mLearn is the leading international conference on mobile and contextual learning and attracts participants from more than 60 countries annually to the conference.

ANNOUNCEMENT and CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

22nd mLearn/iTLT Conference

Organised by
Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences North-West University

9 – 11 October 2023
(Conference 9 & 10 Oct Post-Conference workshops 11 October)

at the
Capital Pearls of Umhlanga, South Africa

CONFERENCE THEME

The Mobile Teaching & Learning Journey:
Re-thinking our Thinking and actions

1 Innovative Teaching and Learning with Technology
CONFERENCE SUB-THEMES

- Stabilising T&L strategies after the Pandemic
- Tracking students’ performance (Learning analytics)
- Big Data / data-driven learning
- Augmented reality/Virtual reality/Artificial intelligence (AI)
- Gamification
- Immersive learning
- Home-schooling
- Open Educational Resources (OER) and Micro-credentials
- Managing Technology in a T&L ecosystem
- Digital business strategies
- Creating Hybrid and Flexible T&L environments (HyFlex T&L)
- Podcasts and Micro-Videos for T&L
- Assessment

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS
- Donald Clark
- Mike Sharples

Our Keynotes will discuss their respective journeys regarding:
“Powerful ideas and disruptive devices” and
“Artificial Intelligence and PedAlgogy in HE”

Artificial intelligence (AI) in Higher Education will change everything!

Donald Clark

“Artificial Intelligence is the technology of our age. It will change how we work and learn, why we learn, where we learn and how we learn.

Generative tools such as Chat GPT have grabbed the headlines, but I would show how AI has much broader applications and can be used across the entire learning journey. This includes learner engagement, skills prediction across organisations, learner support, content creation, content curation, personalised learning and assessment and learning analytics.”

Powerful ideas and disruptive devices: An alternative story of educational technology

Looking back with an eye on the future, Mike will talk about alternative strands of educational technology where students have taken up emerging devices – pocket calculators, mobile phones, machine translation software, and now generative AI – to make their lives easier. But unfortunately, teachers and institutions feel forced to respond by banning, avoiding, or adapting to students who bring new technology.

So how can teachers and institutions best respond to technology-empowered students?
mLearn 2023 will follow a Hybrid approach.

Delegates can choose between delivering:
1) a face-to-face presentation physically at the conference venue, or
2) a virtual presentation on our online platform.

**IMPORTANT DATES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Due date to submit abstracts</td>
<td>21 April 2023</td>
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<tr>
<td>Abstract feedback date</td>
<td>1 May 2023</td>
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<tr>
<td>Due date to submit the paper</td>
<td>15 June 2023</td>
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<td>Final acceptance date</td>
<td>21 July 2023</td>
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<td>Due date for registrations</td>
<td>4 August 2023</td>
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<td>Payment due date</td>
<td>11 September 2023</td>
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**CALL FOR ABSTRACTS / PAPERS**

You are invited to submit an abstract(s) for the 2023 mLearn conference on the prescribed form.

The abstract has to fall within one of the conference sub-themes, and submissions may not have been published or submitted for publication elsewhere. All abstracts should be in English. Abstracts will be published in the “Book of Abstracts” with the final programme.

**Process:**

Only those abstracts submitted on the prescribed form will be considered. Abstract submission closes on **21 April 2023**. Submitted abstracts will undergo a double-blind peer review process, and authors will be notified of the outcome by **1 May 2023**. Please send your abstract to Ms Petra Lawson (Conference Administrator) at conference.mLearn@gmail.com

Authors should then prepare and submit their full papers once the abstract is accepted. Please adhere to the full paper's final submission date of **15 June 2023**.

Full papers will go through another double-blind peer review process, and after acceptance, authors will be able to present the paper during the conference, **EITHER** in person/face-to-face **OR** online.

After the presentation of the paper, the paper is eligible for publication in the Conference Proceedings with an ISBN.

Your presentation at the conference and publication in the proceedings depend on conference registration, payment and presentation.

