



Stellenbosch

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forward together
sonke siya phambili
saam vorentoe



Inspiring change together

The UNESCO Chair on Intercultural Competences
14 -15 October 2024, Nairobi, Kenya



Welcome Letter from Dr Magdalene Dimba

Dear participants,

We are delighted to welcome you to the inaugural Annual Conference of the UNESCO Chair on Intercultural Competences, hosted by Strathmore University in partnership with Stellenbosch University in Nairobi, Kenya.

As we deliberate on the issues around Intercultural Competences in an African Context, we focus on the manner in which intercultural understanding and skills intersect with critical challenges of globalisation. Coming at a time when the world has continued to narrow distance and boundaries between different nations and their peoples, our focus on quality education, climate action, gender equality, and peacebuilding highlights the urgent need for intercultural dialogue and collaboration.

We are specifically delighted to explore the rich tapestry of intercultural practices that have existed in the African continent. By understanding intercultural competencies, we can gain invaluable insights into how we can foster co-existence, tolerance and open avenues for more collaboration in business and education across the continent.

We are extremely grateful to Dr. Darla K. Deardorff, the UNESCO Chair on Intercultural Competence and Stellenbosch University for choosing Strathmore University as a partner and co-host of this inaugural conference. We feel honoured to be part of this initiative.

We look forward to a stimulating and productive conference, filled with insightful discussions, valuable networking opportunities and a shared commitment to grow our institutions and continent through exchange, collaboration, knowledge transfer and sharing in the spirit of international solidarity. I once again welcome you to Strathmore University.

Dr. Magdalene Dimba
Dean, School of Humanities and Social Sciences
Strathmore University

Welcome Letter from Dr Darla K. Deardorff

Dear Colleagues,

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to the Inaugural UNESCO Chair Intercultural Conference here in beautiful Nairobi, taking place on 14-15 October 2024. This momentous gathering promises to be a transformative two days of insightful presentations, meaningful discussions, and collaborative exploration on a subject that is more critical than ever—intercultural competence, with a special focus on African perspectives.

As the UNESCO Chairholder on Intercultural Competence, it is a tremendous honor to have such a diverse and dynamic group of thought leaders, educators, policymakers, practitioners, and students joining us from across the African continent and beyond. Your participation reflects a shared commitment to advancing intercultural understanding, promoting dialogue, and fostering the skills necessary to navigate our increasingly interconnected world.

At this conference, we will engage deeply with African perspectives on intercultural competence, which offer rich insights into how cultures intersect, influence, and shape one another in powerful ways. Africa's unique diversity—culturally, linguistically, and socially—provides an unparalleled opportunity to study how intercultural competence can be developed and enhanced, particularly in contexts marked by vibrant, longstanding cultural traditions alongside rapid global change.

Throughout these two days, we will hear from distinguished speakers and experts who will present research, case studies, and innovative approaches to intercultural competence. Equally important will be the interactive nature of the sessions and ensuing discussions that allow each of you to share your experiences, ideas, and challenges. Our goal is not only to learn from one another but to co-create new understandings and strategies that can be applied in higher education, workplaces, communities, and policymaking.

The challenges we face—whether migration, globalization, or growing polarization to war and planetary destruction—require not just technical solutions but human-centered approaches rooted in empathy, mutual respect, and intercultural understanding. Intercultural competence is at the heart of such approaches, and we are here to explore how this essential competence can be better integrated into societies, educational systems, organizational practices, and social frameworks.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank UNESCO, our partners, and all the individuals whose dedication and support have made this inaugural conference possible. I extend my deepest appreciation to our Strathmore hosts in Nairobi, whose warmth and hospitality have set the stage for what promises to be a truly enriching learning experience for all.

As we embark on these important conversations, I encourage you to engage fully with the conference sessions, network with fellow participants, and explore the richness of our Nairobi context, which provides an inspiring backdrop for our work together. And we look forward to your active participation next year at the 2025 intercultural conference to be held in Morocco.

Once again, welcome to the UNESCO Chair Intercultural Conference. I look forward to learning with and from you, and I am confident that the connections we make and the knowledge we exchange here will have lasting impacts on how we think about and practice intercultural competence in our own contexts as together, we work to build a better world where all can thrive and flourish.

