

SIAN 2026

8 - 14 March 2026

Programme

Stellenbosch University International (SUI)

Sunday, 8 March

VENUE: Middelvlei Wine Estate

Transport provided. Departure from SUI @ 17:30 | Return to SUI @ 20:00
[view pin for transport departure & return](#)

18:00 - 20:00

Opening & Welcome at Middelvlei Wine Estate

Monday, 9 March

VENUE: Entrance 1, Room 1041, van der Sterr Building
[\(view pin\)](#)

Theme of the Day:

Bilateral partnership building in Africa through shared membership in consortia

Programme Director: Dr Nico Elema — Director: Centre Collaboration in Africa (Stellenbosch University)

8:30 - 9:00

Arrival & Morning Coffee and Tea (Registration)

9:00 - 9:15

Welcome & Overview of Programme

9:15 - 10:00

Keynote Address: Prof Folasade Ogunsola, Vice-Chancellor, University of Lagos, Nigeria

10:00 - 10:30

Response to the keynote address & conversation with Prof Folasade Ogunsola

- **Prof Sibusiso Moyo** — Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Research, Innovation and Internationalisation (Stellenbosch University)

10:30 - 11:00

Tea Break

11:00 - 13:00

Panel Discussion: Bilateral partnership building in Africa through shared membership in consortia

Facilitator: Dr Nico Elema

- **Rana Tarek** — International Affairs Senior Specialist and FVPRIA Secretariat, Egypt-Japan University of Science and Technology, Egypt
- **Yatva-Ashande Hinda** — Partnership management, mobility coordination, and stakeholder engagement, Namibia University of Science and Technology, Namibia
- **Lea Mehari Redae** — Director for Partnerships, Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia

Q&A & Table Discussion

13:00 - 14:00

Lunch

14:00 - 15:30

Feedback from Discussion Groups

15:30 - 16:00

Refreshments

Monday, 9 March (EVENING)

**VENUE: Danie Craven Stadium,
Coetzenburg Sporting Fields ([view pin](#))**

19:00

Varsity Cup Rugby Match
Tickets will be provided

Tuesday, 10 March

**VENUE: Entrance 1, Room 1041, van der Sterr Building
([view pin](#))**

**Theme of the Day:
Science Diplomacy in Africa**

Programme Director: Dr Nico Elema — Director: Centre Collaboration in Africa (Stellenbosch University)

8:30 - 9:00

Arrival & Morning Coffee and Tea (Registration)

09:00 - 11:30

Welcome & Overview of Programme

Introduction to Science Diplomacy: Dr Heide Hackmann — Chair: Science Futures, Centre for Research on Evaluation, Science and Technology (CREST), Stellenbosch University

Keynote

Science Diplomacy in Action to Climate: Prof Guy Midgley — Director: School for Climate Studies, Stellenbosch University

Setting the Scene: Dr Heide Hackmann

Table Discussion

Reflections from table discussions

Facilitator: Dr Nico Elema

Response and guidance on how Internationalisation Practitioners/Facilitators can engage with science diplomacy and diplomatic corps.

11:30

Closing

12:00

Official SIAN Group Photograph (outside van der Sterr Building)

12:05 - 13:00

Lunch

Tuesday, 10 March (LATE AFTERNOON)

**VENUE: SU International Office, Krotoa Building Quad
([view pin](#))**

16:00 - 17:00

Campus Tour starting from SU International, Krotoa Building

17:00 - 18:30

Moyo'itos with Moyo

- Cocktails and snacks with Prof Sibusiso Moyo, Deputy Vice-Chancellor: for Research, Innovation and Internationalisation, Stellenbosch University

Wednesday, 11 March
VENUE: Wallenberg Centre at STIAS
[\(view pin\)](#)

Theme of the Day:
Internationalisation in Practice

Programme Director: Sarah van der Westhuizen — Director Centre for Global Collaboration (Stellenbosch University)

8:30 - 9:00
Arrival & Morning Coffee and Tea (Registration)
09:00 - 9:15
Welcome & Overview of Programme
9:15 - 10:30
Panel Discussion 1
Title: Student Perspectives on International Student Integration on Campus

Summary: *The mandate of the Unit for Global Learning, which forms part of Stellenbosch University International, is to promote a global learning approach and to further entrance the use of Global Learning Outcomes (for students and staff). Its activities can be summarised according to three main areas: initiatives within the formal curriculum, the co-curricular and capacity building spaces, as well as integration. To this panel the emphasis will be student integration.*

The panel on international student integration will foreground student voice by drawing on lived experience, practical insight, and constructive recommendations from across our diverse international community.

