



# SAAIR IR INSTITUTE 2024

**Institutional Research (IR) Institute Theme:**

**From Insight to Action:  
Multi-Inter-Transdisciplinary Strategies in  
Institutional Decision-Making**

**18-20  
SEPTEMBER**



**EAST LONDON  
INTERNATIONAL  
CONVENTION  
CENTRE**

Walter Sisulu University is a Higher Education Institution based in the Eastern Cape Province of South Africa. Formed in 2005, the university has positioned itself as a center of academic excellence committed to its vision of being a technology infused African university.



**SOUTHERN AFRICAN ASSOCIATION FOR INSTITUTIONAL  
RESEARCH (SAAIR) IN COLLABORATION WITH CODATA**

PRESENTS

**Institutional Research (IR) Foundation and Institute  
2024 Hosted by Walter Sisulu University**

**18-20 September 2024**

**Theme:**

**From Insight to Action: Multi-Inter-Transdisciplinary Strategies  
in Institutional Decision-Making**

In today's complex educational landscape, the need for comprehensive solutions that span multiple disciplines is more critical than ever. "From Insight to Action: Multi-Inter-Transdisciplinary Strategies in Institutional Decision-Making" encapsulates the journey of harnessing diverse academic insights and translating them into effective, actionable strategies within higher education institutions.

This theme explores the pivotal role of institutional research in fostering collaboration across various disciplines to address the multifaceted challenges faced by educational institutions and policymakers. It emphasizes the transition from collecting and analysing data to using these insights to inform strategic decisions that enhance institutional outcomes and drive effective policymaking.

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The discussions and sessions under this theme will delve into:

- **The Integration of Disciplines:** How can institutional research facilitate the blending of insights from diverse fields such as economics, sociology, technology, and environmental studies to enrich decision-making processes?
- **Evidence-Based Strategies:** What methodologies and tools are most effective in translating interdisciplinary research findings into practical strategies?
- **Case Studies and Success Stories:** Which institutions are leading the way in multi-inter-transdisciplinary approaches, and what can be learned from their experiences?
- **Future Trends in Institutional Decision-Making:** How are emerging trends shaping the future of institutional research and its application in decision-making?

Participants will leave with a deeper understanding of how to effectively integrate insights from various disciplines into cohesive strategies that are practical, innovative, and forward-thinking. This theme not only highlights the importance of multi-inter-disciplinary approaches but also provides a roadmap for institutions eager to enhance their decision-making processes and policy implementations.

### Venue

The East London International Convention Centre

Marine Park Complex, 22 Esplanade, Beachfront, East London.

<https://www.premierhotels.co.za/el-icc/>

## Day 1: IR Foundation

Sub-theme: Building the Foundation Core Skills for Institutional Research				
Start	End	Interval	Activity	Presenter/Facilitator
13:00	13:10	10 minutes	Opening and Welcome	Mrs Olivia Mokgatle Walter Sisulu University Executive Director: Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation
13:10	13:50	40 minutes	Data Literacy and Management	Mr Mluleki Mafuna and Letlhogonolo Marumolwa  University of South Africa
13:50	14:30	40 minutes	Networking Lunch Break	All
14:30	15:15	45 minutes	World Café	Mr Ashton Maherry  <i>Saide</i> and SAAIR Exco
15:15	15:45	30 minutes	Analytical Thinking and Methodologies	Dr Lerato Tladi  University of South Africa
15:45	16:00	15 minutes	Networking tea times	All
16:00	16:30	30 minutes	Effective Communication and Visualisation	Ms Mbali Blaai  Data Service Agency

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Sub-theme: Building the Foundation Core Skills for Institutional Research				
Start	End	Interval	Activity	Presenter/Facilitator
16:30	17:00	30 minutes	IR, Compliance and Ethics	Mr Sibusiso Mtatase Cape Peninsula University of Technology
17:00	17:15	15 minutes	Wrap-up and closure	Mr Benjamin Ntshabele Sefako Makgatho Health Sciences University and SAAIR EXCO