With warm regards,

Dr. Darla K. Deardorff
UNESCO Chairholder on Intercultural Competence
Stellenbosch University

Programme

Day 1: 14 October 2024

Registration
Pre-conference Workshop (UNESCO Story Circles Train-the-Trainer)
Refreshments on arrival
9:00 am - 1:00 pm
Fasilitators: Dr Darla K. Deardorff & Mr Werner de Wit
UNESCO Story Circles, developed by Dr. Darla Deardorff for UNESCO (the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization), provide a platform for individuals from diverse backgrounds to share their stories, experiences, and perspectives. These circles are not just about storytelling; they are about fostering empathy, understanding, and appreciation for different cultures and identities.
How can intercultural competence be developed in a very concrete way? Join this highly interactive workshop to experience UNESCO Story Circles, an intercultural methodology successfully piloted around the world both in-person and virtually. Story Circles work well in COIL, in orientations, and in classes to bring students together across differences, build community, and to practice key intercultural competencies such as listening for understanding. This is a train-the-trainer workshop so participants will leave with an action plan on how/when/where to use Story Circles. Participants are also invited to bring other intercultural tools they use and time will be given to share these tools with each other.

12:00 pm - 1:30 pm	Registrations
1:00 pm- 2:00 pm	Lunch
2:00 pm - 3:00 pm	Welcome
	Keynote Address
	Mr Milton Nyamadzawo
	Institute for Economics and Peace – Harare, Zimbabwe
3:15 pm - 4:15 pm	Parallel Sessions (A) - (See below)
4:30 pm - 6:00 pm	Welcome Cocktail Reception
6:15 pm - 7:30 pm	Film Screening & Discussion
	Using film to foster intercultural communication, peace building and reconciliation among communities in Kenya
	Presenter: Dr Charles Kebaya (Machakos University, Kenya)
	This is paper examines how film spurs intercultural communication, peace building and reconciliation among various communities in Kenya.

Parallel Sessions Themes

4:00pm- 5:00pm	Parallel Session A
Session 1	TBC
Session 2	Visual Redress at Stellenbosch University, South Africa: the role of intercultural engagements and competencies in creating an inclusive campus landscape and culture
	Presenters: Dr Leslie van Rooi Dr Gera de Villiers (Stellenbosch University, South Africa)
Session 3	Development of Intercultural Competence through COIL: A systematic review of existing practice in Africa
	Presenters: Dr Stephen Macharia Dr Magdalene Dimba (Strathmore University - Kenya)

Day 2: 15 October 2024

8:30 am - 9:30 am	Morning Coffee
9:45 am - 11:15 am	Keynote Panel
	Professor Joanne Hughes, Queen's University, Belfast Northern Ireland. Dr Leslie van Rooi, Stellenbosch University, South Africa. Dr Stephen Macharia, Strathmore University, Kenya. Moderator: Dr Darla K Deardorff, UNESCO Chair on Intercultural Competences
11:30 am - 12:30 pm	Parallel Sessions (B) - (See below)
12:30 pm - 2:00 pm	Lunch & Poster Engagements
2:00 pm - 3:00 pm	Parallel Sessions (C) - (See below)
3:15 pm - 3:45 pm	Refreshment Break
4:00 pm - 5:00 pm	Parallel Sessions (D) - (See following page)
5:00 pm - 6:00 pm	Closing Plenary

11:30am- 12:30am

Parallel Session B

Session 1	Exploring Intercultural Competences in an African Context: Intercultural Partnerships
	Presenter: Ms Jacqueline Irimu (EDU Africa, Kenya)
Session 2	TBC
Session 3	Intercultural Competence as a Catalyst for Climate Action and Peacebuilding in Africa
	Presenter: Mr Bongumusa Ngema (Cape Peninsula University of Technology, South Africa)

2:00pm- 3:00pm

Parallel Session C

Session 1	The Legacy of Colonisation: how interculturalists can help Africa and the Global North come to terms with past wrongs, recognize current realities and create sustainable, equitable partnerships for the future
	Presenter: Mr Jeremy Solomons (JSA Consulting, Kigali, Rwanda)
	Dr David Thuku (Nairobi, Kenya)
Session 2	The role of authentic African storytelling emerges as a potential catalyst for transformation within South African institutions of higher learning
	Presenter: Siphilangenkosi Dlamini (University of the Free State, South Africa)

Session 3	Exploiting Intercultural Competences Among Selected Cameroonian Ethnic Groups: A Requisite to Resolving the Anglophone Conflict 2016-2024
	Presenter: Dr Victor Ntui Atom (University of Buea, Cameroon)
4:00pm- 5:00pm	Parallel Session D
Session 1	Intercultural Competences in Modern Africa: Exploring Sino-African Cultural Exchange
	Presenter: Patrice Kabeya Mwepu (Rhodes University, South Africa)
Session 2	The use of differentiated instruction to achieve culturally responsive teaching
	Presenter: Monica Gakii Ituma Ituma (Chuka University, Kenya)
Session 3	Research, reflections, lived experiences and examples from working with Diversity Atlas in the African context
	Presenter: Mr Wanah Bumakor (Cultural Infusion, Cameroon)

