

Call for papers

Advancing the Continent of Africa through Research ~An International Conference~

**Hosted by
University of South Africa**

**In collaboration with
National Association of African American Studies**

24 to 25 July 2023

The dawn of the twenty-first century inspired a strong sense of hope and optimism on the African continent in terms of which African leaders at the time declared the “African century”. This view was articulated in the context of the desire and commitment to renew the African continent and restore its dignity in order for it to play a meaningful role in global geopolitics and economy. In this context, Africa was poised to make an impact in global relations rather than to always be influenced by others.

Today, the global world order poses even more complex challenges for the African people on the continent and the diaspora, which makes the call for the development of Africa even more urgent. In this specific regard, the New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD) Declaration stipulates that “the true genius of a people is measured by its capacity for bold and imaginative thinking, and its determination in support of its own development”. It is clear from this declaration that “research and innovation” is a key ingredient for development. Furthermore, we maintain that development hinges on a conducive environment of peace, good governance and stability. The realisation of such a conducive environment necessitates research that will entail the consideration and intersection of a multiplicity of disciplines and study areas.

We are therefore delighted to announce that the National Association of African American Studies (NAAAS) and the University of South Africa (Unisa) will co-host a multicultural international conference which is based on multi-, inter-, and transdisciplinary (MIT) research approaches. The conference will be held from 24 to 25 July 2023 at the Unisa Main Campus, Muckleneuk, Pretoria. This first-of-its-kind conference on the African continent is supported by the South African National Convention Bureau, Unisa and the City of Tshwane. At Unisa, the project will be led by the Thabo Mbeki African School of Public and International Affairs.

The conference organisers are calling for full papers from scholars from across various disciplines in higher education institutions or universities, the public service, corporate and non-governmental sector, professionals from diverse fields and the broader community. They are therefore encouraged to submit an abstract for a paper and/or poster presentation centred around the conference theme of *Advancing the Continent of Africa through Research*.

Topics may include, but are not limited to, history, health and human services, HIV, child trafficking and slavery, labour laws, human rights and racism, migration studies, good

governance and development, peace and security in Africa, conflict studies, education, international diplomacy studies and foreign policy, African literature, role of African languages, advancing women, bilateral multicultural engagement, poverty, food security, climate conditions, energy security, rural development, agricultural infrastructure, global capitalism and imperialism, trade structures, African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), treaties and regional blocs or bodies, tourism, studies in humanities and social sciences and so forth. As a multidisciplinary research platform, the conference welcomes papers from different fields of study.

The following points should be considered in respect of the abstracts:

- Abstracts may be based on **any topic or discipline** relevant to the theme.
- Abstracts may not contain more than **1 000 words or exceed two pages**, in Times New Roman, size 12 font.
- Abstracts must reflect the following details of the researcher(s) and/or presenter(s): Full name, email address, full mailing address, affiliation and telephone number.

Due date for submission of abstracts: 20 June 2023

All papers will be reviewed by American-based reviewers.

Registration fee: R3000.00

The papers will be published in the following:

- *Journal of Intercultural Disciplines*
- *Journal of Science and Exploratory Studies*
- Scientific Index
- Humanities and Social Science Index
- Library of Congress
- ProQuest

Other conference benefits:

- Editing of papers (if applicable)
- Content reviewer (if applicable)

Papers and abstracts may be submitted as follows:

- Email: naaasconference@earthlink.net
- Fax: +1 207 856 2800
- Website: www.NAAAS.org

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