



# SAARMSTE

Southern African Association for Research in  
Mathematics, Science and Technology Education

**FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT AND CALL FOR PAPERS – Amended (03/07/2020)**

**29<sup>TH</sup> CONFERENCE OF THE SOUTHERN AFRICAN ASSOCIATION FOR RESEARCH IN  
MATHEMATICS, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION**

**A Virtual Conference**

**TUESDAY 12 – FRIDAY 15 JANUARY 2021**

**HOSTED COLLABORATIVELY BY:**

**SAARMSTE-LESOTHO CHAPTER AND NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF LESOTHO**

**CONFERENCE THEME:**

*Positioning and disrupting Mathematics, Science and Technology Education (MSTE) in the  
development agenda in Southern Africa*

**For Virtual Research Writing Clinic – refer details on page 7**

**Website: [www.saarmste.org/conferences](http://www.saarmste.org/conferences)**

**Email: [saarmste2021@gmail.com](mailto:saarmste2021@gmail.com)**

## **SAARMSTE COMMITTEES 2020-2021**

### **SAARMSTE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

President	Prof Hamsa Venkat	University of the Witwatersrand
Past President	Prof Kenneth Ngcoza	Rhodes University
Secretary/Treasurer:	Dr Tulsi Morar	Nelson Mandela University
Chapter Representatives:	Dr Beata Dongwi	Rhodes University, Namibia
	Prof Nicky Roberts	University of Johannesburg
AJRMSTE Editor:	Prof Busisiwe Alant	University of KwaZulu-Natal
Research Capacity Building	Prof Audrey Msimanga	Sol Plaatje University, Kimberley
Committee Chair:		
Secretariat (ex-officio):	Ms Carolyn Stevenson-Milln	SAARMSTE

### **SAARMSTE LOCAL CONFERENCE ORGANISING COMMITTEES (LOC) - 2021**

<b>Conference Chair</b>	: Dr. Makomosela Qhobela
<b>Conference Secretary</b>	: Dr. Lira Molapo
<b>Fundraising Chair</b>	: Mr. Maboi Mphunyane
<b>Programme Chair</b>	: Prof. 'Tsepo Mokuku
<b>Logistics Chair</b>	: Mr. Lereko Mohafa
<b>SAARMSTE Secretariat</b>	: Ms Carolyn Stevenson-Milln

### **PROGRAMME COMMITTEE**

Prof. 'Tsepo Mokuku	National University of Lesotho
Mr. Mpholo Leoisa	Lesotho College of Education
Dr. `Malefu Nthathakane	National University of Lesotho

### **FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE**

Mr. Maboi Mphunyane	National University of Lesotho
Mr. Mpholo Leoisa	Lesotho College of Education
Mr. Sikeme Raphoka	Ministry Education and Training

### **LOGISTICS COMMITTEE**

Mr. Lereko Mohafa	Ministry Education and Training
Ms Macheli Mofolo	Lesotho College of Education
Mr. Mokiti Janefeke	Ministry Education and Training

### **OTHER MEMBERS**

Mr. Sechaba Koma	Ministry Education and Training
Mr. Mokete Moleko	Ministry Education and Training
Mrs. `Maphole Marake	Ministry Education and Training

## **OBJECTIVES OF THE SAARMSTE CONFERENCE**

Three objectives of SAARMSTE, according to its constitution, are:

- To promote the advancement of Mathematics, Science and Technology Education (MSTE) research in Southern Africa
- To foster a sense of community among researchers in MSTE
- To promote research to improve and develop MSTE programmes in response to current and future needs

The Annual SAARMSTE Conference is an important vehicle to address these objectives.

## **CONFERENCE THEME**

*Positioning and disrupting Mathematics, Science and Technology Education (MSTE)  
in the development agenda in Southern Africa*

### **Motivation**

Positioning Mathematics, Science and Technology Education refers to situating Research in current social and curricular developments in Southern Africa. Throughout Southern Africa there have been societal and curriculum changes requiring urgent attention of researchers in MSTE. Among the aims of the changes at both levels, is to prepare learners for the fourth industrial revolution and to meet the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which are the blueprint set to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all.

**During this conference, we ask:** In what ways does Research in Southern Africa position and disrupt established traditional MSTE practices, and what development directions are in view?

