



# MARITZBURG COLLEGE

in association with

## THE ENGLISH ACADEMY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA



cordially invites English Language teachers from your school to attend the CONFERENCE FOR ENGLISH TEACHERS. The conference is applicable to both Home Language and First Additional Language teachers.

Where: Victoria Hall at Maritzburg College 51 College Road, Pietermaritzburg

Date: 15 August 2023, Tuesday

Time: 7:00am Registration)

Cost: R150 per delegate



This year, the conference aims to encourage engagement on the current discourse about educational praxis and learner needs, hence our theme is:

### ***Building Bridges – linking learner engagement and literacy.***

The theme lends itself to addressing serious gaps presented by South African learners due to various contextual factors – the post-covid condition, access to technology, lack of exposure to books, teacher development and access to resources. The issue of literacy and English Language Teaching is a concerning one and it is our hope that, by opening the conversation, we can inspire engagement and innovation in this area.

As seats are limited, we would be very grateful if you would reply to this invitation on or before 7 AUGUST 2023. We have included a booking form for your completion. Kindly note that we are only able to accept confirmation upon receipt of payment. Please email **Mrs Rodelle Govender** [[govenderr@mcollege.co.za](mailto:govenderr@mcollege.co.za)] for booking forms.

### **MEET THE MCEASA 2023 CONFERENCE PRESENTERS... [\*listed in alphabetical order]**

	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>MARYKE BAILEY</b> <a href="mailto:baileym@mcollege.co.za">baileym@mcollege.co.za</a></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><i>The Pen and the Sword: Empowering our learners through writing</i></b></p> <p>Maryke Bailey is currently a History and English teacher at Maritzburg College and has been involved in various education-related projects. She has lectured at the Wits School of Education, reviewed History textbooks and conceptualised and implemented professional development programmes. Maryke is passionate about writing. She co-authored <i>A Brief History of South Africa</i>, which was published in 2021, and many of her opinion pieces have appeared in <i>Daily Maverick</i>.</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SIMON BRILL</b> <a href="mailto:brills@mcollege.co.za">brills@mcollege.co.za</a></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><i>Striking the balance: Bridging the gaps between an analogue past and a digital future</i></b></p> <p>Simon Brill is an accomplished 3rd generation English teacher with a passion for transformative education and nurturing critical thought. A Rhodes University alumnus, his skills were honed after an enlightening journey to Asia, teaching A-level literature and ESL for several years. Utilising innovative approaches to education, he believes the gaps in academic comprehension and application can be bridged through integrating technology and ‘gamifying’ lesson content to foster a dynamic and interactive classroom environment. He is committed to equipping students with the tools to embrace self-directed learning, to find the balance between understanding the analogue past and embracing the digital future. Simon is currently teaching English at Maritzburg College.</p>



**NICHOLAS CROESER** [croesern@mcollege.co.za](mailto:croesern@mcollege.co.za)  
***Empowering Minds: Unleashing AI in the English Classroom***

Nicholas Croeser is an accomplished English teacher who has dedicated 14 years to shaping young minds, including 7 years of exceptional service at Maritzburg College. A firm believer in blending tradition with innovation, he instils a love for literature while embracing the ever-changing information age. Nick's passion lies in equipping students with creativity and essential skills that are needed to thrive in the dynamic 21st century. His commitment to education extends beyond the classroom, inspiring students to embrace learning with open minds and hearts. Through his guidance, countless students have found their voices and embarked on a journey of lifelong learning.



**ALIX DU TOIT** [alix@reflectivelearning.co.za](mailto:alix@reflectivelearning.co.za)  
***Closing the greatest gaps: A data-driven approach to develop reading for meaning***

Alix is an education enthusiast with a diverse background in both teaching and business strategy. Her journey started in high school classrooms, where she imparted knowledge in Maths and English, fostering a passion for learning. After completing her MBA, she transitioned into the corporate world as a consultant, working with various companies. As she explored the dynamic field of EdTech, she thrived in team environments and eventually led a Product Team focusing on sound pedagogy and usability. Currently, as the Chief Strategy Officer at Reflective Learning, she is committed to revolutionising education through data-driven solutions and continuous improvement. With an unwavering dedication to lifelong learning, she is passionate about shaping the future of education and its transformative impact on individuals and societies.



**NONKULULEKO GUMEDE** [gumeden@mcollege.co.za](mailto:gumeden@mcollege.co.za)  
***Mind your language***

Nonkululeko Gumedede studied English Studies at the University of Kwa-Zulu Natal and was a lecturer on the Academic Literacy programme at her alma mater. While working at UKZN she continued with her postgraduate studies with a special focus on literary criticism. She is currently an English teacher at Maritzburg College.



