



**EASA ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2024
FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT AND CALL FOR PAPERS**

**THEME:
THE CRADLE, EVOLUTION AND THE FUTURE OF EDUCATION**

DATE: 14 -17 January 2024

**VENUE: Mount Grace Hotel & Spa, Magaliesburg
SOUTH AFRICA**



Background information:

Education is evolving exponentially around the world. The aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic affects education systems and challenges traditional ways of teaching and learning. The Gauteng Province, and the University of Johannesburg in particular will be hosting the EASA 2024 conference for delegates to ponder about the future of education beyond the pandemic.

The University of Johannesburg is proud for the opportunity to host. The local organising committee welcomes delegates from across the globe to the cradle of humankind. The sharing of research that addresses complex issues arising from the disruption of the pandemic gives a glimmer of hope for the future of education.

Nested on the hilltop, with grace that gives new life, we wish that delegates will relish at Mount Grace, the didactic three days of conference and return to their institutions equipped with evolutionary ideas for the future of education.

CALL FOR PAPERS

Oral paper presentations, symposiums, workshops, round table discussions and poster presentations are the formats of presentation at the EASA 2024 Conference. There is a possibility that virtual presentations will be accepted (please indicate if you are interested in presenting your presentation online).

Presentations within the following themes are invited for presentation at the conference:

Conference themes

Neurodiversity and social justice in Education

This sub-theme focuses on the promotion of better understanding of neurodiversity and its role in addressing social justice in education. The sub-theme invites presentations from neuroeducation, neurology, neuroscience, neurochemistry, neuropsychology, developmental neurobiology, developmental neuroscience, neurophysiology, neuro-philosophy with special emphasis on Autism Spectrum Disorder, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Developmental Coordination Disorder (DCD), Epilepsy, and Learning Differences and Specific Learning Disorders such as Dyslexia, Dyscalculia, Dyspraxia and other neurodevelopmental challenges.

ICT's and the 4IR Educational landscape

The COVID-19 pandemic disrupted the educational landscape around the world. The disruption led to the ICTs and the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR) playing a pivotal role in education for the advancement and evolution of humanity. This sub-theme creates opportunities to showcase the critical and innovative ways of using the ICTs and the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR) for teaching and learning. Within the context of neurodiversity, research based on ICTs and the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR) lead the way towards understanding innovations such as neuroimaging and others.

The SDG's for Education

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a compass for the enhancement of humanity. This sub-theme showcases implementation of the SDGs in education. While SDG 4: Quality Education is central to understanding the space of the SDGs in education, it is imperative that to establish the articulation of those related to education such as Health and Well-being, Gender Equality, Decent Work and Economic Growth, especially for neurodiverse populations. As the world is ever-changing and becoming complex, quality education must forecast the future of education.

Trauma and School violence/ school safety

This theme deals with issues that compromise the quality of education in the 21st century. Trauma and school violence shake the foundations of our education systems. Trauma in Schools has many sources. Some school traditions may appear harmless on the face value, but could have traumatising effects on learners and educators. School violence compromises school safety and effective teaching and learning. Presentations on these themes could encourage peaceful means to the future of education beyond 2030.

Lifelong learning and Resilience in Education

The cradle enhances learning that started in situ. Lifelong learning provides the pursuit of learning from the cradle. While they may be transitioning challenges, lifelong learning presents valuable lessons for resilience in education. This theme focuses on individual continuous re-skilling for employability and personal as well as professional development. Competencies and skill-gaps are fertile ground for open distance learning to add to prior knowledge for a specific 21st century skills. The competitiveness of education requires learners to develop skill that help them to resile through today's turbulent education systems. Despite many uncertainties, resilience is the capacity to adapt well within the ever-changing education systems. This theme invites innovative ways that can promote resilience in education amidst chaos and demotivation.

Community partnerships through engaged scholarship

The future of education greatly depends on community partnerships that can be developed through engaged scholarship. Community partnerships can become the conscience of education systems. Education transformation and decolonisation could find responses for betterment of communities through engaged scholarship. The theme invites presentations from community members who partner with education systems. An invitation for educational renaissance through learning from indigenous knowledge systems is highly encouraged. Action research-based case studies of engaged scholarship are recommended.

Future-fit leadership in education

The changing education landscape requires a mindset of leading in a changing world. Future-fit leaders need to unlearn old ways for leadership in order to embrace adaptive intelligence. The theme unpacks the importance of culture in leadership. Future-fit leadership enhances effectively responding to constantly evolving threats and opportunities in education and the labour market. Papers are invited to demonstrate future-fit leaders who create a shared sense of purpose, be a change agent and be inspirational.

Ethical considerations in the landscape of education

Ethical considerations in education create safe spaces for research conduct and human relations between learners and educators. The theme must challenge the current issues regarding ethics in education. Issues such as the ethics surrounding the use of ChatGPT in education, the use of paraphrasing tools and gamification as methods of teaching. The prevalence of AI in promoting plagiarism.

