collaboration  
and  
Postgraduate Student  
Involvement

The year 2022 has brought forth hope as we navigate our way around the Covid-19 pandemic. In the words of Martin Luther King Jr. “Out of despair, a stone of hope”. I believe that we may not be in the best of times, but we are all re-building our way back to a new normal and for this reason we need to continue to envision the best in every situation to ensure happiness and peace.

We were compelled to move into a new digital world of the 21st century, and within months we learnt how to transition to a fully operational online platform. This new ‘normal’ sustained us and helped us to continue to stay afloat. The EASA website became fully operational and continues to support early career academics and postgraduate students. In my capacity I would like to take advantage of digitalization and build on by placing EASA on online platforms like LinkedIn, and Instagram. In this way EASA has as global stature and all upcoming events, news, and webinars can be uploaded. This in turn will allow EASA to meet global outcomes by creating alternative pathways to support our students’ progress with learning in the new reality of digitisation.