Participants will include full-degree international students, representatives from the refugee and displaced student society, student leaders involved in the Matie Buddy integration support programme, and students engaged in semester and short-term mobility programmes. Together, they will reflect the breadth of Stellenbosch University's international cohorts and the varied integration needs within these groups.

The discussion will offer an in-depth exploration of how SU seeks to provide structured, transformative support tailored to different student pathways, recognising that integration is not a one-size-fits-all process. The panel will also create space for honest reflection on the challenges that persist, inviting students to share co-created, forward-looking suggestions on how the university can continue strengthening inclusive and responsive integration practices.

Participants: SU Students participating in activities developed and coordinated by the Unit for Global Learning at SU International.

Facilitators:

- **Sarah Richmond** — Senior Programme Manager: Unit for Global Learning (Stellenbosch University)
- **Angelo Jephtha** — Coordinator: International Student Life & Success (Stellenbosch University)

10:30 - 11:00
Tea Break

Wednesday, 11 March (cont.)

VENUE: Wallenberg Centre at STIAS
[\(view pin\)](#)

11:00 - 12:30

Panel Discussion 2

Title: Sharing best practices on Staff Internationalisation

Summary: Staff internationalization goes beyond staff mobility by not just focusing on providing a mobility opportunity, but also providing a learning and staff development opportunity to enable participants to grow as internationalisation facilitators or practitioners in their respective environments. This is applicable to academic, as well as PASS staff.

During the panel we will share examples of staff internationalisation opportunities and thereby share best practices, as well as positive and negative learnings gained through these experiences.

Examples to be presented:

- Bilateral Staff Internationalisation programme between Lund University and Stellenbosch University.
- Trilateral Staff Internationalisation programme between Hamburg University, Northwestern University and Stellenbosch University.
- Erasmus + Staff Internationalisation Weeks at Stellenbosch University.
- EQUiP Summer School Programme

Participants: Eva Leptien (University of Hamburg); Lidia du Plessis (Stellenbosch University) & EQUiP Summer School coordinators Dr Vernita Beukes and Dr Anika Berning-van Zyl (Stellenbosch University)

Pre-recorded video recordings will be presented of Pär Svensson (Lund University) and Kim Rapp (Northwestern University)

Facilitator: Sarah van der Westhuizen

12:30 - 14:00

Lunch with Faculty Representatives

Representatives from Stellenbosch University's 10 faculties and two schools will be in attendance – the representatives will be available for partnership discussions and general engagement.

14:00 - 15:30

Panel Discussion 3

Title: Best practices in the development and implementation of Global Regional Partnership approaches & strategies

Summary: The panel will focus on partnership development approaches and strategies that attempts to bring focus and intentionality to a partnership strategy of an institution. There are diverse ways of achieving the latter, and they are not necessarily exclusionary from one another. To this panel, we will focus on global regional partnership approaches and strategies.

Firstly, we will provide a general overview of the typical characteristics of global regional partnership approaches and strategies based on numerous examples.

Secondly, the panel members will share their institutional perspective on the matter, as well as best practices developed over time.

Lastly, the panel hopes to answer the following questions: Why is a global regional partnership approach important or not for a partnership strategy of an institution? How would one proceed in establishing and implementing a global regional partnership approach and strategy? What are the "pitfalls" to look out for in terms of global regional partnership approaches and strategies?

