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# Philosophical Society of Southern Africa Annual Conference

22 – 24 January 2025



Stonehenge in Africa River Lodge



Presented by the NWU School of Philosophy

# PROGRAMME



## ARRIVAL: 21 JANUARY 2025

17:30 - 18:00	Registration	
18:00	Prof Mirna Nel (NWU Faculty of Humanities Deputy Dean: Research & Innovation)	Welcome Drinks & Dinner

## DAY 1: 22 JANUARY 2025

TIME	VENUE 1 Conference Room 3	VENUE 2 Conference Room 1	VENUE 3 Conference Room 2	VENUE 4 Conference Room 5
08:00 - 08:30	Registration			
08:30 - 08:45	<b>Welcome</b> Prof Dumo Moyo <i>(Executive Dean: NWU Faculty of Humanities)</i>			
08:45 - 08:50	<b>Welcome</b> Prof Yolandi M. Coetser <i>(Acting Director: NWU School of Philosophy)</i>			
08:50 - 10:20	<b>Keynote 1</b> Prof Dismas Masolo <i>Borrowing from the Elders: The Neglected Trajectories in African Philosophy</i>			
10:20 - 10:45	TEA			
<b>Themes</b> (Very broadly defined)	<b>The Arts</b>	<b>African Philosophy</b>	<b>Epistemology</b>	<b>Continental Philosophy</b>
10:50 - 11:25	<i>Exploring Life's Meaning Through Literature: The Tragic Flight from Purpose in F. Scott Fitzgerald's The Beautiful and Damned</i> <b>Cate Otto and Asheel Singh</b>	<i>Freedom to Change One's Purpose: Destiny in Relation to Personhood in African and Botho Perspectives</i> <b>Doreen Sesiro</b>	<i>Epistemic Injustice, Transformative Experience, and Epistemic Empowerment: Reclaiming the Public Discourse on Neurodiversity</i> <b>Amandine Catala</b>	<i>The 'Necessity' of Drunkenness" – Ortega y Gasset on Alcohol as Cognitive and Affective Scaffolding</i> <b>Greg Swer and Jean du Toit</b>
11:30 - 12:05	<i>Music and Moral Development</i> <b>James Young</b>	<i>Afro-Communitarianism</i> <b>Mutshidzi Maraganedzha</b>	<i>How Beliefs Harm</i> <b>Abraham Tobi and Gontse Lebakeng</b>	<i>Existential and Existenz: A Critical Exploration of the Notion of Existence in St Thomas Aquinas and Martin Heidegger</i> <b>Patrick Aleke</b>
12:05 - 13:00	LUNCH			

Themes (Very broadly defined)	Environmental Philosophy	African Philosophy	Epistemology	Continental Philosophy
13:00 - 13:35	<i>The Serengeti National Park and the Colonial Roots of African Wildlife Conservation: Then and Now</i> <b>Carla Turner</b>	<i>African Cosmic Complexity: Ramose, Woermann, and the Politics of Being-Becoming in Africa, South</i> <b>Mitchell Black</b>	<i>Why Epistemicide Matters: The Historical Problem of Knowledge in Africa in the 21st Century</i> <b>Harry Wilson Kapatika</b>	<i>Time in the Flesh: A Phenomenology of Embodied Experience</i> <b>Tamia Moodley</b>
13:40 – 14:15	<i>The promise of agreement in the age of climate change</i> <b>Casper Lötter</b>	<i>The Human Struggle for Recognition: Ubuntu as an Ontology that Underpins Human recognition in Ramose' Philosophy</i> <b>Kwanele Magoso</b>	<i>Hermeneutically Debilitating Concepts &amp;; Socio-Epistemic Tethering</i> <b>Dimpho Moletsane</b>	<i>Creolizing individuation: Glissant with Deleuze and Guattari</i> <b>Chantelle Gray</b>
14:20 - 14:55	<i>Ecofeminism in Africa/African ecofeminism</i> <b>Elsie Bokaba and Yolandi Coetser</b>	<i>Analysis of the all-powerful concept in African deity discourse: toward the limited view of God.</i> <b>Dumisani Member Ngobeni</b>	<i>The impossibility of some structural epistemic reparations</i> <b>Veli Mitova</b>	<i>Southern African Development Community aims and Critical Theory</i> <b>Amantle Mothelesi</b>
14:55 - 15:15	TEA			
Themes (Very broadly defined)	Environmental Philosophy	African Philosophy	Epistemology	Continental Philosophy
15:15 - 15:50	Thinking sophisticated barbarism and ecological civilization with Alfred North Whitehead <b>Jaco Kruger</b>	<i>Ubuntu Philosophy and Intellectual Virtues</i> <b>Stephen Nawa</b>	<i>Silenced: A closer look at language loss as a form of group silencing</i> <b>Nomaswazi Kubeka</b>	<i>Existential Deconstruction: A Finite History of Non-Finite Thinking</i> <b>Darryl Wardle</b>
15:55 - 16:30	<i>Degrowth Potential From The Global South - A Decolonial Economics For People And Their Ecology</i> <b>M Lombaard</b>	<i>Ubuntu and the gender question: Towards a gender inclusionary theory</i> <b>Pertunia Malatji</b>	<i>How a Group Can Own Its Epistemic Limitations</i> <b>Sarah Wright</b>	<i>Positing a Schelerian Approach to Solidarity Against GBV</i> <b>Kayleigh Timmer</b>
16:35 - 17:10	<i>Ubuntu Degrowth: A Possible Future</i> <b>Aïda Terblanché-Greeff</b>	<i>The Beauty of Cognitive Artefacts and Moral Education</i> <b>Mark Rathbone</b>	<i>Conceptualizing epistemic appropriation</i> <b>Lerato Posholi</b>	<i>Critical Phenomenology: Concept and Method</i> <b>Dominic Griffiths</b>
17:30 – 19:00	<i>Presentation about the significance of the Vredefort Dome, an UNESCO heritage site.</i> <b>Christo Meyer – registered SA Tourism Guide</b>			
From 19:00	DINNER			