Poster Session Themes:

Presenter	Poster Title
Mr Lwando Ntenda, (Rhodes University,South Africa)	Internationalization at Rhodes University: Intercultural Tools Available to the practitioner.
Dr Amani Mandil, (New Illinois University, United States)	Exploring Intercultural Competences in an African Context
Mr Roberto Vale, (Singapore Management University, Singapore.)	Intercultural Competence in an African Context: Peacebuilding in Kakuma Refugee Camp.
Ms Marie Hélène Girardin, (MG Link, France).	The intercultural approach seen from France, towards the African continent : my experience as an intercultural consultant.
Dr Jennice McCafferty-Wright (Missouri State University, USA)	Virtual Exchange: Mainstreaming Intercultural Collaboration in Rural and Remote Teacher Preparation

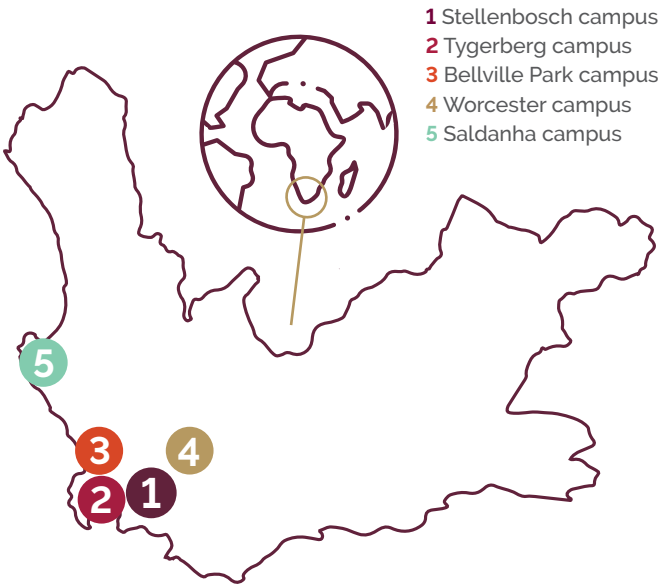
Study at Stellenbosch University

In terms of Vision 2040, Stellenbosch University (SU) aims to be Africa's leading research-intensive university, globally recognised as excellent, inclusive, and innovative, where we advance knowledge in service of society.

Our Story

Starting out in 1918 in the historic oak-lined town of Stellenbosch, SU had four faculties (Arts, Science, Education, and Agriculture), 503 students and 40 lecturing staff. Since then, we have grown into a vibrant and cosmopolitan community of more than 32 000 students and nearly 3 500 academic and support services staff spread over ten faculties and five campuses. Our undergraduate and postgraduate student community includes over 4 000 international students from 100 countries.

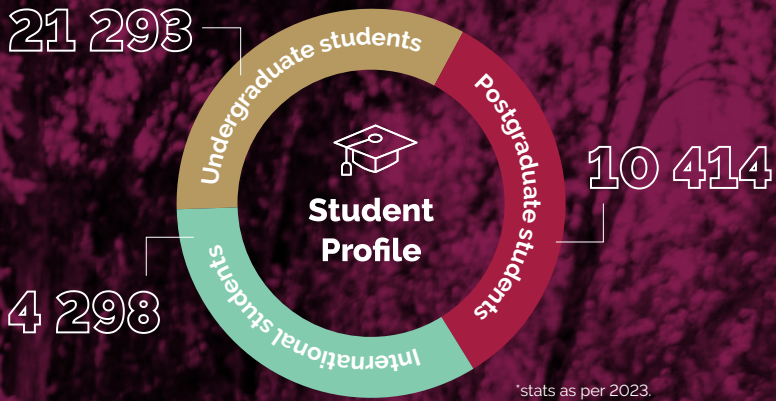
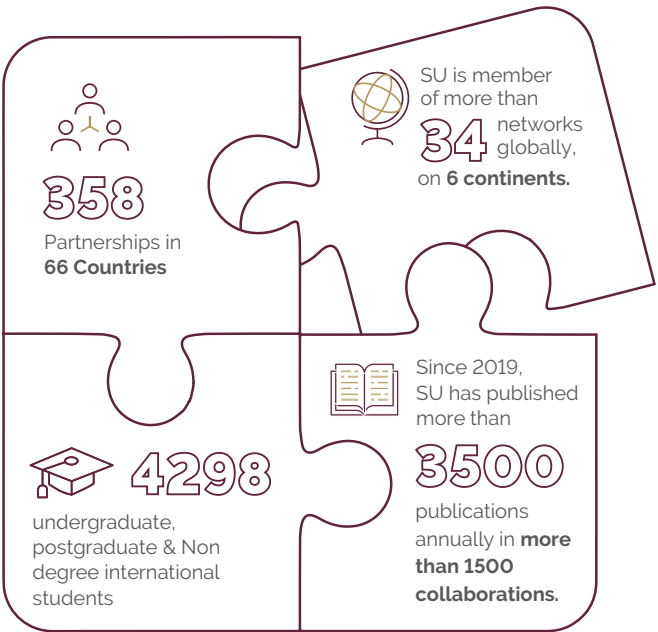
In 2018, our centenary year, we launched Vision 2040 and Strategic Framework 2019–2024. In this guiding document, we commit ourselves to cultivating a thriving SU, providing a transformative student experience, fostering purposeful partnerships and inclusive networks, promoting networked and collaborative teaching and learning, conducting research for impact, and being an employer of choice.



