

The Association for Mathematics Education of South Africa



Reclaiming our African pride through mathematics teaching

22nd Annual National Congress
27 June – 01 July 2016



**Tshwane University
of Technology**
We empower people

Tshwane University of Technology
Mbombela Campus, Mpumalanga

FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT AND CALL FOR PAPERS

You are invited to the 22nd Annual National Congress of the Association for Mathematics Education of South Africa (AMESA) and to submit contributions around the theme:

Reclaiming our African pride through mathematics teaching

VENUE

Tshwane University of Technology (Mbombela Campus)
Madiba Drive
Mbombela (Nelspruit)
Mpumalanga Province
South Africa

DATE

27 June – 1 July 2016

CONGRESS THEME

Reclaiming our African pride through mathematics teaching

Mathematics drives all human development and is an important part of human culture. Professions such as Engineering, Medicine, Statistics, Actuarial Sciences, Chartered Accountancy, etc. are all mathematically driven and attest to mathematics being an important aspect of human culture. It follows that without a pool of mathematicians, Africa and South Africa, in particular, will not be able to compete with the rest of the world in terms of economic growth and scientific research. When certain South African companies and government departments make use of imported workers in various scarce fields, there is a general outcry in the country due to our high unemployment rate.

Results from TIMSS and international mathematics competitions indicate that as a country we are not doing well in mathematics. Our own national assessments (ANA and NSC) also report that we need to work hard. If the status quo remains then our country's economic growth and development will be negatively affected.

The theme for congress 2016 calls on all mathematics teachers and mathematics teacher educators to do a rethink on the teaching and learning of the subject. The theme requires that we explore ways in which we should teach mathematics in such a way that we regain our pride through high participation and performance in the subject. The theme requires us to reflect on the spirit of Africanism, the spirit of sharing, not only sharing of resources but mathematical knowledge and good teaching practises.

Congress 2016 will explore various ways through which we can be proud of our teaching and learning of mathematics.

We are looking forward to meeting you at the 2016 AMESA Congress!

PROGRAMME

Congress participants include an exciting combination of leader mathematics teachers, materials and technology developers, national and international researchers and government advisers, presenting on policy directions and research findings, and sharing teaching ideas and materials.

The programme will include:

1. **Pre-congress workshops** (Sunday 26 June, 14:00 – 17:00).
2. **Plenary addresses** by invited speakers, including overseas speakers.
3. **Panel discussions** on various issues in Mathematics Education
4. **Parallel sessions** presented by participants, in the following areas: Foundation Phase, Intermediate Phase, Senior Phase, FET Phase, and Teacher Education.

The following formats of presentation will be used:

- **Long Papers:** 40 minute presentation plus 20 minute discussion
 - **Short Papers:** 20 minute presentation plus 10 minute discussion
 - **“How I Teach”** papers: 20 minute presentation plus 10 minute discussion
 - **Posters:** Exhibited on a 1,2 m × 1,8 m board, for the duration of the conference.
Authors should be available at certain hours for discussion
 - **Workshops:** 1 or 2 hours hands-on activities
5. **Activity Centre:** Hands-on practical mathematics activities for participants
 6. **Maths Market:** Promotion of their products by commercial vendors
 7. **AMESA Curriculum Phase Committees discussions**
 8. **AMESA Special Interest Group meetings**
 9. **AMESA Annual General Meeting**

OTHER FEATURES OF CONGRESS

- Social events
- Excursions
- Daily congress competitions
- Transport
- Congress bags
- Memorabilia
- Internet facilities

Note:

The Congress 2016 Final Announcement and Registration Form will be distributed in February 2016 and will contain full details about the programme, costs, transport, etc.