## Day 2: IR Institute

SUB-THEME: Integrating Multi-Disciplinary Perspectives				
Start	End	Interval	Activity	Presenter/Facilitator
08:30	08:35	5 minutes	Welcome	Mr Ashton Maherry SAAIR Exco and Saide
08:35	08:45	10 minutes	Opening	Prof Maggi Linington Walter Sisulu University DVC Teaching and Learning
08:45	09:30	45 minutes	Keynote Address (Multi-Inter-Transdisciplinary approaches)	Prof Rushie Songca Walter Sisulu University Vice-Chancellor and Principal

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SUB-THEME: Integrating Multi-Disciplinary Perspectives				
Start	End	Interval	Activity	Presenter/Facilitator
09:30	10:00	30 minutes	Panel Discussion: Response to the Keynote Address	Facilitator: Dr Munienge Mbodila Walter Sisulu University
10:00	10:15	15 minutes	Tea Break	All
10:15	11:15	60 minutes	How Multi-Inter & Transdisciplinary Institutional Research Can Improve Strategy	Dr Celine Meyers University of Witwatersrand
11:15	12:15	60 Minutes	Collaborative Problem-Solving Workshops	Dr Nandarani Maistry and Mrs Takalani Muloiwa-Klenam University of Johannesburg
12:15	13:15	60 minutes	Networking Lunch	All
13:15	14:00	45 minutes	Diversity, Equity & Inclusion	Dr Irene Mohasoa Walter Sisulu University
14:00	14:45	45 minutes	Reimagining Higher Education Enrolment: Insights from Multi-, Inter-, and Transdisciplinary Approaches	Mr Louis Mapatagane Walter Sisulu University
14:45	15:15	30 minutes	Tea break	All

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SUB-THEME: Integrating Multi-Disciplinary Perspectives				
Start	End	Interval	Activity	Presenter/Facilitator
15:15	16:00	45 minutes	Scholarship, Internationalisation and IR (Virtual)	Mr Vhutshilo Makananise British High Commission, Pretoria
16:00	16:15	15 minutes	Wrap-up and Closure of Day 2	Mr Ashton Maherry <i>Saide</i> and SAAIR Exco
18:00	20:00	2 hours	Networking Dinner (Braai)	

## Day 3: IR Institute

SUB-THEME: Practical Applications and Future Directions				
Start	End	Interval	Activity	Presenter/Facilitator
09:00	09:30	30 minutes	The Journey Towards Creating a Data-Driven University Culture: A Case Study	Dr Munienge Mbodila Walter Sisulu University
09:30	10:15	45 minutes	Use of Research Evidence to Inform Policy and Practice.	Mr Benjamin Ntshabele Sefako Makgatho Health Sciences University and SAAIR EXCO
10:15	10:30	15 minutes	Tea Break	All
10:30	11:15	45 minutes	Navigating Challenges in Transdisciplinary Initiatives	Dr Juliet Townes University of Fort Hare

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SUB-THEME: Practical Applications and Future Directions				
Start	End	Interval	Activity	Presenter/Facilitator
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Examining common obstacles in multi-disciplinary projects and strategies to overcome them, including stakeholder engagement and resource allocation.</li> </ul>	
11:15	12:00	45 minutes	The Future Trends in Institutional Research (virtual)	Dr Nicolene Murdoch Western Sydney University
12:00	12:15	15 minutes	Comfort Break	All
12:15	13:00	45 minutes	Panel Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Emerging trends and the future of institutional research, focusing on technological advancements and evolving educational paradigms</li> </ul>	Facilitator: Mr Benjamin Ntshabele  Sefako Makgatho Health Sciences University and SAAIR Exco
13:00	13:10	10 minutes	Wrap-up and Way forward	Mr Ashton Maherry
13:10	Lunch on the go			