GUIDELINES AND INSTRUCTIONS

Proposals for presentation of papers at the EASA 2024 conference will be

- in the form of a 200-to-300-word abstract with
- a clear title of the presentation,
- author/s of the paper,
- an indication of the theme within which the paper should be considered and
- contact details of submitting presenter.
- Each delegate may only present a maximum of 2 papers.
- Abstract proposals will be considered on a continual basis.
- A detailed programme will be announced once it has been finalised.
- Only abstracts of delegates who paid the conference fee before **30 November 2023** will be included in the programme.

Delegates need to submit proof of payment on or before the due date, to ensure inclusion of their abstract in the Book of Abstracts and attendance/presentation at the conference.

Abstracts can be submitted by using our online platform:

1. Go to <https://inroll.behella.co.za/easa2024/Register>
2. Register as a user on the website
3. After registration, submit and manage your abstract from the My Abstracts menu option
4. Once an abstract is submitted for approval, you will receive a confirmation email acknowledging your abstract submission
5. After you submitted an abstract, it will be reviewed, and feedback will be send to you via email
6. Conference registration and accommodation bookings will be available on the website at a later date and after submitted abstracts have been accepted and approved

Only abstracts submitted on the website will be accepted.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS & PROGRAMME

Will be announced as soon as possible

IMPORTANT DATES

Due date for submission of abstracts: 15 September 2023
Due date for registration: 31 October 2023
Due date for payment: 11 November 2023
Final date to submit proof of payment: 30 November 2023

Delegates need to submit proof of payment on or before the due date, to ensure inclusion of their abstract in the Book of Abstracts and attendance/presentation at the conference.

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FEES

The following conference registration fee structure is applicable:

Category	Conference registration fee
Full participation 3-day programme (Includes 3 evening functions)	R6 650
3-day programme (Excludes evening functions)	R4 365
Delegates 1 day only (Excludes evening function)	R2 560
Virtual attendance/presentation	R1 550

The registration fee **includes** registration, EASA membership fees, conference material, refreshments and lunch during the day(s) of attendance, organized functions, but **excludes** all travelling costs, accommodation, and any other refreshments not included on the programme.

No refunds but you are most welcome to send a substitute at no extra cost.

An official invoice will subsequently be emailed to you to confirm your successful registration.

Please e-mail a copy of the deposit slip or proof of electronic transfer, to narina@behella.co.za.

ACCOMMODATION AND TRANSPORT

Please Take Note:

All costs (travel, accommodation, subsistence) related to your participation in the conference must be covered by the participant, regardless of the proposal acceptance. EASA 2024 is not liable and holds no responsibility for any of these costs.

Accommodation and Transport

Special rates were negotiated with Mount Grace Hotel and Spa, Magaliesburg. We only have 100 rooms (standard rooms) available at the rate of R2 095 per person per night for single accommodation. There are alternative accommodation options also available in the Magaliesburg area.

Lanseria International Airport is the closest Airport to the Mount Grace Hotel & Spa in Magaliesburg. Should there be adequate interest the Administrators will arrange group transfers from Lanseria Airport to the Hotel. Kindly contact narina@behella.co.za with your travel details to assist.

SPONSORSHIPS & EXHIBITORS

Interested companies are invited to showcase their books and/or products at the EASA 2024 conference.

Please contact narina@behella.co.za for more information regarding sponsorships and exhibition opportunities.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

1. Prof. Maximus Monaheng Sefotho – University of Johannesburg
2. Prof. Boitumelo Molebogeng Diale - University of Johannesburg
3. Dr. Veronica Dwarika - University of Johannesburg
4. Dr. Suraya Naicker - University of Johannesburg
5. Mr. Linford Molaodi - University of Johannesburg
6. Dr. Kathleen Fonseca - University of Johannesburg
7. Prof. Joseph Divala - University of Johannesburg
8. Prof. Uleanya Chinasa - University of Johannesburg
9. Dr. Fumane Khanare - University of Johannesburg
10. Dr. Roxanne Bailey - University of Johannesburg
11. Prof. Candice Livingstone - Cape Peninsula University of Technology
12. Dr. Chiedu Eseadi University of Johannesburg (PDRF)
13. Dr. Vera Victor University of Johannesburg (PDRF)
14. Dr. Charity Onyishi University of Johannesburg (PDRF)
15. Dr. Ossita Osai University of Johannesburg (PDRF)
16. Dr. Jabulani Mpofu University of Johannesburg (PDRF)

ENQUIRIES

General and Registration:

Conference Administrators (EASA 2024)

Marian Louw

E-mail: marian@behella.co.za

Phone: 083 264 9992

Narina Basson

E-mail: narina@behella.co.za

Phone: 082 901 1883

DISCLAIMER

The organisers reserve the right to change or cancel the published venue, programme, dates and/or fee due to unforeseen circumstances.