



**UMALUSI 2012  
CONFERENCE**

STANDARDS IN  
EDUCATION & TRAINING:  

---

THE CHALLENGE

# First Announcement and Call for Papers

**Date:**

10-12 May 2012

**Venue:**

Ekudeni Resort,  
Beyers Naude Drive,  
Johannesburg,  
South Africa

UMALUSI



Council for Quality Assurance in  
General and Further Education and Training

Standards in education are not uniformly understood: there are always a number of questions surrounding how standards are set and maintained across an education and training system, especially one that is defined by its diversity and inequality. Umalusi works across general and further education and training sectors which include schools, FET colleges, and adult learning centres, each with unique features and needs.

Several related issues require elucidation around the central theme of equal standards in a diverse and unequal society: the notion of quality assurance in the context of societal and educational inequality. Important questions also should be raised about the role of the curriculum in setting standards, and how practice informs standards 'on-the-ground'.

The necessity for standards is not in dispute, but many issues converge around how to measure and assess such standards, given the diversity and inequality inherent in the education and training system in South Africa. A primary facet of this is the centrality of language competence in learning, with a large number of learners (and in many contexts, the majority) learning and being assessed in a language other than their mother-tongue.

This conference will focus on the setting of standards in education and training, critical issues that inform standard setting for a diverse and unequal society whether that be in schooling, vocational education and training or adult education and training; the role of quality assurance, standard setting approaches and models, standards in qualifications; measuring equivalence; using assessment to inform standards; curriculum and practice as components of standard setting; the centrality of language competency as a requirement for achievement; educational challenges and good practice. While all these issues have immediate impact on South Africa's education and training landscape, they also have relevance to other educational systems across the globe.

This is the first call for papers to be presented at this conference in May 2012 and papers related to this theme and sub-themes are welcomed.

#### **Themes for Discussion:**

- Setting standards for an unequal society
- How quality assurance improves standards
- The role of the curriculum in setting standards
- How standards improve through practice
- The role of assessment in ensuring standards
- Language competency as a predictor of achievement
- How equal is equivalence?

While it is preferred that papers are related to the theme of the conference, we encourage the submission of papers that consider other important perspectives that are relevant to the field of standards and quality assurance across the three education sectors namely, schooling, vocational education and training, and adult training.

#### **Call for Abstracts**

##### Guidelines and instructions:

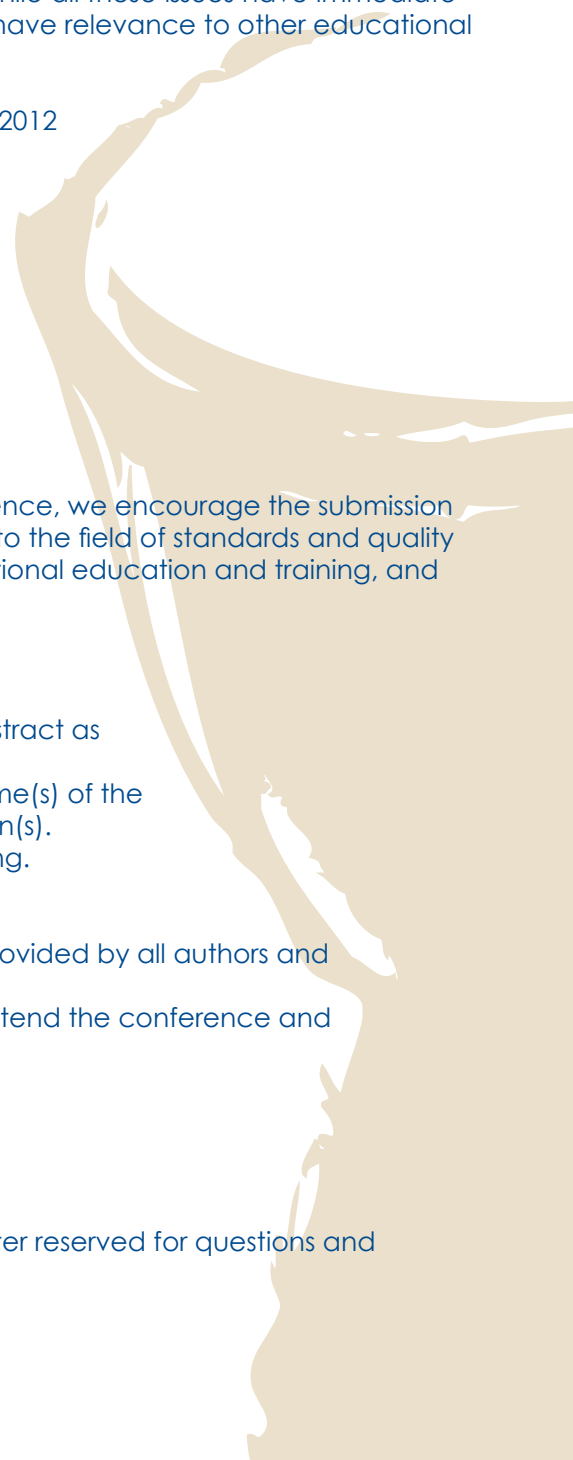
- All authors interested in presenting papers are invited to submit an abstract as an e-mail attachment.
- All abstracts should be in MS-Word format, and should include the name(s) of the author(s), e-mail address(es), contact details, and institutional affiliation(s). Please also indicate, if there are multiple authors, who will be presenting.
- The maximum length is 300 words including all keyword(s).
- Please indicate the theme of the presentation.
- A short CV of no more than 100 words in MS-Word format should be provided by all authors and co-authors.
- Please note that submission of an abstract entails a commitment to attend the conference and present the paper should the abstract be accepted.