Where We Are

Stellenbosch is located in the Western Cape province of South Africa, in the most southern part of Africa. The University is about 50km from Cape Town and 30 km from Cape Town International Airport.

Internationalisation at SU



Faculties

- AgriSciences
- Arts and Social Sciences
- Economic and Management Sciences
- Education
- Engineering
- Law
- Medicine and Health Sciences
- Military Science
- Science
- Theology

Research for Impact

SU is as **founding partner of the African Research Universities Alliance (ARUA)**. The Alliance of 16 African universities promotes & strengthens research on the continent.

According to official figures that the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET) released in 2022, we are among **South Africa's top three research intensive universities**, both per capita and in terms of total research output.

7 centres of excellence of the Department of Science and Innovation and the National Research Foundation (DSI-NRF).

508 researchers with a National Research Foundation (NRF) rating. These include 17 A-rated researchers.

46 research chairs of which **21** are South African Research Chairs Initiative (SARChI) chairs, funded by the Department of Science & Innovation through the National Research Foundation

Institutional Game Changers

- SU's established **School for Data Science and Computational Thinking** is already regarded as a **leader** in its field.
- Our **School for Climate Studies** conducts interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary climate-related research in and for Africa. It is also the **first school of its kind in South Africa** that enjoys faculty status.
- SU also launched the **SDG/2063 Impact Hub**. The Hub was established to measure the institution's contribution to, and advocate for, the uptake of both the UN 2030 Agenda and its SDG's, as well as the AU's Agenda 2063.
- In 2023 **SU Launch a world-class biomedical research facility in Africa, for Africa**. The BMRI houses more than 500 biomedical researchers and students, including some of the **world's foremost scientists** in the fields of bioinformatics, tuberculosis, neuroscience, and urology.

SU Rankings

301–350th
In the World University Rankings 2024*

283
in QS World University Rankings 2024*

2nd in Africa*



*According to the Times Higher Education's World University Rankings data 2024

Strathmore University Undergraduate & Graduate Programmes

Strathmore University caters for those seeking to be peerless professionals, revolutionary entrepreneurs, inspirational managers or exemplary leaders willing to make an impact and transform our society.

Our culture and reputation for outstanding excellence is deeply rooted in our academic programs and we are driven by the desire to enable you recognize the dignity and worth of self and of others with the aim of propelling you to achieve the highest level of excellence.

WHY STRATHMORE UNIVERSITY?

• All Round Education

Student mentoring, sports, clubs, community outreach programme, and an array of ethics and elective courses all contribute to mould an all round person who is independent, successful and upright to serve society.

• Laptop Policy

Every undergraduate student will be provided with a new touch screen laptop to ensure optimal access to all e-resources and maximum use of the digital platform available.

• Academic Trip

Visits to International Companies and Prestigious Universities abroad to benchmark on international standards.

• Scholarships

The University has put in place a robust scholarship scheme to cater for bright and needy students.

• Placement Office

The University has a placement office charged with the responsibility of ensuring that the graduate absorption rate into the industry is at its highest.