CONTACT DETAILS

Please send all communication about *administrative matters* to:

The AMESA Congress Secretary

Nombulelo Mandindi
PO Box 54
2050 WITS

Tel: 011 484 8917
Cell: 082 390 7088
Fax: 086 406 3591
Email: congress2016@amesa.org.za

Congress Director

Isaiah Ronald Shabangu
PO Box 357
1320 Malelane

Cell: 083 767 0286
Fax : 013 778 2901
Email: isaiah@amesa.org.za

Please send all communication about the *academic programme* to:

The Academic Coordinator

Busisiwe Goba
University of KwaZulu-Natal
Edgewood Campus
3605 Ashwood

Tel: 031 260 7607
Cell: 073 848 3377
Fax: 031 260 3697
Email: busi@amesa.or.za

Congress Deputy-Director

Phillip Mokoena
PO Box 884
1280 Bushbuckridge

Cell: 083 346 6021
Fax: 086 604 5602
Email: mpumalanga@amesa.org.za

Congress website

See the congress website for updated relevant information:

<http://www.amesa.org.za/AMESA2016/>

THE LOCAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE (LOC)

The LOC is made up of members who have been actively involved in the branches and provincial structures of AMESA. They come from a variety of backgrounds and include teachers, subject advisors, administrators and mathematics educators. They will be allocated various portfolios and duties for Congress 2016. These details will be included in the Final Announcement.

Members of the LOC

Elijah Nkosi, Richard Maziya, Mokone Phora, Nkosinathi Nkambule, Nonhlanhla Myeni, Bailey Nkuna, Diapo Makhubele, M Mabushe; KE Nkosi, Siphwe Maseko, JE Shabangu, ZC Mashaba, TS Mnguni, Joseph Ncongwane, Cynthia Mlambo, John Acquah, Veni Mabhena, Daphney Rettsure, Phumzile Maluleka

THE NATIONAL ORGANISATION COMMITTEE (NOC)

The NOC is made up of the National Executive of AMESA and the executive committee of LOC.

Members of the NOC

Vasuthavan Govender (AMESA President: Chairperson); Busisiwe Goba (AMESA Vice President: Academic Coordinator); Rajen Govender (AMESA Treasurer: Finances); Gary Powell (AMESA Secretary: Academic Programmes); Isaiah Ronald Shabangu (Congress Director); Phillip Mokoena (Congress Deputy-Director); Mokone Phora (Congress Treasurer); John Acquah (Congress liaison: Academic Matters)

MPUMALANGA PROVINCE

The Mpumalanga province is located in the north eastern region of South Africa. Mpumalanga shares borders with two countries, namely, Mozambique on the eastern border and the Kingdom of Swaziland on the South Eastern part. Inside the RSA, Mpumalanga shares borders with Gauteng, Free State, KwaZulu-Natal and Limpopo.



The capital city of Mpumalanga is Mbombela, a fast growing city in the RSA. Another city in Mpumalanga is Emalahleni. Major towns include Barberton, Delmas, Ermelo, Hazyview, Komatipoort, Malelane, Mashishing, Middelburg, Piet Retief, Sabie, Secunda, Standerton, Volksrust and White River.

Mpumalanga consists of four districts: Bohlabela, Ehlanzeni, Gert Sibande and Nkangala. The weather in Mpumalanga is hot to very hot in summer, especially in the Lowveld regions. It is mild in winter, but can become very cold in the Highveld areas. Mpumalanga is a summer rainfall area.

Transport system in Mpumalanga is by air, road and rail.

- Air transport: The Kruger Mpumalanga International Airport provides scheduled flights to and from Johannesburg, Cape town and Durban.
- Road transport: The national routes N4, N12 and N17 connect Mpumalanga with Gauteng, Mozambique, KwaZulu-Natal and Swaziland.

Mpumalanga is blessed with the four key features of South African tourist attractions, namely, scenic beauty, mild climate, cultural attractions and wildlife. Places of attraction include Three Rondavels, Waterfalls, God's Window, Blyde River Canyon, Hiking Trails and the world famous Kruger National Park.

Mpumalanga is blessed with rich coal deposits. There are many coal mines in the province and these have played a major role in creating employment opportunities in the province.



TSHWANE UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

The Tshwane University of Technology (Mbombela Campus) is located almost at the entrance of Mbombela along the R40 road from Barberton. It is on one of the main roads, Madiba Drive, which is well served by public transport.

The campus is about a 10 minute drive from the Central Business District of Mbombela.

The Tshwane University of Technology caters for both South African and international students.



