



# National Annual Technology Event (NATE) Programme

1 – 4 July 2024

University of Johannesburg – Auckland Park Kingsway Campus  
Corner Kingsway and University Road, Auckland Park



Skills Development Training Monday 1 July 2024		
Time	Topic	Venue
08:30	Arrival tea and coffee	
9:00 – 11:00	<i>Threat Hunting and Threat Landscape – Khipu Networks</i>	D LES 301
9:00 – 10:00	<i>BUI Overview and Defending against Cybersecurity Threats with Microsoft Security – BUI</i>	D LES 304
11:00 – 11:30	Refreshment break	
11:30 – 12:30	<i>Mastering the Use of Copilot – SIS Global</i>	D LES 305
11:30 – 12:30	<i>Adobe Acrobat Sign for Admins – Learning Curve</i>	D LES 306
11:30 – 12:30	<i>Copilot for Security – BUI</i>	D LES 301
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch	
13:30 – 14:30	<i>Choosing the right ERP Solution for your University – SIS Global</i>	D LES 304
End of Day		

**Tuesday, 2 July 2024**

***Pre-NATE meetings***

Time	Topic	Venue
9:00 - 12:00	LMS SIG Meeting	D LES 305
9:00 – 10:30	PPPM SIG Meeting	D LES 306
10:30 – 12:00	<b>The SOC Diaries series part one: Tales of the Unexpected –</b> Hosted by KHIPU Account Director Nicole Kotton & Delivered by KHIPU Senior SOC Analyst Robbie Petrie	D LES 306

**National Annual Technology Event  
Plenary Room (Venue: Sanlam Auditorium) [STREAM URL](#)**

08:30	NATE registration opens
12:00 – 13:00	Light lunch
Time	Topic
13:00	<b>Opening &amp; Welcome</b> Boeta Pretorius – HEITSA Managing Director & Chief IT Director at North-West University
13:05	<b>Keynote: How AI makes Teaching and Learning simpler</b> Graham Trick - Education Sales Specialist - Adobe
13:50	<b>Is South African Higher Education a Sitting Duck for Cyber Attacks?</b> Pardon Gambakwe – Manager: Information Security – University of the Western Cape
14:30	<b>Platinum Sponsor – Acer for Education: Shifting from Search to Ask!</b> Glenn du Toit – Country Manager - Acer
14:50	Refreshment break
15:20	<b>Gold Sponsor – Accelerating Higher Education Institutions’ digital transformation with edge-to-cloud and data-first modernisation</b> Dave Thomas - Enterprise Business Unit Manager - Datacentrix
15:35	<b>Annual Leadership Institute</b> Dr Creswell Du Preez – ALI faculty member
15:45	Photo opportunity
16:30	Closing remarks
18:00	Dinner @ Johannesburg Country Club - 1 Napier Road, Auckland Park Google maps link: <a href="https://maps.app.goo.gl/GXb7vq1yF5RnaeRE7">https://maps.app.goo.gl/GXb7vq1yF5RnaeRE7</a>

## Wednesday, 3 July 2024

<b>08:30</b>	NATE registration opens		
<b>National Annual Technology Event</b> <b>Plenary Room (Venue: Sanlam Auditorium) - <a href="#">STREAM URL</a></b>			
<b>Time</b>	<b>Topic</b>		
<b>09:00</b>	<b>Welcome</b>		
<b>09:05</b>	<b>AI Integration in Higher Education</b> Francois Wolmerans – Senior Manager: Technology Architecture and Planning – University of Johannesburg		
<b>09:45</b>	<b>Azure VMware Solution</b> Dushan Padayachee - Senior Azure Specialist - Microsoft		
<b>10:05</b>	<b>SANReN CSIRT Services to the Higher Education Community</b> Dr Heloise Meyer - Senior CSIRT member - SANReN		
<b>10:25</b>	<b>Gold Sponsor – Introduction to KHIPU: Your Trusted Cyber Security and Network Infrastructure Partner</b> Nicole Kotton – Account Director – Khipu Networks		
<b>10:30</b>	<b>Refreshment break</b>		
<b>11:00</b>	<b>Gold Sponsor – NTT Data</b>		
<b>11:15</b>	<b>10-minute movement break</b>		
<b>NOTE: Streams will not be broadcast</b>			
<b>Stream 1</b> Venue: D-LES 202		<b>Stream 2</b> Venue: D-LES 203	<b>Stream 3</b> Venue: D-LES 204
<b>Topic - Various</b>		<b>Topic - Various</b>	<b>Topic - Microsoft</b>
<b>11:25</b>	<b>Graduate Research Management System (GRM)</b> Katlego Khoetha - University of the Witwatersrand	<b>Ruijie – 30 mins</b>	<b>M365 Copilot –</b> Brendon Naidoo – Senior Modern Work Specialist – Microsoft

