



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES DIGITAL HUMANITIES AWARENESS WEEK

The Faculty of Humanities at North-West University is organising a Digital Humanities Awareness week from 22 to 16 April 2024. Please join us in these exiting events.

Monday 22 April 2024

Event 1

Public lecture: 'Shaping the future of African and African language media through Artificial Intelligence' | Dr. Qasim Olalere Akinreti

Time: 14h00

This is a virtual event.

Microsoft Teams Link: [Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 376 575 899 585

Passcode: yxgj6u



Dr. Qasim Olalere Akinreti is a multimedia journalist, academic, media consultant, and currently, the Deputy Director, Digital Media at the Voice of Nigeria. He has co-authored a book on Online and Multimedia Journalism Practice in Africa. His areas of teaching, research, and community services cover broadcasting, multimedia, strategic communication, and media management. He teaches as an adjunct in some Nigerian universities, including the Nigerian Institute of Journalism, Lagos. Dr. Qasim Akinreti won the Davis Foster African Journalism Fellowship to study at the Poynter Institute of Media

Studies, St Petersburg, Florida, USA, in 2006. He is currently the Co-Lead of the Africa Hub of Journalism Trauma Education Research Group (JETREG). He has participated in international and local media conferences such as Highway Africa at Rhodes University and the International Press Institute Congress in Geneva, among others. Dr. Akinreti's media consultancies with the international

donor agencies and development partners such as the UNDP, World Bank, and Dutch Government were in the areas of Democracy and Good Governance, Stakeholders Engagement Strategy on Rural Access Agricultural Marketing Project as well Documentary of Cassava Revolution in Nigeria.

Official opening of the Faculty of Humanities' Digital Awareness Week

Public lecture: Prof Paul Arthur

Time: 17h00

This is a hybrid event.

Venue: A1-131 Council Boardroom, Vanderbijlpark Campus

Contact Mrs Daleen Claasens at daleen.claasens@nwu.ac.za to confirm in person attendance before 12 April 2024. Space is limited.

Microsoft Teams Link: [Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 350 631 168 152

Passcode: jU8vRG



Paul Arthur is Vice-Chancellor's Professorial Research Fellow and Chair in Digital Humanities and Social Sciences at Edith Cowan University, Western Australia. He speaks and publishes on major challenges and changes facing 21st-century society, from the global impacts of technology on communication, culture and identity to migration and human rights. His latest book is *Open Scholarship in the Humanities* (with Lydia Hearn, Bloomsbury 2024).

Tuesday 23 April 2024

Event 3

Public lecture:

“Digital Governance for Societal Wellbeing” | Prof. Dr. Sree Ganesh Thottempudi

Time: 16h00

This is a virtual event.

Microsoft Teams Link: [Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 310 963 441 776

Passcode: BVLmJg



Prof. Dr. Sree Ganesh Thottempudi, is a distinguished scholar and visionary in the realms of Digital Humanities and Natural Language Processing (NLP) in SRH University, Germany. With a profound commitment to advancing the intersection of technology and humanistic inquiry, Sree Ganesh Thottempudi has been working in these dynamic fields for the past 15 years. As a professor specializing in Digital Humanities, Prof. Dr. Sree Ganesh Thottempudi brings a unique blend of expertise that

bridges the gap between technology and the humanities. His research and teaching are characterised by a passion for exploring how digital tools and methodologies can enrich our understanding of human culture, history, and expression. Sree Ganesh Thottempudi's work reflects a deep appreciation for the interdisciplinary nature of Digital Humanities, drawing from fields such as linguistics, computer science, and cultural studies to create a holistic approach to research and education. In the realm of Natural Language Processing, Prof. Sree Ganesh Thottempudi stands at the forefront of cutting-edge developments. His contributions to the field have significantly advanced capabilities in understanding and interpreting human language using computational techniques. From machine translation to sentiment analysis, Sree Ganesh has pioneered innovative solutions that have broad implications for both academia and industry. In addition to his academic pursuits, Prof. Dr. Sree Ganesh Thottempudi actively engages with the wider academic community from South Africa. With his research team he frequently participates and collaborates with leading experts, and contributes to shaping the future of Digital Humanities and Natural Language Processing through their involvement in academic organizations and research initiatives. In Feb 2024, they launched Digital Data base and NLP tools for Indian languages with SAARC countries ambassadors

Wednesday 24 April 2024

Event 4

Webinar: Webinar on Eye Tracking | Dr Gordon Matthew

An introduction to the Escalator Project within SADiLaR | Prof Menno van Zaanen

Time: 10h00 – 11h00

This is a hybrid event.

Venue: VC-A1- 131, Council Room, Vanderbijlpark Campus

Microsoft Teams Link: [Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 378 113 342 848

Passcode: 6JtSe9



Dr. Matthew is a Y₂ rated, NRF researcher and is currently employed as a Research Technologist at the School of Languages of the North-West University. His research interests include multimedia learning, instructional design, subtitling, and cognitive load theory, particularly utilizing Eye Tracking methodology. Dr. Matthew has reviewed numerous articles for accredited journals and digital Humanities Conferences (DHASA). He also contributes research and consultation of research projects within the research entities, Understanding and Processing Languages in Complex Settings (UPSET) and Technology Enhanced Learning and Innovative Education and

Training in South Africa (TELIT-SA). Current projects include developing a serious game for the Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences (FEMS), creating and evaluating an instructional design checklist for multimedia learning environments, both of which are integrating eye-tracking for usability evaluation.

