

2019 CALL FOR PAPERS

STEMI OLYMPIADS AND
COMPETITIONS: 25 YEARS OF
DEMOCRACY

19-22 February 2019



CALL FOR PAPERS

2019 STEMI OLYMPIADS AND COMPETITIONS COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE (CoP) CONFERENCE

Tuesday, 19 February 2019 to Friday, 22 February 2019

HOSTED BY

DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

in collaboration with

SOUTH AFRICAN AGENCY FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY ADVANCEMENT

Pretoria, South Africa

CONFERENCE SCOPE

The **STEMI Olympiads and Competitions Community of Practice Conference** is an annual conference that is dedicated to the advancement of the Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics, and Innovation (STEMI) Olympiads and Competitions in South Africa by creating a community of practice where best practices are identified and benchmarked. This is achieved by bringing Olympiad and Competition organisers and other industry stakeholders together to present academic and non-academic research and talks and to facilitate a platform for engagement between parties.

Objectives of the conference:

- To positively contribute towards a STEMI-driven culture.
- To create a platform for collaborative problem solving.
- To act as a catalyst between people and organisations.
- To facilitate the development of tools to improve the connection between science and society.
- To assist in transforming innovative ideas and actions into benchmarked practices.



2019 CONFERENCE THEME

“STEMI OLYMPIADS AND COMPETITIONS: 25 YEARS OF DEMOCRACY”

With the aim of advancing STEMI Olympiads and Competitions in South Africa, we invite authors to submit research papers or talks on the following sub-themes:

1. Inclusivity in STEMI Olympiads and Competitions, brought about by the dawn of democracy, highlighting more inclusive demographics and sharing success stories, challenges and opportunities;
2. Case studies of STEMI Olympiads and Competitions and/or related extra-curricular activities, which have influenced participation and career choices of learners and students;
3. STEMI Olympiads and Competitions in a technologically changing environment and how people (learners) access information and learn;
4. Lifelong learning through volunteering, coaching and mentoring.

Where presentations will profile collaboration, cooperation, outreach and mentoring, co-presentations are encouraged. Where presentations profile both mentor and mentee, both should be present at the conference / workshop session to share experiences from both sides of the relationship.

The aim of the conference theme is to:

1. Contribute to learning and growth in knowledge
2. Celebrate success
3. Be a platform for free and open discussions about shortcomings and unpack the possible reasons for limited successes
4. Be self-reflective rather than deflecting blame

WHO SHOULD ATTEND THE CONFERENCE?

The focused audience for the conference is STEMI Olympiads and Competitions organisers and stakeholders that have either direct or indirect impact on this niche, such as educators, academics, science centres, government departments, science agencies, and professional bodies. However, anyone involved or interested in science engagement is welcome to attend.

CONFERENCE OVERVIEW

The conference is a four day event that will include the following sessions:

- **Plenary Sessions**

These will address current research or experience on topics that have bearing on STEMI Olympiads and Competitions.

- **Speaker Panel Sessions**

These will provide delegates with the opportunity to engage speakers on their presentations in engaging ‘question and answer’ sessions.

- **Parallel Sessions**

These concurrent sessions will include discussions on current topics, demonstration workshops on best practices for skills transfer, as well as an academic writing session hosted by specialists.

PRESENTATION CATEGORIES AND SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Authors are limited to two papers. The submissions that will be accepted for review should be in one of the following formats:

- CATEGORY 1: ACADEMIC PAPER

Description: This category is reserved for relevant research-based work
 Allotted Timeslot: A 15-minute independent presentation slot and a 10-minute combined “question and answer” session.

Submission Requirements:

	SUBMISSION	DEADLINE DATE
1	<u>Proposal:</u> A one page long proposal should provide a summary of the proposed paper. The proposal should include four to six keywords. <u>If selected to be presented at the conference, step 2 and 3 are applicable:</u>	24 November 2018
2	<u>PowerPoint Presentation:</u> The presentation should provide key points and infographics only, based on the academic paper.	23 January 2019
3	<u>Full Academic Paper:</u> The full paper should be in line with the provided format.	15 March 2019

- CATEGORY 2: NON-ACADEMIC PAPER

Description: This category is reserved for non-academic papers or essays that focus on experience and independent views on relevant topics, including but not limited to case studies and best practice presentations.