11:55	<b>Graduate Research Management System (GRM) continued</b> Katlego Khoetha - University of the Witwatersrand	<b>The evolution of end-user training: navigating learning environments post 2020 –</b> Charmaine van der Merwe, Thaabet Leisfield & Chris Mtshengu – University of Cape Town	<b>Security Copilot –</b> Dushan Padayachee – Senior Azure Specialist – Microsoft
12:25	<b>Lunch</b>		
<b>Stream 1</b> Venue: D-LES 202		<b>Stream 2</b> Venue: D-LES 203	<b>Stream 3</b> Venue: D-LES 204
<b>Topic - Various</b>		<b>Topic - Various</b>	<b>Topic - Various</b>
13:25	<b>Silver Sponsor: Unlock Efficiency with MACRIUM SiteDeploy: Revolutionising Desktop Imaging –</b> Jan Visser – Solution Expert – ITTree Solutions	<b>Silver Sponsor: Online assessments for the university environment –</b> Pieter Nel – Consulting Executive - Netcampus	<b>Skills for Innovation –</b> Nathan Reddy – Industry Technical Specialist - Intel
13:40	<b>10 - minute movement</b>		
13:50	<b>DNS Layer Protection at CPUT –</b> Jenty Mepa - Senior Security Engineer Computer & Telecommunication Services (CTS) – Cape Peninsula University of Technology	<b>AV Intelligence –</b> Thapelo Marema & Jacques Jacoby - University of Pretoria	<b>Google for Higher Education –</b> Alister Payne - CEO & Founder - CloudEdu
14:10	<b>10 -minute movement break</b>		
14:20	<b>Understanding the significance of Cybersecurity in academic institutions –</b> Houston Mathews & Chemonn Ekstein – Senior IT Technicians - Stellenbosch University	<b>Passing the torch: Building A culture of knowledge sharing –</b> Mphonyana Wessels – Head: Learning Technology Systems Support – Stellenbosch University	<b>AI and the everyday user: The impact of the inclement AI wave on devices –</b> Glen du Toit – Country Manager - Acer

<b>14:50</b>	<b>Refreshment break and networking</b>		
<b>15:20</b>	<b>Transform Your Computer Lab Management with VERALAB: The Ultimate Suite for Efficient Computer LAB Control</b> – Jan Visser – Solutions Expert - ITTree Solutions	<b>Silver Sponsor: IoT's Role in Securing Smart Campuses</b> - Dévique Barkley is an Engineering Consultant – Take Note IT	<b>Silver Sponsor: Smarter Technology for all</b> – Julian Pienaar – Pre-Sales & Solutions Architect - Lenovo
<b>15:40</b>	<b>10 – minute movement break</b>		
<b>15:50</b>	<b>Streamline IT Asset Management and Software Deployment with Faronics Cloud</b> - Jan Visser – Solutions Expert - ITTree Solutions	<b>Cape Peninsula University of Technology Network Infrastructure</b> – Busisiwe Mtshali – Network Engineer – Cape Peninsula University of Technology	<b>The Human Firewall</b> – Thapelo Makile – Business Analyst – North-West University
<b>16:10</b>	<b>10 – minute movement break</b>		
<b>16:20</b>	<b>Future-Ready IT Professionals, embracing new technologies and cultivating adaptability</b> - Andiswa Msi – Director: IT Academic & Office Solutions – North-West University	<b>Multi-factor authentication (MFA)</b> – Jodi Layman – Computer Technician – Stellenbosch University	<b>Google 24/7 Threat Intelligence Powered by KHIPU SOC</b> – Nicole Kotton – Account Director – Khipu Networks
<b>16:40</b>	<b>Day end</b>		