CALL FOR PAPERS

You are invited to propose one or more contributions to the academic programme. Please note that to ensure a high standard of presentations and broad based participation:

- We will accept no more than two inputs per presenter.
- We will not accept any presentation for the programme unless a full manuscript or workshop outline has been submitted for reviewing.
- We will adhere to the due dates for submission as this ensures time for useful and relevant reviews of submissions.

To help you in planning and writing your proposal, we include overleaf technical guidelines for preparing a paper. An electronic styles template is available on the congress website.

The Presentation Proposal Form (page 11) must be submitted with your proposal to the Academic Coordinator by **23 February 2016**.

CALL FOR REVIEWERS

In order to have a sufficient number of reviewers for submitted papers, we invite AMESA members to volunteer to help with reviewing papers. This review process should take place during March and April 2016.

You can serve as reviewer if you are a current AMESA member and have presented a reviewed paper (a Long or Short Paper) at previous AMESA congresses, or have published in *Pythagoras* or a similar accredited reviewed journal.

If you qualify and are willing, please fill in the Reviewer Form (page 12) and send it to the Academic Coordinator by **2 February 2016**.

MATHS MARKET

Publishers, entrepreneurs and NGOs are invited to present and promote their commercial products in a special session in the programme called a *Maths Market* presentation. Research about such products may be presented as an academic paper which will be reviewed, but commercial products should not be directly promoted in academic sessions. *Maths Market* presentations are not reviewed and not published in the Congress Proceedings. Please contact the Secretariat for more details.

IMPORTANT DATES

Reviewer information	2 February 2016
Submission of full presentation proposal manuscripts	23 February 2016
Notification of proposal review results	20 April 2016
Application for financial support	30 March 2016
<i>Early registration at a reduced fee</i>	24 April 2016
<i>Normal registration at normal fee</i>	25 April to 26 May 2016
<i>Late registration at an increased fee</i>	after 26 May 2016
Cancellation of any costs	31 May 2016
Equipment requests for presenters	1 June 2016
Registration opens	26 June at 14:00
Residences open	26 June at 14:00
Opening ceremony	27 June at 10:30
Closing ceremony	1 July, 12:00

Start planning for Congress 2016
We look forward to seeing you in Mpumalanga!

Guidelines for submission of Long Papers

Length: 8–12 pages

Each Long Paper will be scheduled for a total time of 60 minutes: 40 minutes for oral presentation and 20 minutes for discussion. The following types of papers are suitable for presentation as a Long Paper:

- 1. Research report** This should include the following:
 - A statement about the focus of the paper or the research questions, and a motivation for the significance of the research;
 - An indication of the theoretical framework of the study reported;
 - A discussion of the related literature;
 - An indication of and justification for the methodology used;
 - Some sample data and findings and a statement of how these help to answer the research questions;
 - What your findings mean for mathematics teaching and learning or further research;
 - List of references.

- 2. The presentation of Mathematics/Mathematical Literacy content** These could include content in Mathematics/Mathematical Literacy, relevant to the school curriculum, such as:
 - An innovative way of dealing with a section of Mathematics/Mathematical literacy;
 - Alternative proofs for theorems;
 - Interesting mathematics that teachers are conversant with; Mathematics/Mathematical Literacy that is new in the proposed curriculum;
 - List of references.

- 3. Theoretical, methodological or philosophical essays** These should include the following:
 - A statement about the focus of the paper and a motivation for its significance;
 - An indication of the theoretical, methodological or philosophical framework within which the focus or theme of the paper is developed;
 - Reference to related literature;
 - A clearly articulated statement of the author's position on the focus or theme;
 - What your results mean for mathematics teaching, learning or research;
 - List of references.

Reviewing:

Two reviewers, with experience in the area, will review your paper. Specifically, reviewers will be asked to comment on the following: mathematical content, theoretical framework and related literature, methodology (if appropriate), statement and discussion of results (if appropriate), clarity and relevance to the AMESA audience.

A developmental approach to reviewing will be applied to your paper. In other words you will be given feedback by the reviewers, which you could use to improve your paper and then (if necessary) re-submit for further review and feedback.

If your paper is not accepted in this category it will be reconsidered for submission as a Short Paper presentation.