##### Submission of abstracts:

Abstracts should be submitted electronically to: [frank@umalusi.org.za](mailto:frank@umalusi.org.za)

##### Presentation guidelines:

Presentations should be confined to 20 minutes with 10 minutes thereafter reserved for questions and discussion.



### **Important Dates:**

- Early bird registration date: 31 December 2011
- Final date for submission of abstracts: 31 January 2012
- Notification of acceptance of abstracts: 13 February 2012
- Final closing date for registration: 25 March 2012
- Registration confirmation: 31 March 2012

### **Provisional Programme:**

Day 1 – 10th May 2012

- Registration
- Presentations of papers and discussions
- Cocktail Dinner

Day 2– 11th May 2012

- Presentations of papers and discussions
- Gala Dinner

Day 3 – 12th May 2012

- Presentations of papers and discussions until lunchtime
- Closing address
- Lunch
- Delegates can go on one of several planned excursions

### **REGISTRATION FEES:**

Early Bird R1500.00	Conference 3 days: Including refreshments and lunch during the day, conference material and social event
Late registrations R2000.00	
R1000.00	Conference 1 day: Including refreshments and lunch during the day, conference material
Excursions (optional) R200.00	Each delegate will pay R200.00 in order to visit any one of the two places of interest on offer. These are the Rhino and Lion Nature Reserve or Maropeng, the Cradle of Humankind.

### **Excursions:**

Transport for the excursion will be provided by the conference organisers.

### **Rhino and Lion Nature Reserve**

The Rhino & Lion Nature Reserve is a game reserve, covering approximately 1 600 ha on the typical highveld of Gauteng. The reserve is situated in the "Cradle of Humankind", a declared World Heritage Site, about 40 km north-west of Johannesburg.

### **Maropeng**

The 47,000 hectare site has unearthed the best evidence of the complex journey which our species has taken to make us what we are – a place of pilgrimage for all humankind. This site also houses the world-renowned Sterkfontein Caves, home to the oldest and most continuous paleontological dig in the world. It is also the site of discovery of the famous pre-human skull affectionately known as "Mrs Ples", and an almost complete hominid skeleton called "Little Foot", dated 2.3 and 4.17 million years old respectively.

### **Banking Details:**

Pay directly into the bank account and fax/e-mail a copy of the deposit slip or proof of payment together with your registration form to: Mr Frank Chinyamakobvu at fax 012 349 2740/012 349 1511 and e-mail frank@umalusi.org.za

**Account Name: Umalusi**

**Bank Name: ABSA**

**Account Number: 1630145178**

**Branch Code: 632005**

**Reference: EVOSETCO1L**

**PLEASE NOTE:** It is the responsibility of the delegate to ensure that a payment is made and proof of payment is sent to Mr Frank Chinyamakobvu

**ENQUIRIES:****Registration and abstract enquiries:**

Mr Frank Chinyamakobvu  
Tel: +27 (12) 349 1510  
Fax: +27 (12) 349 1511  
E-mail: [Frank@umalusi.org.za](mailto:Frank@umalusi.org.za)

**Technical enquiries:**

Mr Marco MacFarlane  
Tel: +27 (12) 349 1510  
Fax: +27 (12) 349 1511  
E-mail: [Marco@umalusi.org.za](mailto:Marco@umalusi.org.za)

**DISCLAIMER**

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

**Conference Accommodation Information**

Lodges near to the conference venue and their respective rates as at May 2011

Name of Lodge	Telephone and E-mail	Rate-including B&B
Heia Safari Ranch	Telephone Number : <b>+27 11 919 5000</b> E-mail address: <a href="mailto:heia@netactive.co.za">heia@netactive.co.za</a> Web address: <a href="http://www.heia-safari.co.za">www.heia-safari.co.za</a>	R750.00
Valverde	Cell Number: <b>079 640 6500/072 587 0361</b> E-mail address <a href="mailto:info@valverde.co.za">info@valverde.co.za</a> Web address: <a href="http://www.valverde.co.za">www.valverde.co.za</a>	R650.00
Shumba	Telephone Number : <b>+27 11 790 8000/ +27 11 640 0432</b> E-mail address: <a href="mailto:bmoller@shumbavalley.co.za">bmoller@shumbavalley.co.za</a> Web address: <a href="http://www.shumbavalley.co.za">www.shumbavalley.co.za</a>	R745.00
Ingwenya	Telephone Number: <b>+27 11 557 8600</b> E-mail address <a href="mailto:milton@ingwenya.com">milton@ingwenya.com</a> Web address: <a href="http://www.ingwenya.com">www.ingwenya.com</a>	R1000.00

**UMALUSI 2012  
CONFERENCE**  
STANDARDS IN  
EDUCATION & TRAINING:  

---

THE CHALLENGE