Allotted Timeslot: A 15-minute independent presentation slot and a 10-minute combined “questions and answer” session.

Submission Requirements:

	SUBMISSION	DEADLINE DATE
1	<u>Proposal:</u> A one page long proposal should provide a summary of the non-academic paper or essay. The proposal should include four to six keywords. <u>If selected to be presented at the conference, step 2 is applicable:</u>	24 November 2018
2	<u>PowerPoint Presentation:</u> The presentation should provide key points and infographics only, based on the non-academic paper or essay.	23 January 2019

- CATEGORY 3: DEMONSTRATION WORKSHOP

Description: This category is reserved for demonstrations (show-and-tell) on best practices in Olympiads and Competitions.

Allotted Timeslot: A 45-minute long demonstration slot during parallel sessions. This session will include interactions between the facilitator and attending delegates.

Submission Requirements:

	SUBMISSION	DEADLINE DATE
1	<p><u>Proposal:</u> A one page long proposal on what will be presented and the skills transfer that the workshop(s) will facilitate. The proposal should include four to six keywords. <u>If selected to be presented at the conference, step 2 is applicable:</u></p>	24 November 2018
2	<p><u>Workshop:</u> This should be a document, which could include a PowerPoint presentation, describing the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Topic • Presentation method • Skills transfer details • Interactive components (if applicable) • Resources for distribution (if applicable) 	23 January 2019

SUBMISSION FORMAT REQUIREMENTS (Preset templates are available for convenience)

Proposals	Identifier:	Title of Academic Paper / Non-Academic Paper / Workshop Author's particulars (including contact details) Selected conference sub-theme Authors are encouraged to include their ORCID identifier number (if available)
	Formatting:	A4 page Arial Narrow Font, Point 11 1.15 Line spacing
	Length of Proposal:	1 full page
Presentations	Software:	MS PowerPoint
	Number of slides:	At author's discretion (with sensitivity to the allotted timeslot)
	Formatting:	Arial, Point 24 or larger 1.5 Line Spacing
	Layout per slide:	(Suggested for readability) Text: 33 words per slide at no more than 10 to 12 per line. Infographics: At author's discretion

SUBMISSION PLATFORMS

Proposal**Online:**

Automated template available on the NRF|SAASTA website:

<http://www.saasta.ac.za/stemi-conference-2019/>

Submission requirements for the presentations will be communicated to the speakers.

REVIEW PROCESS

The 2019 STEMI Olympiads and Competitions CoP Conference organising committee welcomes submissions on any of the sub-themes and presentation categories as listed above. The abstract will be reviewed by the appointed representatives to determine their suitability for presentation at the conference.

The proposals will be reviewed by the advisory board, which includes representatives from the following institutions:

- Department of Science and Technology
- HEIs
- Academy of Science of South Africa
- Association of Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics, and Innovation
- South African Agency for Science and Technology Advancement

Potential speakers will be advised of the outcome by early December 2018. Once a proposal has been accepted, the author will be required to compose a presentation for the conference, as well as their full paper in the case of academic paper presentations, by the deadline dates stipulated above.

Successful full length scientific papers may be recommended for submission to the South African Journal of Science.

SPEAKER TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

The conference organising committee will provide all selected South Africa based speakers with accommodation, as well as flights where required. Accommodation includes daily breakfast and dinner. Lunch will be provided at the conference. All international speakers will be provided with accommodation. Delegates will however have to make their own flight arrangements. Shuttles and transport arrangements within South Africa will be provided.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For any enquiries related to the **paper submissions**, please contact:

Erna Taljaard (012) 392 9337
etaljaard@saasta.ac.za

Simon Rametse (012) 392 9343
simon@saasta.ac.za

For any enquiries related the **conference**, please contact:

Zinzi Madiope (012) 392 9345
zinzi@saasta.ac.za

Simon Rametse (012) 392 9343
simon@saasta.ac.za