**Thursday 4 July 2024**

**National Annual Technology Event  
Plenary Room (Venue: Sanlam Auditorium) – [STREAM URL](#)**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Topic</b>
<b>8:30</b>	<b>NATE registration opens</b>
<b>9:00</b>	<b>Welcome</b>
<b>9:05</b>	<b>Gold Sponsor – Adapt IT</b>
<b>9:20</b>	<b>How to sell the value of Enterprise Architecture in 30 seconds</b> Chantel Coetzee – Chief Architect: Information Technology – Stellenbosch University
<b>9:40</b>	<b>Women as the “IT” factor in academia</b> – Dr Lianne Keiller – Stellenbosch University
<b>10:00</b>	<b>Enhanced IT Efficiency and cross-functional collaboration: A Case Study of North-West University’s IT Service Delivery</b> Andiswa Msi – Director: IT Academic & Office Solutions – North-West University
<b>10:20</b>	<b>SIG feedback</b>
<b>10:40</b>	<b>Refreshment break</b>
<b>11:20</b>	<b>Award Ceremony</b> Team HEITSA
<b>11:40</b>	<b>Competition Winners</b> Team HEITSA
<b>11:50</b>	<b>Closing remarks</b> Val Theron – General Manager - HEITSA
<b>12:00</b>	<b>Takeaway lunch</b>

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## Abstracts

<p>Khipu - first in a series called <b>The SOC Diaries – Tales of the Unexpected</b> - Nicole Kotton &amp; Robbie Petrie</p>	<p>For KHIPU, providing 24x7x365 advanced cyber protection to their customers means that their SOC Teams encounter a plethora of new and evolving cyber threats each and every day. Luckily, KHIPU’s specialists are always available, monitoring, detecting, investigating, and mitigating these potentially harmful threats before they can have a serious impact upon the security and continuity of the KHIPU SOC Community.</p> <p>To highlight these close calls, KHIPU’s expert SOC Analysts have been recording anonymised case summaries.</p>
<p>Pardon Gambakwe – University of the Western Cape</p>	<p>South African universities are facing a growing cybersecurity crisis. Legacy systems, the rapid adoption of unsecure technologies, and fragmented IT landscapes create vulnerabilities that cybercriminals exploit. This presentation will explore the current cybersecurity threat landscape in South African universities and propose a roadmap for building a more secure future. The proposed approach emphasises a shift from reactive to proactive security measures, highlighting the crucial role of Security Operations Centres (SOCs), shared leadership, innovation, and collaboration among universities and industry partners.</p>
<p>Dave Thomas – Datacentrix</p>	<p>Universities must adapt to keep up with an ever-changing landscape and with rising student and academic expectations. Together with Datacentrix, HPE is helping institutions to provide a single, open platform for a consistent experience across all clouds and edges, as well as supporting institutions in developing new business models, and ways to engage and increase operational performance. HPE enables greater intelligence and insights using analytics and machine learning to help aggregate data across edge-to-cloud infrastructure. This allows universities to unlock value from their data and accelerate outcomes across teaching, learning and research.</p>
<p>Katlego Khoetha – University of the Witwatersrand</p>	<p>The University of Witwatersrand (Wits) rolled out the first phase of the Graduate Research Management (GRM) module in PeopleSoft Campus Solutions for their 2024 Doctorate intake as of June 2023. The aim of GRM is to manage and track the research lifecycle of a student in a manner that is effective and flexible</p>
<p>Charmaine van der Merwe, Thaabet Leisfield &amp; Chris Mtshengu – University of Cape Town</p>	<p>In this presentation, we explore the evolution of end-user training since 2020, highlighting the shift from in-person to online learning environments and the current dual-mode offerings</p>
<p>Jan Visser – ITTree Solutions</p>	<p>Discover how MACRIUM SiteDeploy can transform your IT operations in a digitally evolving world. This powerful imaging and deployment software is designed for the modern hybrid work environment, making remote deployment across laptops, PCs, and servers seamless and efficient. Join us to learn how SiteDeploy bridges the gap between complexity and efficiency, ensuring your organisation meets today’s dynamic IT challenges with ease.</p>
<p>Houston Mathews – Stellenbosch University</p>	<p>Topics covered in the presentation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cyberattack Techniques</li> <li>- Advanced Persistent Threats and Wi-Fi Vulnerabilities</li> <li>- Ransomware, Vulnerabilities and Exploits</li> <li>- Importance of having a well-defined Cyber Incident Response Plan in Educational Setting</li> <li>- Endpoint Security, Exploring the benefits of Additional Security Layers</li> <li>- Implementing Training and Awareness Initiatives</li> </ul>
<p>Mphonyana Wessels – Stellenbosch University</p>	<p>In the ever-evolving field of information and communications technology (ICT), effective knowledge transfer and sharing are crucial. Implementing a structured approach to sharing and retaining valuable knowledge, skills, and expertise has become essential for higher education institutions that seek to maintain their competitiveness and innovation. This presentation explores the importance of knowledge transfer among ICT professionals in our institutions and identifies common challenges. We will discuss strategies for promoting a culture of knowledge sharing, aiming to improve knowledge transfer processes by developing successful initiatives, leveraging existing technology tools, and implementing thorough documentation practices. Through open dialogue, we will delve into the tools and methods necessary to enhance knowledge transfer and foster continuous improvement within our institutions.</p>
<p>Jan Visser – ITTree Solutions</p>	<p>Discover VERALAB, the leading computer lab management system designed for universities and colleges. Streamline operations with automated user sign-</p>