## **PROGRAMME**

To follow

### **IMPORTANT FINAL DATES to diarise**

<b>Online submission of papers for review closes:</b> <i>(see options on next page)</i>	<b>NO LATER than Friday 31 July 2020</b>
<b>Review process completed by:</b> <i>(authors advised of outcomes)</i>	<b>Wednesday 30 September 2020</b>
<b>Final submission of re-worked long papers:</b>	<b>Friday 30 October 2020</b>
<b>Online conference registration opens:</b>	<b>Tuesday 15 September 2020</b>
<b>Application for Conference Research Writing Clinic closes:</b>	<b>Friday 30 October 2020</b>
<b>Payment of registration fees for presenters/delegates<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Monday 30 November 2020</b>
<b>Provisional programme released to presenters</b>	<b>December 2020</b>

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<sup>1</sup> If final arrangements for payment are not processed by Monday 30/11/2020 paper(s) will NOT be included in the conference programme.

**PROGRAMME PRESENTATIONS - VIRTUAL**

**A. Invited Session Chairs** – Details to follow

**B. Submitted Peer Reviewed Paper Presentations** - See SAARMSTE optional strands within each of the three categories listed under C. below. See Submission Format and platform for submissions under, 'Criteria for submitting presentation options.

**Paper Options are:**

<b>1. LONG PAPERS</b>		
<b>Length</b> Abstract: 100-150 words * Full paper: up to 6 000 words	<b>Submission date</b> No later than 31 July 2020 to Email: <a href="mailto:saarmste@gmail.com">saarmste@gmail.com</a>	<b>Final submission date for re-worked papers:</b> 30 October 2020 to Email: <a href="mailto:saarmste@gmail.com">saarmste@gmail.com</a>
<p>Long papers must be as close to, <b>but not exceeding</b>, 6 000 words (including tables, figures and references).</p> <p>Long papers should use a format similar to those required by journals: i.e. abstract, (100-150 words), introduction, literature review/conceptual framework, theoretical framework, methodology, findings, discussion and conclusion.</p> <p>Author details must be excluded for double blind peer review.</p> <p><b>Note</b> the process for long paper submissions should be conducted in 2 parts:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Complete and submit: Cover Sheet and Presentation Information Page (Part 3) found on the SAARMSTE Website</li> <li>2. Submit a copy of the <b>full paper</b> (6,000 words) as an attached <b>Word Document</b> with title of paper; presentation type, subject strand and area strand, placed at the top of the full paper.</li> <li>3. Only when both submissions are complete will the paper be sent for reviewing purposes</li> </ol>		
<p>Once feedback has been provided, re-worked papers must be submitted online by the 30 October 2020.</p>		
<p>Accepted long papers appear in the Conference Proceedings and are eligible for DHET subsidy funding.</p> <p>In accepting a long paper for presentation at SAARMSTE conference, the Review Panel presumes that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. the paper is original and has not been published elsewhere;</li> <li>b. permission has been granted by the author for the accepted long paper to be published in the accredited Conference Proceedings; and</li> <li>c. at least one of the authors will register and attend the conference to present the paper.</li> </ol>		
<p>Long Papers are independently double-blind peer reviewed.</p> <p>Should a paper not be accepted for presentation as a long paper, it is possible that the author may be asked to reduce the length of the paper to meet the requirement and deadlines for a short paper.</p>		
<p>Authors whose long papers are accepted will be asked to upload their max 30 minute presentation to a Conference web address by December 31<sup>st</sup> 2020. All conference participants registered for this session will then be able to access this presentation before the Conference. An expert Chair, allocated to the presentation slot, will then lead a 1 hour discussion session on the three linked papers in this slot.</p>		

