

The following matter forms part of the Environmental Scan for June 2019:

Council on Higher Education

- 1) Revised Strategic Plan for the fiscal years 2015 - 2020

<https://www.che.ac.za/sites/default/files/publications/REVISED%20STRATEGIC%20PLAN%20for%20the%20Fiscal%20Years%202015%20-%202020.pdf>

"This Strategic Plan will outline the envisaged performance of institutional audits in order to fulfil the mandate of the CHE to conduct audits". "...reflects the strategic outcome oriented goals and objectives which the Council on Higher Education will endeavour to achieve over the period 2015-2020".

- 2) Free Cloud computing Course

<https://www.che.ac.za/announcements/free-cloud-computing-course>

Introduction to migrating on premise SQL Server and Oracle databases to AWS Aurora Postgres

"AWS is hosting a training course for database administrators and engineers looking to learn how to get started with migrating SQL Server or Oracle databases to AWS Aurora Postgres".

Cape Town - July 4th, 5th, and 8th

- 3) Research Colloquium under the Theme: Enhancing Student Engagement for Good Decision-Making on the 31 July 2019 in Gauteng.

<https://www.che.ac.za/announcements/che-research-colloquium-enhancing-student-engagement-good-decision-making>

"The aim of the Research Colloquium is to provide a platform at which professionals and students involved in research and practice of student engagement can take stock of the current research in and good practice models of student engagement. It is also intended to serve as a forum at which the professionals and students involved in research and practice of student engagement can engage one another on matters relating to research ideas, methodologies and findings with a view towards shaping a future research agenda on enhancing student engagement in the country.

The Research Colloquium will further offer an opportunity for student engagement practitioners and researchers to showcase practice and research and take part in a lively discussion about the impact of student engagement on decision-making and governance in higher education institutions".

- 4) Commonwealth Education Report

<https://www.che.ac.za/announcements/commonwealth-education-report-2019>

"..this is an invaluable resource looking at the Commonwealth's most pressing education challenges and opportunities, with perspective from over 50 global experts on education and lifelong learning. It also gives us great pleasure that Professor Narend Bajinath, CEO, Council on Higher Education is one of the experts who contributed to this report. On Special Feature on Africa, Professor Bajinath discusses three key approaches to external quality assurance of higher education institutions in Africa, and their relative merits for use in different countries".

DHET

- 1) MINISTERIAL TASK TEAM ON THE FOURTH INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION IN POST-SCHOOL EDUCATION AND TRAINING

https://www.gov.za/sites/default/files/gcis_document/201906/42518gon893.pdf

The Department has established a “..Ministerial Task Team on the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR) in Post- School Education and Training to advise on how the PSET system should take up opportunities presented by the 4IR and prepare a report on how the Department should respond to the challenges and opportunities posed by the 4IR. The objectives of the Ministerial Task Team are to: identify current 4IR initiatives in institutions in the PSET system (significant programmes directed at taking advantage of the 4IR) as well as external initiatives impacting on the PSET system; analyse the impact of 4IR on the PSET system; and identify priority areas and interventions that should be undertaken by the Minister of Higher Education and Training in order to advance digital skills and absorption by industry”.

- 2) INVITATION FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AMENDMENTS TO THE REGULATIONS RELATING TO ASSISTANCE TO VICTIMS IN RESPECT OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND TRAINING: THE PROMOTION OF NATIONAL UNITY AND RECONCILIATION ACT, 1995:

https://www.gov.za/sites/default/files/gcis_document/201906/42504gen310.pdf

“The Department of Justice and Constitutional Development (the Department) invites interested parties to submit written comments on the proposed amendments to the Regulations relating to Assistance to Victims in respect of Higher Education and Training (the Regulations)”.

- 3) POLICY FRAMEWORK FOR ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT OF STUDENT ADMISSIONS IN TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING COLLEGES

https://www.gov.za/sites/default/files/gcis_document/201905/42496gov813r.pdf

- 4) Draft Data Dictionary of Post-School Education and Training

<http://www.dhet.gov.za/SiteAssets/DRAFT%20DATA%20DICTIONARY%20OF%20PSET.pdf>

- 5) Critical Skills List in South Africa 2019

<https://briefly.co.za/31018-critical-skills-list-south-africa-2019.html>

SAQA

- 1) National Policy and Criteria for the Implementation of Recognition of Prior Learning (Amended in March 2019)

[http://www.saqa.org.za/docs/pol/2019/National%20Policy%20and%20Criteria%20for%20the%20Implementation%20of%20RPL%20\(Amended%20in%20March%202019\).pdf](http://www.saqa.org.za/docs/pol/2019/National%20Policy%20and%20Criteria%20for%20the%20Implementation%20of%20RPL%20(Amended%20in%20March%202019).pdf)

BIZ Community

- 1) Stellenbosch University adds data engineering degree to BEng stream

<https://www.bizcommunity.com/Article/196/499/192044.html>

“This degree is a new specialisation stream in the existing undergraduate degree in Electrical and Electronic Engineering, the BEng (E&E). The purpose of this new specialisation in Data Engineering is to prepare our students for the fourth industrial revolution where the world of work has fundamentally changed and there is a deluge of data that needs to be structured, modelled and analysed. The purpose is to enable data-led organisations to discover the underlying knowledge and make well-informed decisions”.

- 2) (Re) conceptualising education to bridge the digital divide for innovation and employability

<https://www.bizcommunity.com/Article/196/499/192041.html>

“...the main tasks of educational institutions will be the development of new curricula that better match the demands of digital era job market”.

A new Pan-African platform of higher education institutions, Honoris United Universities, is acutely aware of these new demands on higher education and has thus adopted a philosophy of ‘education for impact’ at the core of its curriculum development and student experience strategies. Regent Business School a member of this platform has established two Innovation hubs at its campuses: the iLead Lab and the Honoris Collective Lab.

“These creative spaces offer the latest exponential technologies and learning experiences which students and community members can use to help carry out their ideas and create innovative enterprises. With courses such as robotics, coding, 3D design and printing students can produce anything from drones to robots using open-source technologies and rapid prototyping tools like 3-D printers and other manufacturing techniques”.

“The iLead Lab was established to provide for our students, alumni communities and business partners and its main purpose is to bridge the gap between learning

and work through Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) immersion, Work-integrated learning and internship programmes, thus reducing the education-job mismatch and increasing employability”.