



SARChI
SOUTH AFRICAN
RESEARCH CHAIR IN
ENTREPRENEURSHIP
EDUCATION



DHET–NRF SARChI Chair in Entrepreneurship Education

OVERVIEW

Prof Cecile Nieuwenhuizen, the grant holder and Chair of SARChI: Entrepreneurship Education (EE) looks back on a successful 2021. Prof Nieuwenhuizen set out to share expertise on post-school entrepreneurship education, which includes knowledge creation and all the conditions that influence the eco-systems in entrepreneurship. Knowledge creation on entrepreneurship research as such is grown and maintained by Prof Natanya Meyer, while the research on scholarship of teaching and learning within entrepreneurship education is promoted by Prof Thea Tselepis. Postdoctoral research fellows (PDFRs), visiting professors as well as research associates assisted with various dimensions of knowledge creation in four research focus areas. During 2021, the dynamic SARChI: EE team published 17 research units in international and accredited journals; the Chair was well represented on national and international platforms and promoted the agenda of interdisciplinary entrepreneurial competencies under student-preneurs as well.

TALENT MANAGEMENT AND CAPACITY BUILDING

Five doctoral students were supervised in SARChI: EE while three graduated in 2020/21. One master's student continued and is fully funded by the Chair. Two of the doctoral students completed joint degrees supervised in the Netherlands and in Scotland. Four doctoral students are also pursuing careers in academia and are therefore growing research skills and other academic skills (such as research assistance and lecturing) beyond only a doctoral qualification.

In addition, the Chair also embarked on supervision of honours and postgraduate diploma students in the Department of Business Management with topics related to entrepreneurship (eight students benefited in this regard).

Six research associates were appointed in 2021 and six visiting professors were appointed bringing the total appointed visiting professors to 11 in 2021. Two PDFRs were appointed to the Chair and all research related to the focus areas that were identified.



Prof Cecile Nieuwenhuizen

Chair: South African Research
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Post-school entrepreneurship education is critical for growing developing economies. It creates skills and knowledge for conditions that influence entrepreneurship ecosystems.

Prof Natanya Meyer obtained a Y2-rating in 2021 and Prof Thea Tselepis obtained a C3-rating.

POLICY AND PUBLIC ENGAGEMENTS AND ACTIVITIES

A highlight on national level was a creativity workshop funded by SARCHI: EE for aspiring student-preneurs at a winter school in July. The keynote speaker on this day was Prof Marc Ventreska from Oxford University who reframed entrepreneurs as system builders.

Prof Nieuwenhuizen contributed to two Communities of Practice as part of the Entrepreneurship Development in Higher Education (EDHE): Entrepreneurship Research and the Entrepreneurial University Community of Practice (CoP).

Prof Meyer was appointed as the National Chair for the Community of Practice (CoP) for Entrepreneurship Research as part of the Entrepreneurship Development in Higher Education (EDHE) initiative and represents the Chair in this regard. Her first project was to launch a national call for research on Women Entrepreneurship and a special edition in the *Journal of Contemporary Management* will be published in this regard.

Prof Tselepis joined the CoP of Learning and Teaching of the Entrepreneurship Development in Higher Education (EDHE) initiative and took part in the yearly initiatives to represent the Chair and reported on the yearly Lekgotla on the interdisciplinary possibilities that design thinking offers entrepreneurship education.



Prof Natanya Meyer with members of EDHE at the yearly Lekgotla

RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

Research projects on inclusive entrepreneurship continued with publications on female entrepreneurship, social entrepreneurship and projects running on township entrepreneurship. Research on best practice on innovative teaching and learning on entrepreneurship education for interdisciplinary fields were continued and a textbook project was aligned accordingly. A project on entrepreneurship in the fields of science, technology, engineering and maths is part of this large endeavour under the leadership of Prof Nieuwenhuizen.

Projects that compare the entrepreneurial conditions framework on national and international level. These projects explore and correlate factors that play a role in small and medium businesses and explore and unpack eco-systems of change for the future in terms of entrepreneurship and the role of technology.



Prof Thea Tselepis at the yearly Lekgotla presenting a best practice model on Scholarship of Teaching and Learning in Entrepreneurship

SUSTAINABILITY, INNOVATION AND FOURTH INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION (4IR)

Finally, the six visiting professors were appointed for expertise in 4IR as well as innovation in strategy, which was critical to promote an understanding of innovation in entrepreneurship from an international perspective in comparative studies. One distinguished visiting professor appointed under the GES 4.0; visiting/virtual academics was Prof Sascha Kraus. He was appointed to the UJ Catalytic Initiatives, linked to the Fourth Industrial Revolution to promote Entrepreneurship and Digital Transformation. Furthermore, projects on inclusive entrepreneurship are aligned with UN sustainability goals and involve some exciting research on frugal innovation in South Africa.

NATIONAL AND GLOBAL FOOTPRINT

On a global level, strategic networks and collaborations were established and new ones

were fostered in 2021. These include all the international collaborations with visiting professors and research associates from UK, USA, Germany, Poland, Hungary, and Nigeria. Throughout 2021, several workshops and master classes were presented abroad to share best practice relating to entrepreneurship development.

On national level, the Chair was well presented at the Entrepreneurship Development of Higher Education (EDHE) and other opportunities that were created by UJ that involved national bodies like NYDA and SEDA.

The Chair continues its work on a quest to create knowledge to promote post-school entrepreneurship in South Africa, which is informed by international practices, yet anchored in Africa!

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