



The KZN e-Skills CoLab at the Durban University of Technology

Cordially invites you to a seminar

By

Prof Sid Nair

Executive Director

Tertiary Education Commission, Mauritius

To engage with a discussion on

THE CHANGING LANDSCAPE OF HIGHER EDUCATION – A NEED TO CHANGE?



Prof. Sid Nair is the Executive Director of the Tertiary Education Commission (TEC). As Chief Executive Officer of the Commission he is responsible for the formulation and execution of strategies, policies and procedures in the higher education sector in Mauritius. The TEC is the apex regulatory body in Mauritius that ensures standards and quality are maintained in all tertiary education programs.

Professor Nair is well known in the international environment in the area of quality movement in higher education and is also internationally renowned for his work in student voice and its importance in the quality of teaching and learning. All work Prof. Nair has done over the years is best summarised in his 2015 UWA Non-Faculty award which states *“For the sustained leadership in University education for the promotion and integration of the student voice to enhance learning and teaching”*.

Over the last decade, the higher education sector has undergone rapid expansion, but this alone was the beginning of the changing landscape. Currently, the sector is going through an upheaval in the way programmes are taught and delivered. This change dynamics is because the qualifications footprint of the past is considered by many as no longer having an effective correlation in a world where graduates are to be ready for jobs that have yet to be created and skills that have yet to be defined. With this changing paradigm the higher education sector is evolving with new courses, and new ways of delivery to ensure employment ready graduates.

Employability of graduates is thus a key issue for higher education as graduates face a rapidly changing and highly competitive employment sector. In order to maximise their likelihood of employment, new graduates will need to demonstrate the skills and qualities most valued by employers. Bath *et al.* (2004) identified three factors that have influenced the growing importance of such attributes in higher education courses: the perspective of education as a lifelong process, focus on employability of graduates, and the development of outcome measures to justify the quality of higher education. If universities are to do their jobs and embed such skills sets, programs will have to be designed to deliver the required skills but pedagogy will also have to change so to ensure effective delivery of outcomes with the clear understanding that learning and the workplace of today takes place with a high level of technologies advances.

This seminar endeavours to look at the evolution of the higher education system to equip graduates of the 21st century and beyond but at the same time take a holistic view of capacity needed at the institutional and national levels.

RSVP Essential

Email: NemisaCoLab@dut.ac.za

By: Friday 1 November, 2019

Please indicate any dietary requirements in your RSVP

SEATS ARE LIMITED

Seminar Details

DATE: Monday, 11 November 2019

VENUE: S2, R-401, Steve Biko Campus, DUT

TIME: 09:00 AM - 13:00 PM

LUNCH: After 13:00PM