

NELSON MANDELA
UNIVERSITY

Colloquium

***Repositioning our understanding
of the “weapon” Education***

HOSTED BY THE FACULTY OF EDUCATION

Mandela Centenary Celebrations

100

YEARS OF MANDELA

Change the World

mandela.ac.za

Repositioning our understanding of the “weapon” Education

“Education is the most powerful weapon we can use to change the world”

Understanding the contextual relevance of Mandela’s statement to meet the 21st century realities of growing inequalities and hegemonies of knowledge, within the drive for a decolonised education system.

The statement made by Nelson Mandela on the 16 July 2003, is a statement which has found broad resonance within the South African society, on the African continent as well as globally. It could be argued that this statement has a dichotomous meaning across the various categories of education. Ocit in Baguma & Aheisibwe (2011: p.23) posits that education can be divided into the following three categories:

a) Formal Education: This refers to the hierarchically structured, chronologically graded ‘education system’, running from primary school through the university and including, in addition to general academic studies, a variety of specialized programmes and institutions for full-time technical and professional training.

b) Informal education: This refers to the truly lifelong process whereby every individual acquires attitudes, values, skills and knowledge from daily experience and the educative influences and resources in his or her environment – from family and neighbours, from work and play, from the market place, the library, the mass media, and so on.

c) Non-formal education: This refers to any organized educational activity outside the established formal system whether operating separately or as an important feature of some broader activity that is intended to serve identifiable learning clienteles and learning objectives. Four characteristics can be associated with non-formal education: relevance to the needs of disadvantaged groups, concern with

specific categories of person, a focus on clearly defined purposes, and flexibility in organization and methods.

In a world faced with growing inequality, changing political landscapes, armed conflicts, racial and gender tensions etc., we are challenged to explore the following questions as they relate to Mandela’s 2003 statement:

- Would Mandela be satisfied that ‘the weapon’ is achieving its intended objective in the 21st century?
- Is the statement being monopolised by formal education at the expense and recognition of informal and non-formal education?
- Have we reached the stage where the understanding of the statement needs to be deconstructed and reconstructed, to speak to the challenges of the 21st centuries?
- How do we create spaces which invite the three categories of education to collaborate and explore the potential reconstruction of the statement?

Is it not time to recognize the plurality of knowledge which possibly can be achieved through epistemological dialogue between the three different categories of education? For this reason, the Faculty of Education at Nelson Mandela University, will host a colloquium which forms part of the Mandela centenary celebrations on the 19 and 20 July 2018, to explore these questions. Participants from across the three categories of education will be invited to participate in this colloquium.

Moderator/Facilitator: Prof Puleng Segalo

DAY 1

19 July 2018 (Indoor Sports Centre, Missionvale Campus)

TIME	ACTIVITY	PERSON / STAKEHOLDER
07.45 – 08.15	Registration , coffee/tea/muffin	
08.15 – 08.30	National Anthem	Masifunde Choir
08.30 – 08.40	Welcome and Convening of Colloquium	Executive Dean: Dr Muki Moeng , Faculty of Education
08.45 – 09.15	Opening Address and official Launch of Centenary Celebrations: <i>The meaning and significance of the Nelson Mandela Centenary in today's context: a call to action and agency</i>	Vice Chancellor: Prof Sibongile Muthwa , Nelson Mandela University
09.15 – 09.45	Invite audience to interrogate objectives of the Centenary Celebrations and Colloquium	Session Moderator: Prof Puleng Segalo
09.45 – 10.20	Keynote address – Understanding the context of: <i>“Education is the most powerful weapon we can use to change the world”</i>	Chancellor: Dr Geraldine Fraser-Moleketi , Nelson Mandela University
10.20 – 11.10	Engagement with Speaker	Session Moderator: Prof Puleng Segalo
11.10 – 11.30	Kite Launch	Centre for Community Technologies
11.30 – 11.50	Tea	
11.50 – 12.40	Panel Discussion: Understanding the ‘weapon’ through the three categories of education: formal, informal and non-formal	Panellist <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formal • Informal • Non-formal
12.40 – 13.30	Discussion and engagement with the Panel	Session Moderator: Prof Puleng Segalo
13.30 – 14.00	Lunch	
14.00 – 14.20	The Power of the Round Table	Prof Anderson J. Franklin , Honourable David S. Nelson Professor of Psychology & Education Director, Nelson Chair University-Community Roundtable, Boston College
14.20 – 15.10	Round table discussion: Discussions guided from themes which emerged during keynote and panel discussion	Session Moderator: Prof Puleng Segalo
15.10 – 16.00	Plenary discussion and engagement	Session Moderator: Prof Puleng Segalo
16.00 – 16.30	Keynote Address: Linking the ‘weapon’ and day one’s discussions to the global perspective of the ‘weapon’ in the 21st century	Prof Anderson J. Franklin
16.30 – 17.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summary of day’s activities • Information on evening activities • Information on Day 2 activities 	Session Moderator: Prof Puleng Segalo

DAY 2

20 July 2018 (Indoor Sports Centre, Missionvale Campus)

TIME	ACTIVITY	PERSON / STAKEHOLDER
09.00 – 09.30	Registration, coffee/tea/muffin	
09.30 – 09.45	Day 1 Reflection	Session Moderator: Prof Puleng Segalo
09.45 – 10.00	Explaining the walk around	Session Moderator: Prof Puleng Segalo
10.00 – 12.00	Walk around: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three categories will have stalls, showcasing their contribution to education • Participants will be divided into three groups and each group will spend 40 minutes at a category • Each category will have a presenter to take the groups through the stalls and allow participants to engage at the stall 	Stalls: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formal • Informal • Non- Formal
12.00 – 12.45	Lunch	
12.45 – 13.45	Round table discussion: Topics will be directed to a call to action	Prof Anderson J. Franklin
13.45 – 14.45	Plenary discussion and engagement	Session Moderator: Prof Puleng Segalo
14.45 – 15.00	Tea	
15.00 – 16.00	Constructing a collective declaration around: "Education as a weapon for the 21st Century and beyond"	Session Moderator: Prof Puleng Segalo
16.00 – 16.15	Closing address	Deputy Vice Chancellor: Teaching and Learning: Professor Denise Zinn
17.00 – 20.00	Jazz: Cheese and Wine	