



*CALLING ALL ALUMNI RESEARCHERS
ESTABLISHMENT OF HETN GRADUATE RESEARCH WORKING GROUP*

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

The original expectation of education and training policy makers and graduates was that post-apartheid South Africa would have a single Department of Education and Training with free compulsory higher education to address societal inequalities and poverty.

Since the advent of the new democratic order in South Africa and the demise of the National Education Coordinating Committee (NECC), expertise and subject matter ownership of the higher education transformation body of knowledge has slowly shifted from non-governmental organizations and progressive forces advocating peoples power to university Administrators, represented by institutions such as Higher Education South Africa (HESA), the Council on Higher Education (CHE) and its subcommittee, the Higher Education Quality Council (HEQC). Higher education policy making and research output has now become the exclusive preserve of academics who have successfully drowned out progressive transformation forces on the policy and research front.

The Higher Education Transformation Network (HETN) believes that underlying causes behind the slow pace of implementation of higher education transformation lies within the current configuration of the statutory Council on Higher Education and Ministerial Subcommittees which are over-represented by the same academics who frustrate transformation at institutional level. The very same academia and their institutions who frustrate transformation cannot be thus expected to produce empirical output free of subjective dogma and self-justifications.

Internationally, there is a global risk emanating from the current economic crisis that threatens the funding of education by governments in developing countries. As the economic crisis worsens, this threatens to roll back whatever educational advances that have been made by developing countries. For developing countries such as South Africa to protect and even increase investment into education and roll back poverty, progressive forces such as the HETN needs to maintain an active output of research on higher education transformation as education determines the educational and economic fates of nations.

In the context of critical shortages of human capital and skills, within an increasingly competitive global economy, both developed and developing countries have elevated higher education into the national spotlight. Higher education is being reshaped by new developmental imperatives and more complex relationships\ between universities, the state and business. Universities are expected to contribute to innovation and technology transfer, becoming more active partners in promoting economic growth.

The Higher Education Transformation Network's Graduate Research Working Group intends to offer HETN graduate scholars the opportunity to participate in research output to address the shift from elite to mass participation in higher education, and the emerging opportunities that make higher education more responsive to competing demands. Papers and or research proposals with and/or by member researcher are encouraged.

In its commitment to the expansion of learning and research on higher education transformation, the HETN Graduate Research Working Group avails a platform for novice and experienced researchers who are members of the HETN to journal detailed accounts of specific research projects. By using the findings of these enquiries, contributors reveal the potential value of new educational strategies, and stimulate the advancement of creative teaching methods, thus advancing the frontiers of the higher education transformation agenda.

As part of the HETN Research Working Group, members will also develop a critical platform for the development of a research community of practice to query the context in which our current educational strategies are practiced. Articles will be gathered from an extensive community of graduate researchers, allowing the Research Working Group to provide a comprehensive profile of higher education research studies. The ultimate objective is to encourage graduate researcher members of the HETN to attain professional ratings by the National Research Foundation (NRF).

Envisaged Empirical Output

Research Articles: Research articles include 15-25 page manuscripts (4,000 - 7,000 words) that are theoretical or empirical in nature. Research articles are to be well grounded in the relevant literature and present knowledge, methods, and insights relevant to higher education pedagogy. The broad sub-functional areas of the HETN's membership profiles necessitates that research articles address issues that have a wide appeal and significance to higher education practitioners.

Instructional Articles: Instructional articles are 5-15 page manuscripts (1,500 - 4,000 words) designed to explain and clarify innovative higher education teaching methods. Instructional articles, while grounded in the literature on higher education pedagogy, focus on the explanation of tentative, emerging, or alternative teaching methodologies, rather than the strict reporting of empirical data.

Review Articles: Review articles are 3-5 page manuscripts (1,000 - 1,500 words) that include commentaries and evaluations of recently published works - books, articles, or web sites - related to higher education pedagogy.

Major Papers (5000-6000 words) should include original work of a research or developmental nature and/or proposed new methods or ideas which are clearly and thoroughly presented and argued. Shorter items (1,000 to 2,500 words) include: Reports of research in progress; Reflections on the research process; Research evaluations of funded projects.

The activities of the HETN Research Working Group will take place under the guidance of the Director: Research and Policy. Meetings will take place on a quarterly basis with regular virtual interactions. Each article will be peer-reviewed by two members of the Research Working Group. Depending on the size of the articles submitted, the review process should take no more than approximately 4 weeks.

We are seeking suitable papers for consideration by the Research Working Group. We are also seeking reviews of relevant recent publications, electronic media and conference reports. Approved peer-reviewed articles will be published via the HETN website.

Eligibility:-

- All applicants must be members of the Higher Education Transformation Network
- Applicants must be graduates irrespective of possessing National Diplomas, undergraduate Degrees, Honours, Masters or Doctoral qualifications.
- HETN graduate members from different disciplinary backgrounds are encouraged, including economics, education, demography, psychology, sociology/anthropology, psychology, political science and law.
- Experienced and novice researchers are encouraged.

Guidelines for Article Submissions

Paper Title: (14pt, Arial Bold style)

Author Names: (*Arial, 12-point, bold, centre*)

Correspondence e-mail:

ABSTRACT

- Abstract title should be in capitalised, bold Arial, font size 11pt.
- The abstract text should be single-lined in font size 10pt, Arial. The abstract should not exceed 300 words.
- Abstracts should be submitted for papers, workshops and posters

INTRODUCTION

- Papers should not exceed a maximum of 10 pages including all figures, tables and references.
- All papers should be prepared on A4 size paper with 1-inch margins on all sides
- All paragraphs should have single line spacing in font size 11 pt, Arial
- Leave 6 pt before and after each paragraph

HEADINGS

- All headings should be in Arial font, size 12, Capitalised Bold, numbered Leave 12 pt spacing before and after each HEADING

Sub-Headings

- First level Sub-Headings should be in Arial font, size 11, Bold and must also be numbered using Arabic numeration
- Leave 6 pt spacing before and after each Sub-Heading

FIGURES

- Insert a figure directly after the paragraph where it is first referred to. Insert figure legend below the figure using Arial font, size 11
- Both the figure and its legend must be aligned left

TABLES

- Insert a table directly after the paragraph where it is first referred to. Insert table legend before the table using size 11, Arial font

CONCLUSION

- Headers of the conclusion, acknowledgement, and references sections should not be numbered

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

- Please acknowledge the contribution of individuals, help and support that you have received and used towards completion of this work

REFERENCES CITATION & LISTING

- Harvard referencing conventions to be followed.
- References to be included at the end of the paper as indicated below
- List your references according to the citation order that appears in the paper

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- All authors must submit a short biography of not more than 200 words, including passport size colour photographs
- All documents must be in Word format
- All submissions will be considered for publication by the HETN

All Abstracts and Paper submissions should be forwarded to:-

Higher Education Transformation Network
Reginald Legoabe
Cell: 076 687 4542
Fax: 086 510 6630
Email:- research@hetn.org.za