Publication of Long Papers:

Authors may choose *not* to have their accepted long papers published in the AMESA 2016 Congress Proceedings, to keep open the possibility to submit it to a journal. Note that authors must still submit the full manuscript for review, but if they choose to exclude their Long Paper from the Proceedings, they must then submit an extended abstract of 2-4 pages of the paper and this extended abstract will then be published in the Proceedings. Please indicate your choice clearly on the Presentation Proposal Form.

Guidelines for submission of Short Papers

Length: 5–8 pages

Each Short Paper presentation will be given a total time of 30 minutes: 20 minutes for oral presentation and 10 minutes for discussion. This kind of presentation is most suitable for work in progress and may include the following:

- 1. Reflection on teaching or practice** This is mainly for mathematics educators who would like to share their reflections on their teaching or on their participation in a developmental project or research project. For reflection on teaching you need to specify the following:
 - The grade and class size;
 - The mathematics topic taught;
 - The mathematical goals and purposes;
 - A description of the lesson;
 - What factors contributed to the success of the lesson;
 - What factors tended to hamper success and how you dealt with them.
- 2. For reflection on participation in a mathematics development project** you should specify the following:
 - The duration of the project;
 - Mathematical aspects covered by the project;
 - Practical examples of how participation in the project impacted on your teaching.
- 3. The presentation of Mathematics/Mathematical literacy content** These could include Mathematics/Mathematical Literacy relevant to the school curriculum. For details on this type of presentation, refer to number 2 under the Long Papers.
- 4. Proposals on research or development** This can be a presentation of a proposal for a research or mathematics education developmental project and should include the following:
 - A description of the focus of the research project or developmental project;
 - Motivation for the study or project;
 - Some indication of the theoretical framework of the study or project;
 - Some discussion of the related literature;
 - How the study or project will be undertaken, including some justification of methodology;
 - Participants and time lines;
 - List of references.
- 5. Initial sharing of data** This is mainly for people who have done research and are still working on their analyses. The paper should include the following:
 - A statement about the focus of the paper or the research questions, and a motivation for the significance of the research;
 - Some aspects of the theoretical framework of the study reported;
 - Some discussion of the related literature;
 - An indication of and justification for the methodology used;
 - Some sample data and initial analysis or description of data;
 - List of references.

Reviewing:

Two reviewers, with experience in the area, will review your paper. Specifically, reviewers will be asked to comment on the following: mathematical content, conceptual coherence, clarity and relevance to the AMESA audience.

A developmental approach to reviewing will be applied to your paper. In other words you will be given feedback by the reviewers, which you could use to improve your paper and then (if necessary) re-submit for further review and feedback.

Guidelines for “How I Teach” papers

Length: Minimum 1 page and a maximum of 4 pages.

Critical information to be included:

- **Title:** A heading for your paper, e.g. How to use paper folding in geometry
- **Name:** Your Name and Surname
- **Organisation:** Where you are from e.g. the name of your school.
- **Phase:** The phase your talk is aimed at i.e. foundation, intermediate, senior, FET or tertiary.
- **Introduction:** Include here a paragraph on what your talk is about. Why you chose to talk about it. What you are going to do in the talk.
- **Content:** You might want to write one or two sentences on your experiences of using such activities in your class and some of the advantages or disadvantages of using the activities. Also provide here a brief conclusion on the talk.
- **References:** Add here any references that you might have used. In other words, if you took the activities from a textbook or from the Internet, please acknowledge these sources.

There may be other headings you want to include (e.g. “teacher tips”) – please feel free to do so.

Reviewing:

Your paper will be reviewed. *A developmental approach to reviewing will be applied to your paper. In other words you will be given feedback by the reviewers, which you could use to improve your paper and then (if necessary) re-submit for further review and feedback.* The Academic Committee of Congress 2016 reserves the right to make minor editing changes.

Guidelines for Posters

Poster presentations are available for those whose work is more suitably communicated in a pictorial or graphical format, rather than through an oral presentation. There is no formal oral presentation associated with posters, but a time will be allotted, after sufficient display time, during which presenters will be available at their posters for informal discussion with participants.

A poster (1,2 m x 1,8 m board) can present research projects, software developments, curricula innovations, educational programmes, etc., related to Mathematics Education.