**Acknowledgement of receipt of abstracts/papers**

Within three working days of successful abstract/paper submission, an e-mail will be sent to the presenting author(s) to acknowledge receipt. The author(s) will also be provided with an abstract number that should be quoted in all further correspondence.
The mLearn 2023 Doctoral Colloquium on Wednesday, 11 October 2023, will provide doctoral students with a supportive and critical learning opportunity to discuss their work, highlight theoretical and methodological problems/issues for further discussion, and network with experienced mentors and Colloquium participants.

This Colloquium is an opportunity to showcase your research and scholarly mission to different audiences and to connect with an international network of academics.

The conference organizers will invite a group of prominent professors and experts to serve as mentors during the Doctoral Colloquium, and who will share topics that may include how to write a good literature review, the use of technology/apps in the research journey, and the newest methodology (“trends”). In addition, there will be an open discussion session where students can ask the mentors questions about the job search, managing an academic career, developing and maintaining a research agenda, and other topics of interest.

Another goal of this Colloquium is to create a supportive community that grows a professional network for engaging students with peers and senior scholars in information science and related disciplines.

**WORKSHOP INFORMATION**  
250€ per workshop

**Using AI** (workshop 1)  
Donald and Callum will go through the practical approaches and tools one can use in AI for learning.

**Podcasts for learning** (workshop 2)  
Having delivered a successful series of podcasts on learning theory and theorists, Donald will show why podcasts are so popular and how smartphone delivery is part of that story. He will call upon cognitive theory to explain both their popularity and application in learning.

This will include researched advice on structure, style, and production.

**SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS (SIG)**

Do you have an idea to discuss and want to host a SIG during one of the lunch breaks, please submit a proposal and let the organizers know what topic you want to discuss.

Proposals with a detailed description should be submitted to Ms Petra Lawson at conference.mLearn@gmail.com
CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FEES

Please take note
The conference fee covers presentation/attendance or virtual presentation. The registration fee excludes travelling and accommodation costs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Conference registration fee</th>
<th>Conference registration fee Exchange rate locked for SA Citizens</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Registration Fee (early bird until 31 July 2023)</td>
<td>€350</td>
<td>R6,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Registration Fee (Standard fee from 1 August 2023)</td>
<td>€550</td>
<td>R9,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Registration fee (Bona fide PhD or Masters students) early bird until 31 July 2023</td>
<td>€250</td>
<td>R4,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Registration fee (Bona fide PhD or Masters students) standard fee from 1 August 2023</td>
<td>€350</td>
<td>R6,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Post-conference workshop Fee</td>
<td>€250</td>
<td>R4,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Post-conference workshop Fee (Bona fide PhD or Masters students)</td>
<td>€150</td>
<td>R3,000</td>
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Disclaimer:
In the event that the conference is cancelled due to unforeseen reasons, the Organising Committee takes no responsibility for expenses incurred.

ACCOMMODATION INFORMATION

A limited number of rooms in the Capital Pearls have been reserved for the conference delegates. Therefore, please book as soon as possible but before 30 September 2023.

https://booking.thecapital.co.za/?city=Durban&hotel=Pearls&promo=SSIRC
Rate Code: mLearn Conference 2023
Promo Code: mLearn_NWU
or contact Ayanda.Ngubane@thecapital.co.za (061 474 6742)

Additional accommodation options:
Visit www.lekkeslaap.co.za for the best deals on the Umhlanga beachfront.

GENERAL ENQUIRIES

General enquiries, abstract/paper submissions and registrations:
Ms Petra Lawson
Conference Administrator
E-Mail: conference.mLearn@gmail.com
COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Prof Herman van der Merwe – North-West University (NWU)
Dr Johan Freysen – North-West University (NWU)
Prof Belinda Gimbert – The Ohio State University (USA)
Prof Dean Cristol – The Ohio State University (USA)
Prof Verona Leendertz – North-West University (NWU)
Dr Frelet de Villiers – University of the Free State (UFS)
Dr Helga Hambrock – Concordia University Chicago (USA)