

Meet the Conference Committee

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LITERACY
ASSOCIATION
OF SOUTH AFRICA

Dr. Xolisa Guzula

Chairperson: LITASA Western Cape Branch & 2024 Conference Committee
University of Cape Town / Bua-Lit

What is your experience within LITASA?

I have known LITASA since it was first named RASA. It has offered us a platform to network with literacy academics, NGO colleagues and literacy activists and share research and innovative ideas for promoting literacy in SA. As a chair of LITASA Western Cape Committee, I have had positive experiences with a network of colleagues in the province and those that I am planning the conference with.



What do you enjoy about the LITASA conference

I enjoy hearing about the work South Africans are doing to promote literacy in their respective provinces. There is lots of innovation and problem solving.

Any literacy & literature landmarks conference delegates should visit?

BiblionefSA in Pinelands. They donate books in 11 official languages across the country. They should visit the Book Lounge in Roeland Street, Cape Town. It sells beautiful books for children. It would be hard to say they must visit a reading club, since everybody will be busy attending conference sessions.

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Katharine Eve

Western Cape Branch: Treasurer
2024 Conference Coordinator
Principals Academy Trust

What is your experience within LITASA?

I've been with LITASA since 2017. I've been the Western Cape Branch and National Treasurer. Being a member of LITASA has completely changed my understanding of the literacy work taking place in South Africa. Despite the problems, I've been exposed to the wonderful people who are leading and contributing to the changes needed to improve literacy in South Africa.



What do you enjoy about the LITASA conference

I was part of the team who worked on the logistics for the 2019 conference in Cape Town. I was intrigued by the different thoughts around literacy progress in SA and this led me to return to UCT to complete a post-grad in language and literacy. The energy in the plenary session regarding a multilingual approach to literacy at this conference was electric. Attending LITASA conferences means meeting up with friends made through the LITASA journey as well as meeting new ones. It feels warm and welcoming but also dynamic and compelling.

Any literacy & literature landmarks conference delegates should visit?

- The Book Lounge in Roeland St, Cape Town
- Kalk Bay Books, Kalk Bay.

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Nolubabalo Rani

Western Cape Branch: Committee member

Funding Sub-Committee

Kwa-Faku Vulindlela Reading Club (KVRC)

What is your experience within LITASA?

LITASA has given our reading club to participate and grow in the literacy space. Also in my work I include the literacy skills I have learned from being part of the organisation.

What do you enjoy about the LITASA conference

My memory is of LITASA in Cape Town where the children from KVRC presented in the conference. It put a stamp on what we are doing as volunteers has a huge impact on children in our communities and they should be exposed to more opportunities.

Any literacy & literature landmarks conference delegates should visit?

Kwa-Faku Vulindlela Reading Club in Phillipi East Library
Ikamva Labantwana Bethu in Crossroads Isivivane Centre in Khayelitsha



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Denise Lee-Ruiters

Western Cape Branch: Committee member
Venue and Accommodation sub-committee
Mellon Educate

What is your experience within
LITASA?

The conference provide immense value by fostering professional development, networking and exchange of innovative ideas and practices. This collective learning experiences helps to build a supportive community dedicated to advancing literacy for all and can only enhance the work we do at Mellon Educate.



What do you enjoy about the LITASA conference

Attending the LITASA conference create a collaborative environment where everyone can share their experiences, challenges, and successes, leading to a deeper understanding of literacy instruction and advocacy.

Any literacy & literature landmarks conference delegates should visit?

- The conference Venue , UCT has a rich history in literature and currently runs many literature programs.
- The National library
- the Taal Monument in Paarl.

Meet the Conference Committee



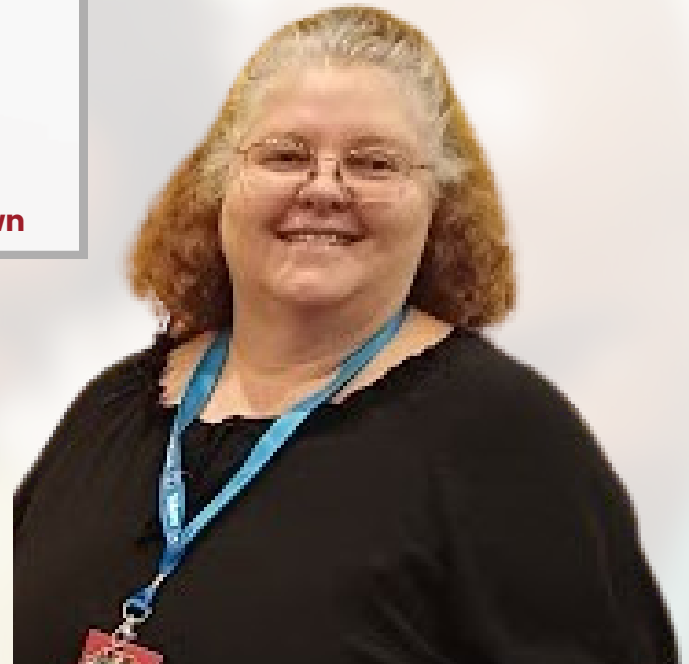
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Christelle Lubbe

Western Cape Branch: Committee member

Funding sub-committee

Library and Information Services, City of Cape Town



What is your experience within LITASA?

I have attended a few conferences but it is my first time as part of the planning committee in Cape Town. As library professionals we are usually excluded or not seen as part of the literacy realm so it is excited that LITASA has included more presentations from librarians and that they are starting to see us as an important part of the bigger picture

What do you enjoy about the LITASA conference

As always, the networking is the best part of the conference

Any literacy & literature landmarks conference delegates should visit?

I would love to offer tours to Central library in Cape Town, the City's Flagship library, as part of the landmarks to visit for conference delegates

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Nonikiwe Mashologu

**Western Cape Branch: Committee member
Programme and Abstracts Sub-committee
Otto Foundation & Children's book writer**

What is your experience within
LITASA?

I have been a LITASA member since 2018 and attended my first LITASA conference in 2019 'Masifunde Ditale - Literacy and learning in a multi-lingual world. I have attend each conference since then and have learned a great deal from many fellow colleagues in the literacy space.



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Pam Hoffman

**Western Cape Branch: Committee member
Programme and Abstracts Sub-committee
Otto Foundation**

What is your experience within
LITASA?

I joined LITASA in 2022 and thoroughly enjoyed the 2022 and 2023 conferences. LITASA has been a wonderful space to meet fellow literacy enthusiasts and to broaden the context within which I work.



What do you enjoy about the LITASA conference

The LITASA conference is always a fantastic learning space. The variety of presentations and organisations represented always has great diversity. I was part of a colloquium for the first time (ever!) at the 2023 conference which was a valuable learning curve for me.

Any literacy & literature landmarks conference delegates
should visit?

- The Book Lounge - a super independent bookstore on Roeland Street in the CBD.