<b>2. SHORT PAPERS</b>		
<b>Length:</b> Abstract: 100-150 words * Full paper: 1 500 words	<b>Submission date:</b> No later than 31 July 2020 to Email: <a href="mailto:saarmste@gmail.com">saarmste@gmail.com</a>	
<p>Short Papers, of <b>no more than 1 500 words</b> (including preliminary findings, tables, figures and references), must be submitted by 31 July 2020.</p> <p>Short papers should use a format similar to those required by journals: abstract (100-150 words), introduction, literature review/conceptual framework, theoretical framework, methodology, findings, discussion and conclusion.</p> <p>Short papers should highlight preliminary findings and the significance of the research. Author details must be excluded for the double-blind peer review.</p>		
<p>The reviewers might suggest that the author(s) develop their short paper into an extended short paper of 3 600 words. This may be useful for authors who wish to register for the writing clinic and/or submit a paper to a journal.</p> <p>The author(s) will decide if they would like to accept this opportunity.</p> <p>The extended short papers are published in the electronic conference proceedings, but will not be eligible for the DHET funding subsidy.</p> <p>Extended short papers must be emailed, as an attached Word document, to the Secretariat at <a href="mailto:saarmste@gmail.com">saarmste@gmail.com</a> by 30 October 2020.</p>		
<p>Short papers should appear in the 2021 electronic record of Research Papers in Mathematics, Science and Technology Education. Short papers are <b>not</b> eligible for DHET subsidy.</p>		
<p>Should a paper not be accepted for presentation as a short paper, it is possible that the author may be asked to amend and re-submit the paper as a snapshot or a guided poster. Such an amended paper should be re-submitted by 30 October 2020.</p>		
<p>Authors whose short papers are accepted will be asked to upload their max 20 minute presentation to a Conference web address by December 31<sup>st</sup> 2020. All conference participants registered for this session will then be able to access this presentation before the Conference. An expert Chair, allocated to the presentation slot, will then lead a 1 hour discussion session on the three linked papers in this slot.</p>		

<b>3. SNAPSHOTS</b>		
<b>Length:</b> Abstract: 100-150 words * Full paper: Up to 1 500 words	<b>Submission date:</b> No later than 31 July 2020 to Email: <a href="mailto:saarmste@gmail.com">saarmste@gmail.com</a>	<b>No revisions required</b>
<p>Snapshots focus on emerging research, which need not necessarily include results. The purpose is to receive input from an interested audience of like-minded delegates.</p>		
<p>Snapshots should use the format: introduction, literature review, methodology and the way forward.</p>		
<p>Snapshots, of <b>no more than 1 500 words</b> (including abstract, preliminary findings, tables, figures and references), must be submitted by 31 July 2020.</p> <p>Snapshots will be “blind reviewed” by two reviewers.</p>		
<p>Snapshots are <b>not eligible</b> for DHET subsidy.</p> <p>Some universities will not provide funding for presenters to attend the conference.</p>		
<p>Feedback is provided by the reviewers.</p> <p>No revisions are required as snapshots are still ‘research in progress’.</p>		
<p>Authors whose snapshots are accepted will be asked to upload their max 10 minute presentation to a</p>		

Conference web address by December 31<sup>st</sup> 2020. Depending on themes of these snapshots, we will aim to integrate snapshot discussions into slots based on the same theme.

4. GUIDED POSTERS		
<b>Length:</b> Abstract: 100-150 words * Up to 1 500 words	<b>Submission date:</b> No later than 31 July 2020 to Email: <a href="mailto:saarmste@gmail.com">saarmste@gmail.com</a>	<b>No revisions required.</b>
A word document, of <b>no more than 1 500 words</b> (including abstract, preliminary findings, tables, figures and references), must be submitted by 31 July 2020. The word document should provide an outline of the content of the poster. The actual poster is not submitted for review, a Word document is. Author details must be excluded for a “blind review”.		
The poster should contain a brief outline of the main features of the author’s research, similar to a short paper, which includes a 100-150 word abstract.		
Feedback is provided by the reviewers.		
Posters are <b>not eligible</b> for DHET subsidy. Some universities do not provide funding for poster presenters to attend the conference.		
Authors whose poster submission are accepted will be asked to upload one Power Point poster slide, with some descriptive text, (maximum of 250 words), to a Conference web address by December 31 <sup>st</sup> 2020. Depending on themes of these posters, we will aim to integrate poster discussions into slots based on the same theme.		

5. SYMPOSIA / PANEL DISCUSSION		
<b>Length:</b> Abstract: 100-150 words * Full paper: 1 500 words	<b>Submission date:</b> No later than 31 July 2020 to Email: <a href="mailto:saarmste@gmail.com">saarmste@gmail.com</a>	<b>No revisions required</b>
These are discussions around a central theme or issue where different points of view, approaches, debates or analysis of the same problem are presented. 90-minute is allocated for each symposia/panel discussion to enable audience involvement.		
A 1 500 word paper (including an abstract of 100-150 word and references) must provide a short outline of the whole symposium, details of each speaker’s contribution and how these come together to create a forum for discussion and debate.		
Reviewers will provide feedback, but no revisions are required. Symposia are <b>not eligible</b> for DHET subsidy.		