**DAY 2: 23 JANUARY 2025**

TIME	VENUE 1 Conference Room 3	VENUE 2 Conference Room 1	VENUE 3 Conference Room 2	VENUE 4 Conference Room 5
08:30 - 10:00	<b>Keynote 2</b> Prof Janae Sholtz <i>Geophilosophy and the Vredefort Crater: The Earth As Cosmic Artisan</i>			
10:00 - 10:30	TEA			
Themes (Very broadly defined)	Public Philosophy in South Africa	AI / Philosophy of Technology	Philosophy of Medicine	Political Philosophy
10:30 - 11:05	<i>Emergence or Revival? Critical Poetic Traditions in African Languages</i> <b>Siseko Kumalo</b>	<i>Assisted Reproductive Technology and Parental Decision- Making: Moving Beyond Procreative Beneficence</i> <b>Akira Lakhan</b>	<i>The Role of Time in Distinguishing between Illnesses and Disabilities</i> <b>Ntobeko Shozi</b>	<i>African Political Philosophy: What is the point of cultural revivalism?</i> <b>Nkosinathi Dlodla</b>
11:10 - 11:45	<i>Political Critique in Xhosa Praise Poetry</i> <b>Christopher Allsobrook</b>	<i>Virtual Realism and Virtual Fictionalism: A critical diagnosis</i> <b>Kent Fobian</b>	<i>The "difficult patient": why we need to reframe vulnerability in healthcare.</i> <b>Aisling Phipps</b>	<i>Breaking the silence in participatory democracy: Reimagining power through Arendt and Butler</i> <b>Gisela Diedericks</b>
11:50 - 12:25	<i>Rick Turner and Public Political Philosophy</i> <b>Christine Hobden</b>	<i>Critiquing Cross-Cultural Ethics in Artificial Intelligence in Education</i> <b>Nasreen Watson</b>	<i>Clinicians' Models of Mental Disorders</i> <b>Michael Pitman</b>	<i>Algorithmic Marginalisation: A Silent Threat to African Democratic Values</i> <b>Bongekile Mkrola</b>
12:25 - 13:30	LUNCH			
Themes (Very broadly defined)	Mind / Science	AI / Philosophy of Technology	Philosophy of Medicine	Political Philosophy
13:30 - 14:05	<i>Will the Sun Really Rise Tomorrow? Making Inductive Inference More Reliable</i> <b>Dave Lucas</b>	<i>Critical Pedagogy and Digital Media: The Role of AI and Web 3.0 and its Impact on Education as Liberatory Praxis</i> <b>Nathisvaran Govender</b>	<i>Self-narration, Narrative Gaslighting and Toxic Positivity</i> <b>Shené de Rijk</b>	<i>Locke, persons and slavery: a new interpretation and old problems</i> <b>Simon Beck</b>
14:10 - 14:45	<i>Truth and Digital Ludic Culture: Video Games, History, Play, and the Criteriology of Consciousness</i> <b>William Shaer</b>	<i>Education 5.0 in Zimbabwe: A Revolutionary Decolonial Paradigm Shift</i> <b>Brian Chibvongodze</b>	<i>What Makes a Good Doctor?</i> <b>Franklyn Echeweodor</b>	<i>The decolonial project in-action: constructing an inclusive political philosophy module</i> <b>Lindani Gobingca</b>
14:50 - 15:25	<i>Scientific Realism and Metaphysics</i> <b>Peeter Mürsepp</b>	<i>AI and consumerism embedded in competition discourse personality. An African philosophy milieu</i> <b>Phemelo Marumo</b>	<i>Harnessing Biomimicry: Innovative Alternatives to Animal Testing in Biomedical Research</i> <b>Nhlanhla Lebesi</b>	<i>The Others' Good: Do Separatist Movements Undermine a Just Democracy?</i> <b>Paige Benton</b>

