



UNIVERSITY OF  
**KWAZULU-NATAL**  
INYUVESI  
**YAKWAZULU-NATALI**



Association of  
Southern African Schools and  
Departments of Public  
Administration and Management

**The Riverside Conference Centre, opp the Riverside Hotel,  
Durban, KwaZulu-Natal**



Situated in Durban North (28 minutes, under 30km from King Shaka International Airport with its scenic ocean views) is host to the:

**ANNUAL CONFERENCE**  
of the  
**ASSOCIATION OF THE SOUTHERN AFRICAN SCHOOLS AND DEPARTMENTS OF PUBLIC  
ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT (ASSADPAM)**  
in conjunction with the  
**DISCIPLINE OF PUBLIC GOVERNANCE, SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT, IT AND GOVERNANCE**  
at the  
**UNIVERSITY OF KWAZULU-NATAL (UKZN)**

**Date: 23-25 November 2022**  
**EXTENDED CALL**  
**CALL FOR ABSTRACTS**

**CONFERENCE THEME**

**DISRUPTIVE LEARNING and the FUTURE of PUBLIC  
ADMINISTRATION EDUCATION and RESEARCH**

Public administration education is a key determinant of the operation of public administration held by the government-of-the-day. Public Administration education in South Africa must extend beyond teaching to tangible forms of learning. Furthermore, the COVID-19 pandemic has brought into sharp focus the strengths and weaknesses of public sector policies and processes. As societies have battled to contain the pandemic, the public sector has had to rely on tried and tested strategies to innovate on forging new alliances and governance processes. In doing so, the notion of professionalism is at the core of good public administration practices. Professionalism is the observance of set standards/qualities and possibly a code of conduct. It exemplifies acknowledged practices in a profession, which entails specialised knowledge acquired after extensive preparation and training academically. In this current era and the future, new challenges and opportunities emerge for us to think anew in achieving efficiency in this dynamic field.

**INSPIRING GREATNESS**

## SUB-THEME 1: Public Administration Education

Modernisation and development are significant aspects that influence the converging trends and future prospects of public administration as they identify work on theoretical, methodological and evaluate issues deemed urgent. Public Administration education is informed by knowledge production and should not be based on knowledge reproduction (Winberg, 2006). It calls for higher education institutions to reassess public administration education, teaching methods and research for national development. The question arises: are our graduate programmes responding to the call of producing public administrators and advancing knowledge building to address practical issues, increase relevance to the field, and improve public administration education. Pedagogical challenges to improve theory and practice will enable scholars to become more proficient technically and professionally. The intention is for public administration scholarship to move towards an integrated community of scholars. In increasing competence in public administration, the curriculum must reflect both cultural and international awareness and reflect comparative perspectives more effectively. Globalization is impacting on education across different fields of study of public administration, and as a multi-disciplinary area, such education would equip public administrators with global and African perspectives to develop sustainable solutions to local and global issues. South Africa is committed to support sustainable and integrated rural development as a human-centred approach to poverty alleviation at economic, social and cultural levels including a constitutional, policy and implementation framework. The focus of this theme is as follows:

- Internationalisation of Public Administration
- Interdisciplinary nature of the field
- Comparative Public Administration
- Relevance of curricula/curriculum deconstruction
- Service learning in the curriculum
- Scholarship, practice and community service
- Innovation and pedagogies of the future
- Sustainable rural development



UNIVERSITY OF  
**KWAZULU-NATAL**<sup>TM</sup>  
INYUVESI  
**YAKWAZULU-NATALI**



Association of  
Southern African Schools and  
Departments of Public  
Administration and Management

## SUB-THEME 2: Future trends for managerial reforms – prospects for recovery and renewal post-COVID-19

The COVID-19 pandemic has shifted towards remote working taking eGovernment and the 4IR to another level, and the public sector endeavoured to keep systems working while ensuring social distancing. Working through networks and collaborations within the public and civic sectors was reinvigorated to reach our societies' weak and vulnerable. The volumes of work to be done in a short period necessitated greater involvement of the private sector. The ideals of post-NPM reform took on a whole new meaning, as did the New Public Governance strategies. The ASSADPAM conference comes when the world is looking forward to a world of recovery and renewal after the COVID-19 pandemic. It is appropriate to take stock of the lessons that the public sector and research fraternity have learned during this pandemic. Specifically, this theme explores the following areas:

- eGovernment, 4IR and eGovernance
- Network/collaborative governance
- Stakeholder engagement
- Post-NPM reforms
- New Public Governance



