

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS



**Sol Plaatje University
International Language
Conference**

**Theme:
Intellectualisation of African Languages
in the Digital Age**

27 – 29 AUGUST 2025

Kimberley, South Africa

TAAL PUO ULWIMI

THE DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES AND COMMUNICATION IN THE FACULTY OF HUMANITIES INVITES ABSTRACTS FOR THE SOL PLAATJE UNIVERSITY INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGE CONFERENCE, TAKING PLACE FROM 27 – 29 AUGUST 2025 IN KIMBERLEY, NORTHERN CAPE, SOUTH AFRICA.

INTRODUCTION

As the digital era continues to shape global communication, the intellectualisation of African languages has become a critical area of focus. Historically, many African languages have been marginalized in educational, technological, and scientific spheres. This conference aims to explore strategies for the intellectualisation of these languages, and how to integrate them into digital tools, academic research, and technological innovations. By addressing challenges such as language digitalisation, translation, and the creation of relevant digital content, participants will discuss the role of African languages in preserving culture, enhancing education, and fostering economic development

CONFERENCE THEMES

The conference will focus on (but is not limited to) the following themes related to African languages:

- Language Digitalisation
- Language Activism
- Language Teaching and Learning
- Language and Indigenous Knowledge
- Language Conservation/Sustainability
- Language Policy and Planning
- Sign Language
- Marginalised Languages
- Linguistics
- Translation and Interpreting
- Terminology and Lexicography
- Creative Writing
- Literature

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Submission Deadline: **31 March 2025**

Submit to: Ms Valencia Wagner at
abstracts.langconf@spu.ac.za

Abstracts should be **150 – 250 words** and include:

- Paper title
- Keywords
- Author's name(s) and title
- Affiliation(s)
- Contact email address

Reference lists are not required.

While papers may focus on any African language, all abstracts and presentations must be in one of the official languages of the Northern Cape - Afrikaans, English, Setswana, or isiXhosa.

- Abstracts and presentations in Afrikaans, Setswana, or isiXhosa must be accompanied by a translated summary in English.
- Interpreting services into English will be available for presentations in Afrikaans, Setswana, and isiXhosa.

CONFERENCE FEES

Academic Scholars: ZAR 3,000 / \$175 (International participants)
Postgraduate Students: ZAR 2,000 / \$120 (International participants)

The conference fee includes stationery, refreshments, and the conference gala.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

For further details, please contact: admin.langconf@spu.ac.za.