



# SACHES

## Annual Conference 2025

### Second Call for Abstracts

#### *Date*

**Friday, 15 to Sunday, 17 August 2025**

#### *Theme*

***Adapting to Digital Transformations in Higher Education:  
Distress or/and Progress?***

#### *Venue*

***Ohana Umhlali at Umhlali Country Club  
Balito, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa***

#### ***Keynote Speaker***

**Prof Aslam Fataar**  
Stellenbosch University, South Africa

### **Deadline for Abstract Submissions:**

### **Sunday 6 July 2025**

The landscape of higher education is evolving at an unprecedented rate, driven by the rapid advancement of digital technologies. This transformation presents both opportunities and challenges for educators, researchers, students, and institutions. As we navigate this digital revolution, it is crucial to understand and unpack the complexities that come with that. It is essential to explore whether and to what extent the digital adaptation serves as, transforms us, empowers us, overwhelms us, challenges us, divides us, connects us and/or all of the above.

SACHES participants are invited to submit abstracts in alignment with the conference theme. We look forward to hearing your voices and inputs about digital transformations in higher education and whether they lead to distress or progress OR perhaps both. Share your research, insights, and experiences with fellow academics, educators, students and industry professionals. Together, we can shape a more informed future of higher education in the digital era.

Submitted papers and presentations may address the following areas/sub-themes, however, are not limited to them:

- Digital Pedagogy: Innovations in teaching and learning methodologies, the impact of online and hybrid courses, and strategies for engaging students in the digital realm.
- Assessment and Accountability: Methods for assessing student learning in the digital age, and the role of data analytics in optimizing educational outcomes.
- Student Experience: How students are adapting to digital transformations, their preferences, and the impact on their overall educational experience.
- Academic Data-Driven Research: Research that leverages data analytics to understand trends, identify areas for improvement, and enhance decision-making in current transformations of higher education.
- Challenges and Opportunities: Exploration of the barriers, ethical concerns, and equity issues in digital transformation, as well as solutions and success stories.
- Professional Development: Initiatives to empower educators and researchers with digital skills and promote their professional growth in a digital environment.
- Educational Technology: Evaluations of digital tools, learning management systems, and emerging technologies in higher education.

The format of the conference will include full length papers, panel discussions and round table discussions. Abstracts of papers (max. 350 words) must be submitted to the conference organiser, Jo-Anne Koch. The deadline for proposals is **6 July 2025**.

Local and international scholars and agencies in the field of Comparative, International, Development Education, History and Sociology of Education are invited to attend and participate in sub-themes, which will include, inter alia, education and economic austerity, development agencies, language of teaching and learning, teacher education policy and practice. Consult the SACHES website: [www.saches.co.za](http://www.saches.co.za).

### SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS

Abstracts should be submitted electronically (by e-mail), in RTF/MSWord format as file attachments (not as part of the message) to the conference organiser at the following e-mail address:

[joanne.adams@saches.co.za](mailto:joanne.adams@saches.co.za)

### REGISTRATION FEES:

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| <b>Registration fee:</b> R3 800-00<br><b>Registered students:</b> R3 200-00<br>The registration form is available from the conference organiser. | <b>SACHES Banking Detail:</b><br>ABSA: Active Save<br>Name: SACHES<br>Account Number: 23527847<br>Branch Code: 632005<br>Swift Code for delegates abroad: ABSA za jj<br>Reference: <b>Delegate name + surname + Membership number</b><br>E-mail proof of payment: <a href="mailto:joanne.adams@saches.co.za">joanne.adams@saches.co.za</a> |
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### CONFERENCE ORGANISER:

Any further queries can be addressed to:

**Jo-Anne Koch**

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**Southern African Comparative and History of Education Society**