**TREVOR HALL** [trevor@trevorhallsa.co.za](mailto:trevor@trevorhallsa.co.za)  
***Cognitive levels and degrees of challenge in setting high quality and innovative assessment tasks with the ultimate aim of developing active participants in the classroom.***

A former principal, Trevor Hall, currently serves the DBE in various capacities: as Internal Moderator of Accounting Grade 12 NSC Examinations, as Editor of the annual Diagnostic Reports, as a trainer of national and provincial examiners, and as a consultant on various projects such as e-marking and item-banking. He performed freelance work for Umalusi over 10 years. When time allows, Trevor continues his roles as author and public speaker, as well as strategic consultant to management in high schools and tertiary organisations.

**ANTOINETTE HARDING** [hardinga@mcollege.co.za](mailto:hardinga@mcollege.co.za)

***Brain vs. Bot***



Toni Harding is an English teacher with many years of experience at a variety of educational institutions including independent, state, girls, boys, and co-ed senior schools. She completed her Masters at UKZN where she lectured on the B.Ed Honours programme. Her interest is in the factors that either impede or support learning and understanding, and she is intrigued by the cognitive processes of young minds. She is presently an English teacher at Maritzburg College.

**AMYLYN KYLE** [akyle@danville.co.za](mailto:akyle@danville.co.za)

***A practical approach to grammar.***



An alumna of Stellenbosch University, Amylyn Kyle, is an experienced English teacher, matric marker and pastoral head for Grade 8. Her goal in teaching is to instil a love of English, in particular grasping of foundational grammar in junior students.

**CHRIS LUMAN** [lumanc@mcollege.co.za](mailto:lumanc@mcollege.co.za)

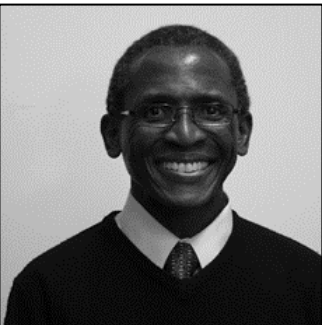
***The Role of Parents in Educating Teenagers***



Chris Luman is Headmaster of Maritzburg College with 36 years of educational experience, 16 years of which was spent educating boys in New Zealand. A former subject head of both English and Drama, Chris holds a Master's degree in Education, focussing on managing behaviour of Grade 9 boys in schools. He has recently completed an unpublished doctoral thesis on character-based mentoring of Grade 8 boys. A lifelong learner, Chris is passionate about boys' education and mentoring them to be good, real men of substance and integrity. Chris strongly believes that the topic '*Building Bridges – linking learner engagement and literacy*' has become more pertinent due to the significant impact of Covid-19 and lockdown, in particular, on teenagers' access to technology, lack of exposure to resources and books, with literacy and numeracy being particularly hard hit. Furthermore, the dire economic, social and mental health deterioration has taken its toll on many parents. Now more than ever parents need to come together and build bridges in support of their son's educational progress.

**MBONGENI MALABA** [mbongenimalaba@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:mbongenimalaba@yahoo.co.uk)

***Iago and the Problem of Evil in William Shakespeare's 'Othello'***



Mbongeni Malaba was until recently a Professor of English at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, and Head of the Department of English. Prior to that he served as Head of English Studies at the University of Namibia. Before moving to UNAM, Mbongeni lectured for eighteen years at the University of Zimbabwe. He also served as the Administrator of the Commonwealth Writers' Prize from 1995 – 1996. He has published widely on Shakan, South Africa, Zimbabwean and Namibian literature written in English. Mbongeni's current research is on Marguerite Poland's fiction. He is passionate about all aspects related to the teaching of English and encouraging aspiring academics in the field of English studies.



**ROB MCDOWALL** [rmcdowall@nwood.co.za](mailto:rmcdowall@nwood.co.za)

***Visual illiteracy***

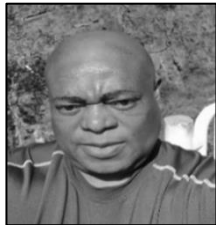
Rob McDowall is a seasoned educator with extensive experience in boys-only schools. His teaching career spans from Glenwood High School to Durban High School, and he is currently teaching at Northwood Boys. Rob has focused on Grade 12 education since 2009, actively participating in the NSC marking process since 2016. Additionally, he is involved in overseeing the NSC final examinations at Northwood.



**MEHREEN MIA** [mehreen@live.co.za](mailto:mehreen@live.co.za)

***The Impact of Literacy Holistically in Education***

Mehreen Mia is Global Goodwill Ambassador for UN GIA USA. She holds dual doctorates in Humanities, Education and Humanitarianism. Through her international and local work in Education and Resource training, Mehreen has earned Multiple Global awards, including her most recent award - the World's Most Influential and Iconic Leader. She is a Global Professor at Wisdom University and an Honorary Professor and World Peace Ambassador at Royal University USA. Mehreen is also founding Facilitator of The M.I.A Program as well as the President of Successworld1 Academy of Education, South Africa. Mehreen's other accolades include an NLP Master and CBT Practitioner which has earned her the title of a Transformational Mental Health Wellness Advocate globally. Mehreen enjoys writing poetry and writes for various magazines. She considers herself as a lifelong learner and is presently teaching at Raisethorpe Secondary School in Pietermaritzburg