Participants: Hannah Weckemann (LMU); Juan David Martinez (UNIANDES) & Heloisa Claro (UNICAMP)

Facilitators:

- Sarah van der Westhuizen
- Moses Pieterse — Senior Programme Manager: Unit for Partnerships, Stellenbosch University

Wednesday, 11 March (EVENING)		VENUE: Die Stal, Coetzenburg Sports Fields <i>(view pin)</i>
17:00 - 17:30	Arrival for the Official SIAN Welcome of new Stellenbosch University Rector and Vice-Chancellor with members of the Consular Corps in Cape Town in attendance	
17:30 - 17:45	Word of Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Robert Kotzé — Senior Director, Stellenbosch University International 	
17:45 - 18:15	Formal Address by SU Rector and Vice-Chancellor, Prof Deresh Ramjugernath	
18:15 - 18:30	Signing of MOU's <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • University of Lagos (Nigeria) • Institute of Finance and Management (Tanzania) 	
18:30 - 21:00	Dinner	

Thursday, 12 March		VENUE: Neelsie Student Centre (top floor) <i>(view pin)</i>
Theme of the Day: In Africa, with Africa, for Africa ... and beyond: Engaging with our students		
9:00 - 15:00	Study Abroad Fair in the Neelsie Student Centre with institutions represented by SIAN participants and students, as well featuring a Study in Japan Platform	
18:30	International Food Evening Venue: Academica Student Accommodation <i>View pin</i>	

Friday, 13 March		VENUE: Biomedical Research Institute, Tygerberg Campus Transport Provided. <i>Departure from SUI @ 8:00 Return to SUI @ 15:00</i> <i>view pin for transport departure & return</i>
8:45 - 9:20	Arrival & Morning Coffee and Tea (Registration) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transition to Conference Venue, Room 1004 	
9:20 - 9:30	Musical Item <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Luke Stammer — Cellist 	
9:30 - 10:15	Word of Welcome & FMHS Journey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof Elmi Muller — Dean of Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences (Stellenbosch University) 	
10:15 - 10:50	Presentation: Clinical Services & Social Impact <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr Therese Fish — Vice-Dean, Clinical Services & Social Impact 	
10:50 - 11:00	Musical Interlude <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tygerberg Voices 	

Friday, 13 March (cont.)

VENUE: Biomedical Research Institute, Tygerberg Campus ([view pin](#)) Transport Provided. *Departure from SUI @ 8:00 | Return to SUI @ 15:00*
[view pin for transport departure & return](#)

11:00 - 12:00	Driving Impact: Staff and Student Mobility Experiences <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lamese Chetty — Academic Advisor • Gerard Murray-Cook — MBChB VI-year student • Prof Elize Archer — Associate Professor, Health Professions Education • Talitha van Schalkwyk — PhD Student, Clinical Mycobacteriology & Epidemiology • Welile Nwamba — Lecturer, Nursing and Midwifery
12:00 - 12:30	New Curriculum Teaching & Innovations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof Karin Baatjes — Vice-Dean, Learning and Teaching (Stellenbosch University)
12:30 - 12:40	Group Photograph
12:40 - 13:30	Lunch
13:30 - 14:00	CERI Guided Tour <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof Tulio de Oliveira — School for Data Science and Computational Thinking (Stellenbosch University) <p><i>Gather outside lunch area for tour</i></p>
14:00 - 14:30	Celebrating Partner Milestones <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rebecca Törnqvist; Prof Ewa Lena Bratt (Gothenburg University, Sweden) • Ewa Christine Weixler (Medical University of Graz, Austria)
14:30 - 14:40	Musical Item <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anneke Wolmarans
14:40 - 15:00	Closing Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr Nyambura Mwangiru — Head of Tygerberg International Office (Stellenbosch University)
15:00	Depart from Tygerberg Campus to Stellenbosch

Friday, 13 March (EVENING)

VENUE: Alluvia Wine Estate
Transport Provided. Departure from SUI @ 17:30 | Return to SUI @ 21:00
[view pin for transport departure & return](#)

18:00 - 21:00	Closing Dinner at Alluvia Wine Estate
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Saturday, 14 March (EXCURSIONS)

View the 4 excursion options and their details here:

<https://www.su.ac.za/en/suinternational/sian-2026-excursions-14-march-2026>