

Call for abstracts



Unity University in collaboration with the Organisation for Social Science Research in Eastern and Southern Africa (OSSREA) and the UNESCO's International Institute for Capacity Building in Africa (IICBA) are organising an International Conference on the theme: *Teachers and Quality of Education in Africa*

Since 2000, the goal of *Education for All* by 2015 has galvanized many countries in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) into confronting their historically low rates of enrolment. Many of the countries have been remarkably successful in attracting many more children into schools (UNESCO 2008). However, filling the classrooms is not enough. Learner outcomes are critical pointers to quality of education. Despite the welcome efforts to expand access to education at both basic and higher education, learner outcomes and quality of education remain low. There has been a lot of research on quality of education; but most of it has focused on the curriculum and student performance. The teacher who interprets the curriculum and delivers it to learners has been given little attention. Due to this and other related factors, the teaching profession is fragmenting and learning outcomes have deteriorated in most parts of Africa (Action Aid, 2010). Available research examining teacher quality confirms the logical conclusion that poor quality of students' learning correlates strongly with poor quality of teachers' teaching and their training. Effective student learning and achievement is hampered by weaknesses in teachers' pedagogical content knowledge and classroom practice, both of which are developed through effective initial teacher education and continuous professional development programmes for teachers. That they are at the centre stage of quality of education merits critical insights into the training, working and living conditions of teachers, which is a priority issue the AU Summit of Heads of State and Government called for in 2014. The need for utmost attention to 'teachers and quality of education' has also been reflected in the AU Agenda 2063 and the CESA (Continental Education Strategy for Africa) 16–25.

Cognizant of the above, Unity University in collaboration with the Organisation for Social Science Research in Eastern and Southern Africa (OSSREA) and the UNESCO's International Institute for Capacity Building in Africa (IICBA) are organising an International Conference on the theme: *Teachers' and Quality of Education in Africa*, to be held **4–5 Dec. 2017** in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

This 1st Collaborative International Conference on Teachers and Quality of Education aims at bringing together leading academic scientists, researchers and research scholars to exchange and share their experiences and research results on all aspects of Teachers and 'quality of higher education.

Call for Abstracts/Papers

We wish to invite educators, researchers, education planners, curricula designers, and education managers to join us in addressing critical issues regarding teachers and teacher education so that their contribution to improving the quality of education can be enhanced. We seek to provide a platform for an international and cross-cultural dialogue with interested presenters and participants/speakers and participants from different parts of Africa so that a broad view on the improvement of teachers and quality of teacher education can be established.

Authors are thus kindly encouraged to contribute to and help shape the conference through submissions of their research abstracts, papers and e-posters. Also, high quality research contributions describing original and unpublished results of conceptual, constructive, empirical, experimental, or theoretical work in all areas of Teacher Education are cordially invited for presentation at the conference. The papers shall focus on the themes outlined below:

Sub-themes

- Teachers as leaders of learning
- Teachers' professional development
- Learning and teaching practices/Pedagogy
- Teacher education/ Preparation and teacher quality
- School culture, structure and quality of educational outcomes
- Graduate Research Programmes on Teacher Education
- Teaching, ICT and quality of education
- Policies in teacher quality and education
- Teacher certification and quality assurance
- Regulatory agencies and teacher quality and education
- Teaching in emergency environments

Instructions for Authors

1. Length of an abstract should not exceed 300 words;
2. The abstract should emanate from a work that is based on recent (not more than 2 years old) first-hand data;
3. All abstracts will be evaluated by a technical team of senior academics in the field;
4. Authors of abstracts that will be recommended by those reviewers will be invited to write the full paper, based on some general guidelines that will be provided by the organizers;
5. Also, the full papers will have to pass the technical review and only papers recommended on merit will be accepted to be presented in the conference;
6. Authors of the accepted papers will be required to present their work in and attend the conference;
7. Those authors will be required to improve their papers (based on feedback they receive from the Conference participants) for publication either as chapters in a book or proceedings;
8. **Incentive for presenters:** Papers presented in the Conference will be published either as peer reviewed chapters in a book or as journal articles.
9. Presenters and participants who pay for themselves (for tickets, visas, accommodation, and a registration fee of \$50.00), are very welcome to register.

Important deadlines

- Deadline for abstract submission: **20th September, 2017**
- Notification of status: **September 25th, 2017**
- Deadline for full paper submission: **October 25, 2017**
- Notification of status of the full papers: **November 05, 2017**
- Submission of accepted and revised papers: **Nov. 20, 2017**
- Presentation in the Conference: **Dec. 4–5, 2017**

How to Apply

Submissions and queries shall be made electronically to the below addresses:

conference@ossrea.net; with 'cc' to info@ossrea.net; pubunit@ossrea.net; truphena@ossrea.net; tesfayet1959@gmail.com

