

9th Flexible Futures

HIGHER EDUCATION INNOVATION CONFERENCE

Transforming Higher Education for the AI Era: Embracing Flexibility and Innovation

23-24 August 2023 • University of Pretoria
• Sanlam Auditorium (Hatfield campus)

Transforming Higher Education for the AI Era: Embracing Flexibility and Innovation.

The transformative potential of AI and other emerging technologies in higher education highlights the need for institutions to be flexible and adaptable to thrive in the rapidly changing landscape. Join us in exploring new ways to foster an educational environment that will develop future-ready graduates through the following sub-themes:

- Implementing authentic teaching, learning, and assessment approaches in an AI dominant future.
- The impact of AI on student success and support, including tutoring, in higher education
- Preparing students with employability competencies in the AI era.
- The role of data and AI in promoting teaching, learning and student success
- Implementing agile approaches to teaching, learning and assessment in higher education
- Developing curricula that align with the Digital Age in higher education
- Navigating the legal and ethical implications of AI in transforming higher education

Important dates:

- 6 April 2023 Abstract submission opens
- 5 June 2023 Abstract submission deadline
- 5 June 2023 Online Registration opens
- 28 June 2023 Notification of acceptance
- 17 July 2023 Provisional programme available
- 11 August 2023 Online registration closes
- 23–24 August 2023 Conference dates

Introduction

The University of Pretoria is delighted to announce the upcoming conference on re-imagining teaching and learning in higher education, which will be held at the Sanlam Auditorium on the Hatfield campus on 23 and 24 August 2023. Drawing on the valuable insights and experiences from previous Flexible Futures conferences, we are excited to extend invitations to researchers, practitioners, and industry professionals passionate about teaching innovation to explore the potential of artificial intelligence in higher education.

In recent years, humanity has witnessed remarkable technological advancements, with generative AI, such as ChatGPT, taking centre stage in November 2022. This powerful large language model has transformed the landscape of higher education by mimicking human conversation and offering unprecedented assistance to students in crafting their essay submissions. As a result, AI technologies hold immense promise for academics and students alike, providing personalised and adaptive learning experiences, improving student engagement, and reducing the burden on educators and administrators. However, these disruptions have also led to a growing need for educators to reconsider their teaching methods, curriculum, and assessment practices. It is crucial to carefully assess the benefits and limitations of AI technologies, address potential ethical concerns, and adapt teaching strategies to ensure they align with the evolving work-place landscape.

We invite you to submit your research papers, case studies, and innovative ideas that delve into the opportunities and challenges presented by AI and other emerging technologies in higher education. We look forward to your valuable contributions and engaging discourse at the conference.

<https://flexiblefutures2023.carlamani.com/> • Administrative enquiries: conference@carlamani.com • Academic enquiries: gerrit.stols@up.ac.za