Call for Papers

NEMISA (becoming iNeSI)
Digital Innovation and Transformation Conference: Digital Skills 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Conference title</th>
<th>Digital innovation and transformation conference: Digital Skills 2019</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Conference theme</td>
<td>Shifting the digital skills discourse for the 4th industrial revolution</td>
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<td>Host(s)</td>
<td>NEMISA (becoming iNeSI)</td>
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<td>Dates</td>
<td>13-14 March 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Venue</td>
<td>Gauteng (TBA)</td>
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1. Background

NEMISA (becoming iNeSI) has a mandate to develop capacity in South Africa to ensure that South Africans have the necessary digital skills (e-skills) to participate in a digital economy that is driven by rapidly advancing technologies.

A part of the mandate is to establish 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 Innovation and Transformation Conference aims to grow an innovative 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.

The Conference will be structured as a two-day conference where speakers are invited to submit their research or practitioner papers for consideration for inclusion in the programme. There will also be plenary sessions and guest speakers to provide additional opportunities for stakeholders to share insights to be published in a conference proceeding.

2. Postgraduate symposium

There is a postgraduate symposium offering a platform for Masters and Doctoral students to share their research projects.

3. Call for papers

We invite you to submit your research, case studies and practitioner reports to the Digital Innovation and Transformation Conference which will be hosted by NEMISA. The Conference aims to bring together digital skills practitioners, academics and other stakeholders.
a. Background and focus of the Conference
The vision of a skilled and empowered digital citizenry in South Africa is a means to ensuring social and economic readiness for the digital future. We consider that prepared citizens are better equipped to take advantage of digital entrepreneurship and economic opportunities.

New ICT solutions such as those seen in shared digital platforms can similarly result in economies of scale in marginalised communities. Case studies and models that portray the NEMISA collaborative ethos between government, industry and other sectors to partner with rural communities are particularly encouraged.

b. Conference tracks
This Conference invites research and case study submissions which explore digital skills from a variety of viewpoints, institutional, socio-cultural and disciplinary contexts. The following tracks are available at the Conference:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Track</th>
<th>Potential topics</th>
<th>Track Chair (s)</th>
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| 1     | Public sector and policy implications of a digital future through digital skills | • Social Media and digital government  
• Open data  
• Government with Government (GwG)  
• Government with Employee (GwE)  
• Government with Business (GwB)  
• Government with Citizen (GwC)  
• Citizen with Citizen (CwC)  
| Dr Colin Thakur  
Durban University of Technology |
| 2     | Digital citizenry | • Digital inclusion in society.  
• Usage and perceived benefits of ICTs  
• e-Inclusion strategy  
• Women and Youth in ICT  
• ICT solutions that have brought about positive social and economic transformation  
• The role of government in transforming society  
• The drivers of inclusion and social innovation using ICT  
• The legal and unintended effects resulting from the dark-side of being digital  
| Dr Leona Craffert  
University of the Western Cape |
| 3     | Knowledge-based economy and e-social astuteness | • Knowledge for the 4th Industrial Revolution. For example, Internet-4-all, Internet of Things, Cyber-security  
• Workforce mobility  
• New models and case studies for access to ICT (internet connectivity, devices including mobile phones, physical centres... etc.)  
• New models and case studies for access to ICT Services (e.g. e-learning, m-learning, apps & software, hardware-e.g. RFID sensors, digital media)  
• ICT skills transfer to local communities  
| Ms Antoinette Lombard  
Vaal University of Technology |
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| 4     | **ICT for rural development**  
• Penetration of quality ICT and national services  
• Ownership of ICT and Internet infrastructure in rural communities  
• Sustainable ecosystems for ICT investment in rural areas (the creation of decent work and sustainable livelihoods; education; health; and rural development, food security and land reform)  
• Advocacy and awareness models of new opportunities using ICT and digital skills  
• ICT models that promote direct transactions between business and rural suppliers  
• ICT models that allow open access to markets and land usage | Ms Sibukele Gumbo Walter Sisulu University                                                            |
| 5     | **Connected health**  
• Advocacy and awareness of health content using digital skills. For example, the burden of non-communicable diseases  
• Necessary capacity to upskill health practitioners to utilise new ICT applications for the health sector.  
• New models and case studies to bring about a healthier citizen to function in a digital era  
• The health disorders resulting from the dark-side of being an e-astute digital citizen | Dr Farivar Rahimi University of Limpopo                                                              |
| 6     | **E-Agriculture and e-tourism (e-Agro Tourism)**  
• The digital skills necessary for creating sustainable ecosystems to bridge agriculture suppliers and agro-tourists.  
• New ICT models and case studies to promote job opportunities in the tourism sector for sustainable tourism.  
• Agricultural services, technology dissemination, information and communication delivered or enhanced through the internet of things (IoT) | Prof Mpho Chaka North West University                                                                |
| 7     | **Creative and new media industries**  
• The application of ICTs in the creative and new media industries.  
• New sustainable ICT models and case studies for community broadcasting | Mr Herman Botes Tshwane University of Technology                                                      |
| 8     | **SME and entrepreneurship development**  
• New ICT models and case studies to support small enterprise development  
• The role of TVET colleges in the development of digital skills for entrepreneurship. | Prof Tembisa Ngqondi University of Mpumalanga                                                        |
| 9     | **Tech Hubs**  
• Models for designing, building and sustaining Tech Hubs | Dr Luci Abrahams Wits University                                                                      |
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<td>10</td>
<td>Discussion Cases and Practitioner Reports</td>
<td>Discussion cases focusing on digital skills that relate academic theories and frameworks to practical reality. Practitioner reports related to any of the tracks above.</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Post Graduate Symposium</td>
<td>Post graduate research projects related to any of the tracks above.</td>
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4. **Important dates:**

- **Publish and distribute the Call for Papers:** 17 September 2018
- **Paper submissions deadline:** 17 December 2018
- **Reviewer comments distributed:** 30 January 2019
- **Updated paper submissions due:** 28 February 2019
- **Conference dates:** 13 -14 March 2019
  - Post Graduate Symposium – 13 March 2019
  - Main Conference - 14 March 2019

5. **Submission guidelines**

We anticipate four different genres of papers:

- Full papers reflecting on completed research – should not exceed 14 pages including references.
- Short papers reporting on work in progress or practitioner papers – should not exceed 6 pages including references.
- Case studies – should not exceed 6 pages including references and exhibits.
- Abstracts – should not exceed 3 pages including references.

Submit papers using the following link:

[https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=eskills2019](https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=eskills2019)

Full papers to be submitted should have completed analyses and documentation of results. Papers should be submitted as a `.pdf` or `.docx` file using the outlined Conference template. Please ensure that you upload your paper to the correct track.

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 eliminated 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 will be eliminated from the review process.

6. Publication

Accepted papers will be published as part of the Conference Proceedings with the following ISBN: 978-0-6399275-1-0.


Conference Chair
- Prof. Hossana Twinomurinzi
- Dr. Tendani Mawela

Conference Organising Chair
- Mrs. Kanye Rampa
- Ms. Fumane Diseko-Biagini

Conference Programme Committee
The programme committee comprises the following:

<table>
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<td>Ms Nozipho Sihlahla</td>
<td>DTPS</td>
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Please feel free to contact the Conference Organising Chair with any queries on: rampam@unisa.ac.za

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