



FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT

South African Research Association for Early Childhood Education (SARAECE) Eastern Cape Regional conference

Date: 24th—25th November 2017

Where: Rhodes University, Grahamstown

Who should attend? Academics; post docs; Teachers; ECD practitioners; NGOs & ECD stakeholders.

CONFERENCE THEME: RE-IMAGINING EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION IN SOUTH AFRICA

PLEASE RSVP: NATALIE.STOKES@RU.AC.ZA

Introduction/ OVERVIEW OF THE CONFERENCE

This conference is the last of the SARAECE regional conferences in 2017 and aims to cap off the year on a high point. Early Childhood Education is a complex space that has recently shifted its' focus from the importance of Grade R to trying to professionalise the birth to four age group through developing new qualifications and recognising the importance of the first 1000 days. Running alongside this initiative has been the re-examining of the role of play-based learning as an approach to pedagogy. Research into understanding the challenges of training teachers / practitioners in order to address the need for quality Early Childhood Development (ECD) is at the heart of the work of training institutions. This has highlighted issues such as diversity, multilingual classrooms, mentorship of teachers, work integrated learning and recognition of prior learning. Perhaps most importantly it has brought together multiple stakeholders involved in the field of ECD and recognised the importance of a collaborative effort. This conference aims to bring these voices together in order to share our collective research and practices with a view to deepening our understanding of how best to serve the needs of our teachers/practitioners and children in the classrooms.

We invite you therefore to consider the following sub-themes for submission of an abstract at the SARAECE Eastern Cape regional conference:

Sub-themes:

- Play –based learning
- Literacy development in ECED (Early childhood Education and Development)
- Integrated approach to ECED (Early childhood Education and Development)
- The role of the teacher/practitioner in ECED (Early childhood Education and Development) centres of learning
- Developing children’s creativity in ECED (Early childhood Education and Development)
- Health and nutrition
- Safety and security
- Family responsibilities / Involvement or engagement AND community involvement and participation
- Children and disabilities
- Teacher education

The programme will include presentation of papers (20 minutes) followed by 10 minutes for discussion, poster presentations and panel discussions of 45 minutes. Panel discussions will comprise three or more presenters who all focus on the same sub- theme.

Keynote speakers

We are privileged to have Professor Hasina Ebrahim (UNESCO Co-Chair) as our keynote speaker on the morning of 24th November 2017 and Dr Lauren Stretch (NECTA Chair & Director of Early Inspiration) to address us on the morning of 25th November 2017.

Important dates

First call for abstracts: 3rd July 2017

Second & Final call for abstracts: 31st July 2017

Registration: September—October 2017

Acknowledgement of receipt of abstracts & acceptance.

Within three working days you will receive an email acknowledging receipt of your abstract. You will be notified as soon as possible when your abstract has been accepted.

Closing date for registration

Registration will take place between September and October 2017. No registration will be accepted at the conference and final registration is 25th October 2017.

Due date for payment

All registration fees must be paid by 5th November 2017. Proof of payment must be submitted at the same time as payment.

FEE

A flat rate inclusive of both days will be charged at R2750 per person.

A flat rate inclusive of both days for students/Practitioners will be charged at R1500. In order to qualify for the student rate, please supply your student number and the institution at which you are studying.

The conference fee/ registration fee includes teas, a light lunch and a cocktail party. It does not include travel or accommodation costs or any other refreshments not included in the programme.

Banking details will be included in the letter of acceptance for your abstract/ receipt of registration with proof of payment. **Please note that there will be no refunds.**

Contact details

Enquiries: Papers/Abstracts, registration & General Information

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