**Profile**

Celeste Combrinck is the Acting Director at the Centre for Evaluation and Assessment (CEA), Faculty of Education at the University of Pretoria. She coordinates the research projects at the Centre. She works with the project teams to optimize the work schedules and allocation of resources within the Centre liaising very closely with the Finance Manager.

Her background is a research psychologist working in the field of education with a focus on educational measurement, including instrument development and refinement. Her research activities include a major focus on statistical data analysis, project management and planning, report and proposal writing as well as client communication. Ms Combrinck has a Master’s Degree in Research Psychology from the University of Pretoria (cum laude) and has more than 9 years’ experience of project management, much of which is large-scale and is actively involved in the planning, executing and managing of a wide variety of research projects, both qualitative and quantitative.

Currently she is involved (amongst others) in two large-scale high profile international projects namely the Progress in International Reading Literacy Study (PIRLS) where she serves as project manager, and the Nuffield Foundation where she is instrumental in supporting the principal investigators based in South Africa and England. Her area of scientific interest is in measurement focusing on instrument design and development applying Rasch Analysis. She has developed expertise in a wider range of statistical data analysis techniques including Structural Equation Modelling (SEM), Rasch Analysis and Regression modelling. She is currently completing her doctoral studies in the Department of Psychology at the University of Pretoria. Ms Celeste Combrinck regularly presents at conferences, both national and international as well as at Educational Departments, including Umalusi.