Event 5

Webinar:

Webinar on subtitling | Dr Este Hefer-Jordaan

Time: 11h00

This is a hybrid event.

Venue: VC-A1- 131, Council Room, Vanderbijlpark Campus

Contact Ms Soné Anthony at Sone.Anthony@nwu.ac.za to confirm in person attendance before 12 April 2024.

Microsoft Teams Link: [Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 378 113 342 848

Passcode: 6JtSe9



Esté Hefer-Jordaan is a qualified language practitioner with experience in both academic and professional environments. Her skills set includes training others in and personal use of CAT (computer-assisted translation) tools as well as various subtitling tools in the field of audiovisual translation, where she has a deep interest in accessibility through applications such as subtitles for the Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing and audio description for the blind and visually impaired. In her career as academic and researcher she made use of eye-tracking technology to investigate reading behaviour in the field of language practice. Esté is currently the General Manager of Benchmark Media.

Lecture: The multimodal Byderhand and Pioneer School project: the history of the project and current challenges | Prof Franci Greyling

Time: 14h00

This is a virtual event.

Microsoft Teams Link: [Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 323 854 834 362

Passcode: mJDVkJ



Franci Greyling is an Extraordinary Professor in the Focus Area Languages and Literature in the South African Context at North-West University. Her research is characterized by an interdisciplinary approach and the promotion of creative writing within various contexts. Since 2007, she has played an active role in conceptualizing and executing multi-practitioner interdisciplinary creative and research projects within the Faculty of Arts. The Byderhand project, initiated by Franci in 2015 and guided by the Creative Writing subject group, explores locative literature as an emerging genre within e-literature. It also serves as a practical illustration of participatory and interdisciplinary creative projects within the field of Digital Humanities. The project debuted at the Aardklop National Arts Festival in Potchefstroom and has since been followed by several additional initiatives, such as the Byderhand Pioneer Project (2017-2022), conducted in collaboration with a school for visually impaired learners. This project has garnered significant local and international interest due to its innovative approach and focus

on inclusivity and accessibility. Franci's research interests are particularly focused on exploring the creative potentials and dynamic interactions within these overarching spaces, alongside investigating multimodality and alternative publication formats.

Thursday 25 April 2024

Lecture: The integration of craft and digital technology in sound art installation | Danelle Heenop and Juan Steyn

Time: 10h00

This is a virtual event.

Microsoft Teams Link: [Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 383 051 901 474

Passcode: GZj9u5



Danelle Heenop is a designer, artist and lecturer based in Potchefstroom, South Africa. She is formally trained as a graphic designer completing her Master's Degree in 2018, with a focus on human-centered design. Exploration, experimentation and meditative art practices provide the impetus for Heenop's current creative practice which often takes on a sculptural form, either as standalone objects or installations. She draws inspiration from nature, literature and current social issues to re-envision a varied range of subject matter through air dry clay, resin, plaster of paris and more traditional art media. Her artistic productions use lenses of play, interactivity, scale and engagement to spark interest in the mundane.



Juan Steyn is the Director of Operations at SADiLaR and has been involved with the Digital Humanities Association of Southern Africa for multiple years to advance the uptake of Digital Humanities in Africa. Juan has been involved in multiple Digital Humanities and Educational technology related projects. He has a special interest in how minimal computing and the use of single board computers can be utilised in a creative space.

Lecture:

Art activism and social media in the Global South | Dr Annemi Conradie-Chetty

Time: 15h00

This is a hybrid event.

Venue: Building F2, Room G13, Potchefstroom Campus

Contact Anzel van Rensburg at Anzel.VanRensburg@nwu.ac.za to confirm in person attendance before 12 April 2024.

Microsoft Teams Link: [Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 358 693 770 467

Passcode: EBNaNL



Annemi Conradie-Chetty is a South African lecturer, writer, and artist. She completed her MA and PhD degrees in Visual Studies at Stellenbosch University and is currently senior lecturer in History of Art at North-West University, where she also directs the research entity Visual Narratives and Creative Outputs (ViNCO). Her current research focuses on the commodification and appropriation of colonial archival images in contemporary art and design, and constructions of gender and race in visual culture. She has lectured in Art History and Visual Culture Studies at Rhodes University and University of Cape Town.

Friday 26 April 2024

In collaboration with TELIT_SA
Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences

Public lecture: AI in digital humanities: The implications for learning | Prof Joshua Chukwuere

Time: 11h00 – 12h30

This is a hybrid event.

Venue: Building A1 Room 261, Mahikeng Campus

Please contact Zama Chaacha at zama.chaacha@nwu.ac.za to confirm in-person attendance before 12 April 2024.

Microsoft Teams

Meeting ID: 336 144 845 208

Passcode: JUUuf6



Professor Joshua Chukwuere (PhD) is a Full Professor of Information Systems at North-West University (NWU), South Africa. He is an award-winning and NRF-rated researcher who has received several accolades, including the Most Productive Junior Researcher of the Year award at NWU in 2017. His research interests span multiple areas, including CultureTech, Emerging digital/technologies (AI, IoT, Machine learning), and Social media. He has published numerous articles in accredited journals, presented papers at local and international conferences, and contributed to book chapters.