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TRANSFORMATION LEARNING NETWORK

HOSTED BY THE CENTRE FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF
SOCIAL IMPACT AND TRANSFORMATION (CASIT)

Universal Access (UA) – What is UA and what could this look like at SU?

Guest Speaker: Dr. Marcia Lyner-Cleophas

Dr. Marcia Lyner-Cleophas started her professional life as a high school teacher and continued to become an educational psychologist. She worked at Noluthando School for Deaf children and currently manages the Disability Unit at the Centre for Student Counselling and Development, in the Division for Student Affairs, SU. She was seminal in starting the (now) 18-year old Disability Unit at Stellenbosch University. Currently, she is a co-editor of a newly established journal, the International Journal of Universal Design and Universal Design for Learning.

Abstract

Universal Access is one of the Transformation objectives for staff KPAs. Universal Access is commonly misunderstood and you can be forgiven for this. It is often used interchangeably with disability accessibility. But this is not all! Consider this extract:

Although mainstreaming gender, disability and age consideration is a prerequisite of an inclusive society, without universal access, these groups are largely ignored in planning and provision of services in the public and private sector. This includes physical and or environmental accessibility, removing barriers, providing access through alternative communication and information in accessible formats, as a standard.

During this session, we will consider Universal Access and how it is applicable to us at Stellenbosch University, no matter what our job roles are. You will be invited to broaden your thinking about what your place would be in a universally accessible campus and what a universally accessible campus would look like. (National Strategic Framework on Universal Design and Access, Department of Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities, Notice 606 of 2021).

Kindly forward the invitation to any interested parties.

To be added to the TLN mailing list contact: Sibulele Mboyi - [smboyi@sun.ac.za](mailto:samboyi@sun.ac.za)

ENQUIRES:

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Thursday, 27 March 2025

13h00 - 14h30

Online via MS Teams