Note the following as you prepare your proposal for a poster:

- Your proposal should describe both the contents of the poster and its particular visual (pictorial or graphical) characteristics.
- Your proposal should be restricted to one page, including references and figures. If accepted, this text will be included in the Congress Proceedings.
- Type and centre the title (in capitals), author(s) names, and affiliation(s) of the author(s) in this order.

Reviewing:

The Academic Committee will review the proposals for Poster Presentations. If your proposal is accepted, the Academic Committee will provide further guidance on the preparation of the actual poster itself.

Guidelines for Workshop presentations

Note that workshop write-ups and the worksheets will *not* be published in the Congress Proceedings. It will be included in the CD-ROM Proceedings, and copies of the activities will only be duplicated for the workshop participants.

Your proposal should include:

- 1. Motivation for running workshop.** This is for *reviewing* and should include:
 - **Title of the workshop**
 - **Name of presenter(s)**
 - **Institution where you are employed**
 - **Target audience:** The phase your workshop is aimed at e.g. intermediate.
 - **Duration:** There will be 1-hour or 2-hour workshop slots. Please ensure that you choose an appropriate length slot.
 - **Maximum number of participants:** You may limit the number of participants in your
 - workshop. Workshop presenters should attempt to cater for at least 30 participants.
 - **Motivation for the workshop:** Why is the workshop important? How will it help participants?
 - **Description of content of workshop:** What will be done in the workshop? How will the time slot be broken up?
 - **The activities and worksheets to be used in the workshop** (maximum 8 pages)
- 2. An abstract describing the level, nature and content of the workshop** (maximum 2 pages).
Note: Only this abstract will be published in the Congress Proceedings.

Note:

- Workshops need to be **hands-on sessions** where participants are **actively involved** in doing the activities that you provide. Usually these activities will be done in groups, consisting of 3–5 participants. There should also be ample time for discussions (approximately 25% of your time is suggested).
- If you have used ideas from other sources, it is absolutely essential that you acknowledge these sources. We will *not* accept any submissions where more than two pages have been copied directly from another source.

Reviewing:

The Academic Committee will review the proposals for Workshop Presentations.

Technical guidelines for preparing manuscripts

We are endeavouring to work towards a uniform appearance for all papers in the Congress Proceedings. An electronic template and guidelines will be available from the congress website. Please use the template as the basis for your paper.

Please adhere to these guidelines:

- Restrict your paper to the maximum number of pages as specified for the type of presentation, including references, figures, and appendices.
- Write the paper in English.
- Type and centre the title (in capitals), author(s) name(s), and affiliation(s) of the author(s), in this order.
- Underline the name of the presenting author(s), only if there are more than one author.
- Begin the paper with an abstract of up to ten lines, single-spaced, preferably in italics.
- Use a 14-point type (Times New Roman), a 16-point line space, and 6 points between paragraphs, occupying a frame of 170 mm by 247 mm. Please use exact dimensions, and fill the entire frame. Remember that the original text will be reduced in the Proceedings.
- Give references in the APA style.
- **Do not number the pages**

E-mail the paper as an attachment (Word document) to the Academic Coordinator by 23 February 2016, together with your completed Presentation Proposal Form.

Fax copies will not be accepted.

TABLE OF PRESENTATION CATEGORIES

This page is for your reference when completing the Reviewer Form or the Presentation Proposal Form.

Reviewers will receive proposals for review according to their preferred categories that they mark in their Reviewer Form.

The proposals will be sent to reviewers according to the presentation categories that authors have marked in their Presentation Proposal Form.

Educational LEVEL:

1. Foundation Phase (Grade R–3)	4. Further Education & Training (Grade 10-12)
2. Intermediate Phase (Grade 4–6)	5. Teacher Education (pre- & in-service training)
3. Senior Phase (Grade 7–9)	

In the case of research, the TYPE of research:

1. Empirical/Experimental	4. Ethnographic/Interpretative
2. Statistical	5. Theoretical/Philosophical
3. Case study	6. Action research

Focus THEMES for presentation:

1. Indigenous Knowledge Systems	15. Reasoning, proof and proving in mathematics education
2. Financial Mathematics	16. Problem solving and modelling in mathematics education
3. Mathematical Literacy	17. Functions and graphs
4. Teaching and learning of geometry	18. Numeracy
5. Teaching and learning of probability	19. Classroom practice
6. Teaching and learning of algebra	20. Geometrical and spatial thinking
7. Teaching and learning of calculus	21. Measurement – focusing on primary education
8. Teaching and learning of patterns, sequences and series	22. Mathematics education in a multilingual and multicultural environment
9. Teaching and learning of fractions	23. Mathematics curriculum development
10. Motivation, beliefs and attitudes towards mathematics and its teaching	24. Mathematical knowledge for teaching
11. Teaching and learning of statistics*	25. Assessment in mathematics education
12. Mathematics in context	26. Mathematics education at secondary level and access to tertiary level
13. Enhancing learner understanding of mathematical concepts	27. In-service education, professional development of mathematics teachers
14. The use of technology in the teaching and learning of mathematics	28. Other suitable focus themes (please state in your presentation proposal form)

* This is different from the paper version



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 Email: busi@amesa.or.za

PRESENTATION PROPOSAL FORM

This form must be completed for every presentation proposal and submitted to the Academic Coordinator.

DEADLINE: 23 February 2016

Note: Preferably please use the electronic form on the congress website.

PLEASE TYPE OR HAND-WRITE BY USING ONLY CAPITAL LETTERS

Type of Presentation (mark only one): Long Paper <input type="checkbox"/> Short Paper <input type="checkbox"/> How I Teach <input type="checkbox"/> Poster <input type="checkbox"/> Workshop (1 h) <input type="checkbox"/> Workshop (2 h) <input type="checkbox"/>	
Title of Presentation:	
Author(s):	
Presenting Author(s):	
Contact Details: <i>The following information should be completed only for the Presenting Author:</i> Postal Address: City: _____ Postal Code: _____ Tel no: _____ Cell no: _____ Fax no: _____ Email: _____	
<i>Complete to assist the Programme Committee in finding you an appropriate reviewer</i> Presentation categories (choose relevant numbers from the Table on page 10): Focus THEME (mark at most three numbers from 1 – 28): ___ ___ ___ Educational LEVEL (from 1 – 5): ___ TYPE of Research if applicable (from 1 – 6): ___	
For Long Papers only: Publish my paper in the Congress 2016 Proceedings? YES: <input type="checkbox"/> NO: <input type="checkbox"/>	



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 Email: busi@amesa.or.za

REVIEWER FORM

Please complete this form if you are prepared to help review submitted papers for the congress.

To qualify as a reviewer, you must be a current AMESA member and have presented a reviewed paper (a Long or Short Paper) at previous AMESA congresses, or have published in *Pythagoras* or another reviewed journal.

DEADLINE: 2 February 2016

Note: Preferably please use the electronic form on the congress website.

PLEASE TYPE OR HAND-WRITE BY USING ONLY CAPITAL LETTERS

Contact Details:

Name:

Institution:

Postal Address:

City:

Postal Code:

Tel no:

Cell no:

Fax no:

Email:

Complete to assist the Programme Committee to match you to appropriate submissions

Presentation categories (choose relevant numbers from the Table on page 10):

Please choose at most four **Focus THEMES** (numbers 1 – 28):

Please choose your preferred **Educational LEVELS** (numbers 1 – 5):

Please choose your preferred **TYPE of Research** (numbers 1 – 6):



2016

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APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

DEADLINE: 30 March 2016

Note: Preferably please use the electronic form on the congress website.

I would like to apply for financial support to attend AMESA Congress 2016.

Surname:

First names:

Postal Address:

.....

Postal Code:

Institution:

Tel: (Home) (Work) **Fax:**

Email:

Area of interest: Mark: Primary Secondary Tertiary

Complete 1 and 2 below and take note of 3:

1. I am a paid-up AMESA member: Mark: YES NO Membership number:

2. I am able to contribute R..... of the projected R..... costs for my attendance.

3. I undertake to write an article/report on AMESA Congress 2016 which may be published in *AMESA News*.

Signature: **Date:**

Note:

- A typed ½ to 1 page motivation, as well as a detailed budget must accompany this application. The application will not be considered without a detailed budget.
- Preference for funding will be given to paid-up AMESA members who will be contributing to the congress programme.