

Anti Racism Conversation Series

Women in STEM and Race as a Social Determinant of Health

Wednesday | 17 May, 2023

- 09:00am Opening by Undere Deglon - Office for Inclusivity and Change
- 09:05am Welcome and Introductory Remarks by Professor Elelwani Ramugondo
- 09:20am “They are just women, what do they know?” presented by Doctor Zamambo Mkhize
- 10:00am Questions and Answers
- 10:15am Race as a social determinant of health presented by Professor Salome Maswime
- 10:55am Questions and Answers
- 11:15am Generative Discussion facilitated by Undere Deglon
- 11:25am Closing Remarks by Professor Elelwani Ramugondo
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“Decolonizing is best understood as a verb that entails a political and normative ethic and practice of resistance and intentional undoing – unlearning and dismantling unjust practices, assumptions, and institutions – as well as persistent positive action to create and build alternative spaces and ways of knowing” (Ramugondo et.al, 2020, p.1).

Selected Publications

Maswime, S., Reddy, C.L. (2022). Global Surgery and Healthy Cities: Adopting a Global Surgery Perspective to Harmonize SDGs and Enhance Urban Health in Africa. In: Croese, S., Parnell, S. (eds) Localizing the SDGs in African Cities. Sustainable Development Goals Series. Springer, Cham.

Paterson, A., Maswime, S., Hardy, A., Pearse, R. M., & Biccand, B. M. (2022). Postoperative outcomes associated with surgical care for women in Africa: an international risk-adjusted analysis of prospective observational cohorts.

Mkhize, Z., 2022, “They are just women, what do they know?”: The lived experiences of African women doctoral students in the mathematics discipline in South African universities’, Transformation in Higher Education 7(0), a218.

Mkhize, Z., 2022, “Is it transformation or reform? The lived experiences of African women doctoral students in STEM disciplines in South African universities. High Educ (2022).

Biographies of Presenters

Dr Zamambo Mkhize

Dr Zamambo Mkhize is a lecturer in Gender Studies at the African Gender Institute at the University of Cape Town. She did her undergraduate degree at Florida A&M University on a full tennis scholarship before undertaking her Honours in Criminology and Master's in Gender Studies from the University of KwaZulu-Natal. Zamambo did part of her PhD in Pennsylvania as a Fulbright scholar, and she did her postdoctoral fellowship at the Centre for Critical Research on Race and Identity at UKZN. Zamambo's research focuses on modern polygyny, law, family, Zulu culture, African feminism. She just published her first book titled, *Polygyny and Gender* released in September 2021, by the University of KwaZulu-Natal Press. Zamambo other research focus is also on African women in high-stakes degrees such as science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) and has written numerous articles around this topic, which will be released later this year. Zamambo founded the African STEMinist foundation, which is dedicated to supporting, mentoring and advancing African women in the STEM fields. Zamambo is an activist, academic and avid tennis player.

Prof Salome Maswime

Salome Maswime is a Full Professor and the Head of the Global Surgery Division at the University of Cape Town, and an Obstetrician and Gynaecologist. She is a World Economic Forum Young Scientist, a member of the Academy of Science South Africa, and a Next Einstein Fellow. She is the vice-President of the Women in Global Health South Africa; and President of the South African Clinician Scientists Society, and board member and chair of research of the Health Systems Trust in South Africa, Global Council member of LifeBox, board member of FALF and SHAWCO, and member of the FIGO Committee on Ethical Aspects of Human Reproduction. After specialising she completed her MMED and PHD in Obstetrics and Gynaecology. She did a postdoctoral research fellowship at the Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School. She has a diploma in Project Management and a Certificate in Leading Organisations and Change from MIT and completed the Young Physician Leaders Programme with ESMT Graduate Business School in Berlin. She is a section editor of the Plos Global Public Health Journal. She has received numerous awards for her research contribution to maternal health, including the trailblazer and young achiever award by the President of South Africa in 2017. In 2020 she listed in Mail and Guardians 50 most powerful women in South Africa, in 2021 she was named among 20 Young Shapers of the Future in Health and Medicine by Encyclopedia Britannica, in 2022 won the Tumani Corrah Prize for Research Excellence.