## SUB-THEME 3: Professionalism and Integrity Management

Possessing integrity is a critical attribute of professionalism as it encourages a successful work setting/environment. Ethical standards also assist in achieving professional goals. The notion of integrity in public life is a critical factor in creating trust between governments and their citizenry. There has however been, on a global level, a growing concern that the values of integrity (truth, honesty and veracity) are declining. It seems that the notion of integrity in public life over the years has been more or less implied, as opposed to interrogating in more complexity what it entails, and furthermore, how to achieve it. The management of integrity is the prescribed framework to guarantee ethical conduct by public functionaries. This poses a series of questions namely: What is the “fitness of purpose” to govern, and public service commitment in service delivery in the broader context of democratic values, social equity and public interest; is the management value-orientated in terms of its approach to policy?; is there a crisis of trust, and is there consequence management, if it is breached; and has there been agility during the COVID-19 pandemic, and has state capacity been supported? Papers in the form of local/regional/national and international case studies, as well as those focusing on theoretical appraisal are invited. This theme covers the following aspects:

- **‘Fitness for Purpose’ and public service commitment**
- **Performance-Trust link: Is it a crisis of trust?**
- **Consequence Management**
- **Public and policy-oriented approach**
- **Democratic values, social equity and advocacy of public interest**
- **Value-oriented management**
- **Agility amidst complexities during and post-COVID 19 pandemic**
- **Strengthening state capacity**

### CALL FOR ABSTRACTS:

When submitting an abstract, authors are requested to follow the proposed structure:

- Name, surname, institution, contact details
- Sub-theme
- Topic
- Purpose of envisaged paper
- Design/methodology/approach
- Practical implications
- Originality/value

**ABSTRACT: 300 words**

**FULL PAPER: 6 000-8000 words**

Follow Administratio Publica's format available on the website: <https://journal.assadpam.net>

### IMPORTANT DATES:

Closing date to submit abstracts: **30 September 2022**

Abstract acceptance: **Ongoing till 07 October 2022**

Online registration opens: **12 September 2022**

Final conference papers due: **30 October 2022**

Emerging Researcher's Workshop:

Doctoral paper submissions: **30 September 2022**

Conference registration closes for both: **15 November 2022**

### PANEL DISCUSSION

This session is to allow robust engagement with researchers, academics and senior practitioners in the field of Public Administration and Governance offering ideas and suggestions related to the thematic strand of the conference and contemporary issues in the field. A dedicated time slot will be set for the panel discussion inviting participation from some of the leading scholars in our fraternity.

### EMERGING RESEARCHERS' WORKSHOP

Co-ordinators

Dr BR Qwabe: [qwabeb@ukzn.ac.za](mailto:qwabeb@ukzn.ac.za)

Dr SI Zondi: [zondisa@ukzn.ac.za](mailto:zondisa@ukzn.ac.za)

Doctoral students are invited to share their research in a mentored workshop by submitting an abstract to the co-ordinators. A maximum of 10 papers would be considered. One or two best papers will be selected for recommendation for possible publication in the Administratio Publica Journal.

### SUBMISSION INFORMATION

Submission of abstracts: These can be sent directly to the following email address:

[submit-paper@assadpam.net](mailto:submit-paper@assadpam.net)

### CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

An automated mail will be sent to you regarding conference registration upon abstract acceptance.

### CONFERENCE FEES:

**R2450:** Academic (institutional) members

**R2650:** Non-members

**R1050:** Postgraduate (includes full-time Masters/Doctoral students providing proof of registration and paper presentation)

We look forward to welcoming your participation in the conference!

**INSPIRING GREATNESS**



UNIVERSITY OF  
**KWAZULU-NATAL**  
INYUVESI  
**YAKWAZULU-NATALI**



Association of  
Southern African Schools and  
Departments of Public  
Administration and Management

## ASSADPAM CONFERENCE, 2022 ACCOMMODATION / CONFERENCE VENUE

The Riverside Hotel Tel: +27 (0) 31 563 0600

E-mail: [reservations@riversidehotel.co.za](mailto:reservations@riversidehotel.co.za)

Website: [www.riversidehotel.co.za](http://www.riversidehotel.co.za)

Address: 10 Kenneth Kaunda Road, Durban North

<https://riversidehoteldurban.guestreservations.com>

Other best accommodation is available in Durban North, Umhlanga area close to the King Shaka International Airport and on the Golden Mile, including a large range of good guest houses within the vicinity.

Some of the best hotels includes the following:

Protea Hotel by Marriot, Umhlanga

The Bermudas, Umhlanga

The Shades, Umhlanga

Oyster Schelles, Umhlanga

Sea Lodge, Umhlanga

Marbella, Umhlanga

Ipanema Beach, Umhlanga (next to Oyster Box Hotel)

Kylanga, Umhlanga

Oyster Quays, Umhlanga

Tsogo Sun group of hotels

Garden Court Umhlanga

Suncoast Hotel and Towers

Southern Sun Elangeni & Maharani Hotel

Southern Sun Edward

Garden Court Marine Parade

Garden Court South Beach

<https://www.southernsun.com>