



11 October 2021

## INSETA-DUT LAUNCH OF RESEARCH CHAIR IN DIGITALISATION PROJECT (2019-2024)

### **ADVERT AND FINAL PROGRAMME**

The INSETA Research Chair invites registrations for the virtual component of the launch which will take place via Microsoft Teams.

Date: **25 October 2021** Time: **14:00 - 17:00 pm**

Venue: **Coastlands Musgrave Hotel, Durban**

Virtual Platform: **Microsoft Teams**

**To register for the event, please click here:** [Register INSETA-DUT Launch 25 October 2021](#)

**!!!NB:** The closing date for registration is **21 October 2021**. All those interested in attending virtually must pre-register for the event.

### **Background to the Project:**

INSETA and DUT entered into a partnership to host a Research Chair in Digitalisation and establish a Centre of Excellence in 2019. This 5 year partnership aims to:

- Conduct Research in the ambit of 4IR, Digitalization and Insurance
- Build Research Capacity through the funding of Postgraduate students
- Establish a Centre of Excellence

### **Keynote Address by Prof Colin Thakur (Research Chair)**



Prof Surendra Thakur (Colin) currently serves as the INSETA Research Chair in Digitalisation and the Director of the DUT Short Course Unit. He has served the Ministerial Task Team for 4IR and PSET (2019-2020) and was previously the BankSeta Chair in Digitalisation.

Prof Thakur is a Computer Scientist who has been a member of many ICT bodies of substance in the country such as the Computer Society of South Africa, Black IT Forum and the Inaugural Complaints and Complaints Committee of ICASA.



**Keynote Address by Dr. Ridhwaan Suliman**

**(CSIR Senior Researcher)**

Ridhwaan is a senior researcher in the Information and Cyber Security Centre within the Defence and Security cluster of the CSIR. He holds a PhD in Applied Mathematics from the University of Cambridge. He also has a background in engineering, as well as experience working in the Aeronautics and Defence Industry.

His research involves the modelling and design of physical systems within the computational mechanics domain, using computational tools and physics to better understand and design these systems.

More recently, he has been involved with the analysis of Covid-19 data and trends in South Africa, using this analysis and data to drive and inform decision-making and policy. He has served on the Ministerial Advisory Committee (MAC) Technical Working Group, the National Policy Data Observatory, as well as the National Advisory Council on Innovation (NACI).

<b>INSETA- DUT Research Chair in Digitalisation Launch: Partnership 2019-2024: Programme</b>	
<b>Master of Ceremonies: Mr. Zwakele Ngubane</b> <i>[Director: Advancement and Alumni Relations, DUT]</i>	
14:00-14:30pm	<b>Registration</b>
14:30-14:40pm	<b>Welcome and Address by Prof Sibusiso Moyo</b> <i>[DUT Deputy Vice Chancellor: Research Innovation and Engagement]</i>
14:40-14:50pm	<b>Address by Ms Gugu Mkhize</b> <i>[INSETA Chief Executive Officer (CEO)]</i>
14:50-15:00pm	<b>Address by Mrs Adeline Singh</b> <i>[INSETA Head of Research and Skills Planning Manager]</i>
15:00-15:15pm	<b>Keynote Address 1: Prof Colin Thakur</b> <i>[INSETA Research Chair in Digitalisation]</i>
15:15-15:30pm	<b>Keynote Address 2: Dr Ridhwaan Suliman</b> <i>[Researcher: CSIR: Expert level talk on COVID-19]</i>
15:40-16:05pm	<b>Q &amp; A Discussion with Researchers and Keynote Presenters</b>
16:05-16:10pm	<b>Vote of Thanks</b>
16:10-17:00pm	<b>Networking and Dinner</b>