

— Future-Proofing Research Ethics: Scenario Planning and Management Strategies

- Tuesday, 2 September 2025
- 08h30 – 16h30
- Limited to 50 participants
- Protea Hotel Stellenbosch, Cape Town, South Africa

— **CATEGORY:** Research Management (RM)

— **TARGET AUDIENCE:** Research Admin / Managers within Research Ethics Offices / Researchers

— **FOCUS AREA:** Early Career and Intermediate

Overview:

- This workshop aims to equip participants with the skills to navigate emerging research ethics challenges through scenario planning and proactive management strategies. The approaches discussed will be applicable across the various research ethics domains, including Animal, Human, and Biosafety ethics. Key scenarios to be explored include Data Privacy and Security, AI and Emerging Technologies, and Ethical Considerations in Interdisciplinary Research.

Objectives:

1. Using scenario planning to inform risk assessment development
2. Strengthen risk mitigation strategies
3. Apply ethical considerations in emerging technologies
4. Develop disaster and emergency research, ethics protocols/ process fit for purpose
5. Promote proactive research ethics governance
6. Applying research ethics considerations in geo-political scenarios
7. Promote dual research of concern review in Biosafety Application
8. Enhance interdisciplinary research ethics processes

Organisers – Facilitators:

- Northern Region Research Ethics; Western Cape and Central Community of Practices

Speakers:

- Dr Retha Visagie | University of South Africa (South Africa)
- Mr Sidney Engelbrecht | King Abdullah University of Science and Technology (Saudi Arabia)
- Ms Leonie Louw | University of South Africa (South Africa)
- Ms Eleni Flack-Davison | University of the Witwatersrand (South Africa)
- Mr Siyanda Manqele | University of Zululand (South Africa)
- Mr Winston Beukes | Stellenbosch University (South Africa)
- Ms Melody Shana | Stellenbosch University (South Africa)

Programme Chairs:

- Prof Marizvikuru Mwale-Manjoro | University of Venda (South Africa)
- Ms Tanya Coetzee | University of South Africa (South Africa)

Programme Outline:

08:30 – 08:45	Welcome & Ice Breaker		WA Beukes
08:45 – 09:30 Session 1	1.1 Using scenario planning to inform risk assessment development 1.2 Strengthen risk mitigation strategies	L Louw & E Flack-Davison	Theory and Interactive Group assignment
09:30 – 09:45 09:45 – 10:00	MINDFULNESS TALK – Bert Mohr (TBC) ICE BREAKER		
10:00 – 10:30 - Coffee / Tea Break			
10:30 – 11:15 Session 2	2.1 Applying ethical considerations in emerging technologies	SF Engelbrecht	Discussion Group activity
11:15 – 11:45 Session 3	3.1 Develop disaster and emergency research protocols	T Coetzee	Discussion Group activity
11:45 – 12:15 Session 4	4.1 Promote proactive research ethics governance	M Manjoro & M Shana	Discussion Group activity
12:15 – 12:45 Session 5	5.1 Applying ethics considerations in geo-political scenarios	R Visagie	Discussion Group activity
12:45 – 13:15	Guest Speaker: Vice Chancellor - University of Ilorin (TBC)		
13:15 – 14:00 LUNCH			
14:00 – 14:30 Session 6	6.1 Dual Use Research of Concern – Biosafety Context	WA Beukes	Discussion Group activity
14:30 – 15:00 Session 7	7.1 Enhancing interdisciplinary research ethics processes	S Manqele	Discussion Group activity
15:00 – 15:15	Wrap Up and END – E Flack-Davison		