Paper Presentations *should fall within one of the following Subject Strands:*

Mathematics	Science	Technology
Mathematical Literacy	Natural Sciences	Design and Technology
Mathematics	Biology	Engineering Education (Civil, Electrical, Mechanical, Process, Material, Robotics, Mechatronics, Textile Technology etc.)
	Chemistry	Indigenous & Appropriate Technology
	Physics	Information & Communication Technology (ICT)

Within **one** of the following **Area Strands**:

Primary education	Initial teacher education
Secondary education	Continuous teacher education
Tertiary education	Out-of-school education

**Procedure for submitting the presentation options are:**

Submission Deadline for all options above: **No Later** than Friday 31 July 2020

Note: \* Abstracts of accepted papers will be included in the Conference Programme with day-to-day schedule of presentations

***VIRTUAL CONFERENCE RESEARCH WRITING CLINIC***

The Annual Conference Research Writing Clinic is aimed at developing draft manuscripts and/or short papers into articles for journal submission. The Chief-Editor of AJRMSTE facilitates the Research Clinic together with members of the Editorial Team.

Participation in the Virtual Writing Clinic includes: some pre-conference preparation (submission, admission and feedback) for groups of 10 participants. The programme comprises two sessions per group with approximately two weeks in between each session.

For short paper authors there is the potential for feedback and development of a journal article for the African Journal of Research in Mathematics, Science and Technology Education, (AJRMSTE), or other recommended and accredited journals within Mathematics, Science and Technology Education.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Spaces in the Research Writing Clinic are limited.

Applications and a DRAFT PAPER must be submitted directly to: the Secretariat by 31 October 2020 at [saarmster@gmail.com](mailto:saarmster@gmail.com) (Application form will be provided in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Announcement).

***DELEGATE REGISTRATION TO ATTEND THE VIRTUAL CONFERENCE***

All those interested in attending the 2021 SAARMSTE Conference, in addition to accepted paper authors and/or presenters, should register online through <https://www.saarmste.org>

***REGISTRATION FEES - DUE TO THE SITUATION WORLD WIDE WITH COVID - 19  
REGISTRATION FEES WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN DUE COURSE***

There are three different levels of registration fees:

1. paid up 2020 member of SAARMSTE
2. non or lapsed member of SAARMSTE, and
3. anyone over 65 years of age.

**Note: If you did not attend the SAARMSTE 2020 Conference, or have not paid membership fees since then, you are not a paid-up member.**

<b>MEMBERSHIP STATUS</b>	<b>EARLY BIRD (payment received before/on 30 October 2020)</b>	<b>LATE PAYMENT (payment received after 30 October 2020)</b>
<b>Valid 2020 paid up members</b> Discounted conference fee	R (includes 2021 membership)	R (includes 2021 membership)
<b>Non-members and lapsed members.</b>	R (includes 2021 membership)	R (includes 2021 membership)

<b>Valid 2020 members and over 65 years of age</b>	R (includes 2021 membership)	R (includes 2021 membership)
<b>Daily rate – excludes membership</b>	R	R

NB: **When processing payment**, kindly include **delegate name** and **invoice number**.

Registration fees paid from outside South Africa and cash payments must include a bank charge of R200.

Details of methods of payment should be found in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Announcement e.g. South African bank EFT or Bank Transfer. Payment by credit card is **not** accepted.

**CANCELLATION OF REGISTRATION** - The following cancellation penalties apply:

Before 30 October 2020: full refund

Between 31 October and 15 December 2020: 40% refund

After 15 December 2020: no refund

Refunds should be paid into the account from which the registration fee emanates.

**SAARMSTE CORRESPONDENCE DETAILS**

Please address your SAARMSTE conference correspondence to the Local Organising Committee

Dr Lira Molapo	<i>Cell</i>	(+266) 58983620
LoC General Enquiries	<i>Email:</i>	<a href="mailto:molapo@leo.co.ls">molapo@leo.co.ls</a>

General SAARMSTE queries should be addressed to the SAARMSTE Secretariat

Ms Carolyn Stevenson-Milln	<i>Cell:</i>	+27 (0)82 977 9858
SAARMSTE Secretariat	<i>Email:</i>	<a href="mailto:saarmste@gmail.com">saarmste@gmail.com</a>