



education

DEPARTMENT: EDUCATION
MPUMALANGA PROVINCE

TO : NEWS EDITORS

FROM : MPUMALANGA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

DATE : 12 MARCH 2013

**SUBJECT : MPUMALANGA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
HOSTS A RESEARCH SEMINAR**

The Mpumalanga Department of Education will convene a research seminar on **19 March 2013, at Pine Lake Inn from 08H00-16H30**. The objectives of this seminar are:

- To launch the research function of the Department
- To give researchers the opportunity to present their findings and recommendations to education stakeholders,
- To thoroughly discuss the implications of the findings and their subsequent recommendations to the department,
- To consolidate the findings and recommendations and factor them into the whole planning process of the department.

The department through its research unit has received research applications from research institutions and individuals. After careful assessment of the applications, the unit recommends their approval to the Head of Department depending on the nature and the scope of the study.

A database has since been created which detailed all research conducted and concluded, research underway, and research application as and when they are received. A majority of such approved studies addressed relevant areas of Curriculum Management, Education Management & Leadership, Public Management and administration.

Most of the research reports of these studies have been completed but have not been presented formally to the department as required by the research policy. A majority of these research reports contain some interesting findings and recommendations which may be useful in the planning processes of the department and more importantly may be used by the relevant sections to improve their own practices.

These studies were conducted by individuals and research organizations from across the country and are at a level of masters and doctoral degrees while some are intended for policy improvement.

The MEC for Education Mrs Reginah Mhaule, will grace the seminar.

The speakers are as follows:

1. Guest speaker: Prof. Mary Metcalfe - **Independent –Consultant – DBSA**

Topic – the importance of research in education and the immediate urgent areas of focus to improve learner performance outcomes.

2. Panel member: Prof. C. Loock - **University of Johannesburg**

Topic – Teacher development both pre service and in-service

3. Panel member: Prof.Hamsa Venkatakrishnan - **Wits University**

Topic - Numeracy and literacy

4. **Panel member : Prof: H Nengwekhulu (UNISA)**

Topic – School leadership and governance

5. Presentation of a paper: Prof. Felix Maringe – **Wits University**

Topic – proposed study for rural facility in Bohlabela district

The following stakeholders are also expected to attend;

- Research organizations especially universities which are doing business with the department.
- Research institutions such as the Human Sciences Research Council, Agricultural Research Council and others.
- Representatives from all provincial sector departments, Management of the department, stakeholders and Representatives from the Department of Basic Education (DBE).

You are all invited

Issued by the Communication Directorate

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