15:25 - 15:45	TEA			
Themes (Very broadly defined)	Mind / Science	AI / Philosophy of Technology	General	Political Philosophy
15:45 - 16:20	<i>Are we all Bayesians now?</i> <b>Aragorn Eloff</b>	<i>The Responsibility Gap in Explainable Artificial Intelligence</i> <b>Filippos Stamatiou</b>	<i>Assistive Devices as a Necessary Condition for Freedom A Postphenomenological Argument</i> <b>Sarel Marais</b>	<i>Minoritarian Politics beyond Recognition Politics, Or, How to Remain Barbarian</i> <b>Matthias Pauwels</b>
16:25 - 17:00	<i>Substantive Dualism, Eliminative Materialism, and Vicious Reification</i> <b>Jane Anderson</b>	<i>Who is the Slave?: Reflections on Human Nature in the Age of AGI</i> <b>Sandrine Rose Schiller Hansen and Filippos Stamatiou</b>	<i>The Ontology of Hallucination</i> <b>Aaron Day</b>	<i>The Will to power and the Decline of Civilization: Nietzsche's influence on Spengler.</i> <b>Noloyiso Mabusela</b>
17:15 - 19:00	AGM			
From 19:00	CONFERENCE DINNER			

DAY 3: 24 JANUARY 2025				
TIME	VENUE 1 Conference Room 3	VENUE 2 Conference Room 1	VENUE 3 Conference Room 2	VENUE 4 Conference Room 5
08:30 - 10:00	<b>Keynote 3</b> Dr Dimpho Maponya <i>Reversing the Gaze: A Limited Account of Epistemic Decolonisation</i>			
10:00 – 10:30	TEA			
Themes (Very broadly defined)	Aesthetics	General	Time	Happiness
10:30 - 11:05	<i>Paul Ricoeur's 'Ambiguous History': On Decolonising Interpretations of South African Landscape Art</i> <b>Suzanne Human</b>	<i>The ethics of 'selfless assertions'</i> <b>Ben Kotzee</b>	<i>Horizon 2055: How do we negotiate the notion of the future?</i> <b>Andrea Hurst</b>	<i>Does Happiness Truly Exist? A Critical Analysis of Its Role in Human Life and Society</i> <b>Eugene Ndumiso Goeiman</b>
11:10 - 11:45	<i>Reflexive Esotericism: Reading between the Lines of Reality</i> <b>Wehan Coombs</b>	<i>Black Alert: Star Trek Discovery and the need for an affirmative Afrofuturist ethico-politics</i> <b>Jean du Toit</b>	<i>Beyond the Limits of the Expressible? The All-in-One Principle, and Potential</i> <b>Tarryn Harding</b>	<i>The problem of affirmation of life</i> <b>Anné Verhoef</b>
11:50 – 12:25	<i>Wayfinding for a Foucauldian Film Ethics: Comparative Routes and Dialogues</i> <b>Martin P. Rossouw</b>	<i>In defence of the minimal self: Why narrative theories need to take the minimal self into account</i> <b>Adrian Romeo</b>	<i>How the "history of philosophy" finally became a story</i> <b>Gustavo Ruiz da Silva</b>	TBC <b>Nihahl Hattas</b>
12:30 - 13:05	<i>Mind the Gap: Distanciation as a Tool for Critical Marketing</i> <b>Falkor Eckardt and Mark Rathbone</b>	TBC <b>Sibongakonke Mthiyane</b>	TBC <b>Kyle Haselsteiner</b>	<i>Complicating the Decline of the West: Prussianism and Socialism and Spengler's Mid-Period Philosophy of History</i> <b>Greg Swer</b>
13:10 - 14:00	LUNCH			
15:00	NWU Potchefstroom Campus Tour: Main Buildings & Tea at the School of Philosophy staff room Voluntary - Please inform Prof. Yolandi Coetser if you would like to join a campus tour.			

# ABSTRACTS



To access the electronic Book of Abstracts, kindly use the following QR-code:



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