	in, access control, surveillance, maintenance, and employee tracking. Gain actionable insights through comprehensive reporting and software metering. Elevate your lab management with real-time usage displays and robust security, ensuring a productive and compliant environment. Join us to learn how VERALAB transforms computer lab management, enhancing efficiency and control.
Jan Visser – ITTree Solutions	Discover how Faronics Cloud revolutionises IT asset management by providing comprehensive insights into hardware and software usage, ensuring compliance, and optimising resource utilisation. Learn how automated software deployment simplifies distribution, installation, and updates, enhancing efficiency and maximising the ROI of your technology investments. Join us in exploring the benefits of automated IT management. This session is specifically geared towards customers using Deep Freeze on-premise.
Busisiwe Mtshali – Cape Peninsula University of Technology	Overview of Cape Peninsula University of Technology (CPUT) Importance of robust network infrastructure in supporting educational activities focus on connectivity across multiple campuses and residences
Thapelo Makile – North-West University	Strengthening Cybersecurity with Human Firewall Integration
Andiswa Msi - North-West University	It is evident that our IT professionals, especially those with technical skills, are facing increasing challenges. The fast-paced technological advancements and changes in service delivery due to rapid digitalization make it overwhelming to acquire new skill sets and even learn these technologies that must be implemented. Also, the demands placed on our IT teams by managers and the broader university community add further pressure.
Lianne Kieller – Stellenbosch University	As a sector, IT has become increasingly embedded within Higher Education and its' core functions of learning, teaching and research. This presentation explores the lived experience of three women who fulfil the role of IT professionals in a South African University. Presenting their experiences grounded in the assumption that a University is representative of a societal structure within the broader local society. Within this society, the context of gender segregation and inequality is evident. Through a Narrative Inquiry the depth and breadth of the experiences of these women are shared. The presentation will demonstrate how the participants' efforts and approaches to serving the University could create opportunity for change and growth within the sector.
Andiswa Msi – North-West University	North-West University's IT department has adopted a comprehensive project management approach aimed at addressing challenges in service delivery, project execution, and team collaboration. The project management approach introduced systematic procedures for efficiently approving and implementing new requests, ensuring planned projects, resource allocation, and adherence to timelines.  A significant outcome is enhanced <b>cross-functional collaboration</b> through <b>regular inter-departmental meetings, collaborative platforms, and clear communication channels</b> , encouraging a <b>cohesive working environment</b> . This approach led to significant improvements in project execution, team collaboration, and service delivery, setting a strong foundation for future growth and success
Jodi Layman – Stellenbosch University	How Multi-factor authentication (MFA) is implemented primarily to enhance security by adding an additional layer of verification beyond just a username and password. This approach addresses several key security concerns. MFA is implemented to significantly enhance the security posture of systems and applications by requiring users to authenticate using multiple factors, thereby reducing the risk of unauthorized access and protecting sensitive information