**BULARA MONYAKI** [monyaki.B@dbe.gov.za](mailto:monyaki.B@dbe.gov.za)

***My race. Keep your Lane...***

Bulara Monyaki, also fondly known as 'Uncle' or 'Bully', is a lover of nature, travelling, reading, writing and studying. A Curriculum Specialist at the DBE for more than a decade and almost four decades of teaching and developing teaching and learning English; *Uncle* dreams of nothing but to give birth to a cohort of passionate *lovers of the language* much better than the audience gathered here. A graduate of the then Potchefstroom University and the University of Warwick, in which he pursued language issues, *Uncle* hopes to graduate with UNISA soon.



**MFANA MVUBU** [mbmvubu@yahoo.com](mailto:mbmvubu@yahoo.com)

***Exploring complexities of English teaching in a multicultural and diverse classroom***

A graduate of the University of Zululand, Mfanafuthi Brian Mvubu has been an English teacher for thirteen years. He prides himself in having received numerous awards for excellent results and for the development and empowerment of an African child. He has facilitated numerous workshops on educator training and has been skilled in Collaborative Learning & Restorative Justice by attending a programme at the University of Massachusetts. He is an enthusiastic and passionate teacher in the classroom, with innovative and autonomous approaches to teaching and learning, especially in under-resourced schools and communities.







**JACQUELINE NAICKER** [jaxnaidu@gmail.com](mailto:jaxnaidu@gmail.com)

***Navigating your learners through their poetry journey.***

Jacqueline Naicker is a Senior English teacher at Durban Girl's Secondary School. She holds a BA in Media and Communications specialising in linguistics. Jacky also has a postgraduate qualification in Education, IT and Theology. She is currently a senior resource developer for English HL in the Umlazi District and has recently been elected as Deputy Secretary: Marketing and Publicity for NAETSA. She is a motivational blogger and local preacher who believes words are the most powerful weapons we have in the battle against ignorance, hatred and apathy.



	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>MOIRA R NCUBE</b> <a href="mailto:moirancube@gmail.com">moirancube@gmail.com</a></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><i>The Covid Aftermath: Re-imagining the English Language Classroom</i></b></p> <p>Moira is a Senior English FAL educator at Masijabule High School in Swayimana, Umgungundlovu District. She has over 20 years of experience in language, literature and creative writing teaching. Moira holds a Bachelor of Education degree, specialising in English language teaching and a certificate in online English Language Teaching from the DBE and British Council. She is a Provincial Top Teacher and resource developer for English FAL and a teacher development facilitator. Moira has a passion for English language teaching especially to speakers of English, as an additional or second language. She has served as a presenter/tutor on KZN Capital, a Pietermaritzburg Radio Station and has received recognition for outstanding results from the KZN Department of Education – Umgungundlovu and UMshwathi Municipalities. She enjoys writing and is an active member of her Church.</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>LAVERNIA PILLAY</b> <a href="mailto:lavernpillay@gmail.com">lavernpillay@gmail.com</a></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><i>Unremitting educational threads fill in the gaps</i></b></p> <p>Lavern Pillay is currently an Educator at ML Sultan Secondary in Pietermaritzburg and has been at the school since 2019. Lavern has attended and presented at workshops, related to the English Language Curriculum for the GET Phase. She is passionate about English and loves discovering new ways to teach the subject.</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>DAVID ROBINSON</b> <a href="mailto:davidr@uj.ac.za">davidr@uj.ac.za</a></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><i>The Gothic Genre in Oscar Wilde's 'The Picture of Dorian Gray'</i></b></p> <p>David Robinson has been involved in education since the 1980s. He has been an English teacher, an HOD, a Deputy Principal and a Principal (in High/Secondary School level). He is currently a Professor at University of Johannesburg, where he has worked from 2005, and his role is to prepare teachers for teaching English at high schools. His highest qualification is a PhD from Wits University. David has co-authored school textbooks (on grammar) for Pearson Publishers and has written study guides for MacRat – <i>The Picture of Dorian Gray, The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde, and The Handmaid's Tale.</i></p>
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SIKHUMBUZO SIBANDA</b> <a href="mailto:naetsapres@gmail.com">naetsapres@gmail.com</a></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><i>Storytelling as a pedagogical tool for English Language Teachers</i></b></p> <p>Sikhumbuzo Sibanda is the founding President of NAETSA and has recently been appointed to serve for another term of office. He is a teacher-developer by profession, has taught English at primary and high school level and is currently lecturing at University. He is qualified in Language Teaching for the planet (UK) and Education for Eternity (SA). Sikhumbuzo is also certified in Developing Teacher Associations and Restorative Justice. His passion is to enrich personal and professional lives by using language (stories) as an emancipatory tool.</p>