STRATHMORE BUSINESS SCHOOL

Undergraduate Programmes

- Bachelor of Commerce (BCom Fulltime & Exempt)
- Bachelor of Financial Services (BFS)
- Bachelor of Science in Supply Chain & Operations Management (BSOM)

Graduate Programmes

- Master of Commerce (MCom)
- Masters in Public Policy Management (MPPM)
- MBA for Executives
- MBA - Healthcare Management (MBA-HM)
- Master of Management in Agribusiness (MMA)
- Master of Science in Development Finance (MSc.DF)

SCHOOL OF COMPUTING AND ENGINEERING SCIENCES

Undergraduate Programmes

- Bachelor of Business Information Technology (BBIT Fulltime & Exempt)
- Bachelor of Science in Informatics & Computer Science (BICS)
- Bachelor of Science in Computer Networks and Cyber Security
- Bachelor of Science in Electrical & Electronics Engineering

Graduate Programmes

- Master of Science: Information Technology (MSc. IT)
- Master of Science: Computing and Information Systems (MSc. CIS)
- Master of Science in Information System Security (MSc. ISS)
- Master of Science in Sustainable Energy Transitions (MSc.SET)

STRATHMORE LAW SCHOOL

Undergraduate Programmes

- Bachelor of Laws (LL.B)

Graduate Programmes

- Master of Laws (LL.M)

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Undergraduate Programmes

- Bachelor of Arts in Communication (BAC)
 - Journalism & Public Relations
 - Journalism & Communication for Development
- Bachelor of Arts in Development Studies Philosophy (BDP)
- Bachelor of Arts in International Studies (BIS)

Graduate Programmes

- Master in Applied Philosophy & Ethics (MAPE)
- Master of Science in Education Management (MSc. EM)
- Master of Arts in Diplomacy, Intelligence and Security Studies (MDIS)

SCHOOL OF TOURISM AND HOSPITALITY

Undergraduate Programmes

- Bachelor of Science in Hospitality & Hotel Management
- Bachelor of Science in Tourism Management (BTM)
- Special 2-Year Bachelor of Science in Hospitality & Hotel Management and Bachelor of Science in Tourism management (Exempt)
- Bachelor of Business Administration in Hospitality Management (BAHM)

Graduate Programmes

- Master in Hospitality Business Management (MHBM)

STRATHMORE INSTITUTE OF MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES

Undergraduate Programmes

- Bachelor of Business Science Finance Engineering (BBSFE)
- Bachelor of Business Science Financial Economics (BBSFE)
- Bachelor of Business Science Actuarial Science (BBSAS)
- Bachelor of Science in Statistics and Data Science

Graduate Programmes

- Master of Science in Mathematical Finance & Risk Analytics (MSc.MFRA)
- Master of Science in Statistical Science (MSc.SS)
- Master of Science in Data Science & Analytics

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMMES

(BCom, BBIT, BHM, BAHM and BA programmes)

Entry Qualifications

KCSE minimum aggregate of C+ OR O-Level six B's including Mathematics and English and A level 2 principal passes and 1 subsidiary pass.

BSc. in Informatics & Computer Science, BSc in Computer Networks and Cyber Security & BSc in Statistics and Data Science

Entry Qualifications

KCSE minimum aggregate of B or; 6 credits at O-Level, A level 3 principal passes

(BSc.SDS- B+ in Maths)

Bachelor of Science in Electrical & Electronics Engineering

Entry Qualifications

KCSE grade of B+ with a B+ or above in both Mathematics and Physics

6 credits at O-Level, A level 3 principal passes

Bachelor of Business Science (BBS FIN ENG, BBSFE & BBSAS) & Bachelor of Laws (LL.B)

Entry Qualifications

KCSE minimum aggregate of B OR O-Level six A's including Mathematics and English and A level 2 principal passes and 1 subsidiary pass.

Bachelor of Bachelor of Financial Service & Bachelor of Science in Supply Chain & Operations Management

Entry Qualifications

KCSE minimum aggregate of B- OR O-Level six A's including Mathematics and English and A level 2 principal passes and 1 subsidiary pass.

GRADUATE PROGRAMMES

(MSc. IS, MSc. IT, MSc. ISS, MCom, MBA for Executives, MBA-HM, MPPM, MMA, MSc. DF, Msc. DSA, MSc. Biomaths, MDIS, MHBM, MSc. SET, MSc. DSA, MSc. IT, MSc. MFR, MSc. SS, MSc. BM, MSc. EM, MAPE)

Entry Qualifications

Holders of First Class or Upper Second Class degree in Computer Science or IT OR Holders of Lower Second Class degrees plus Postgraduate Diplomas or Certificates in computer science or IT working OR Holders of the first degree in IT with at least two year's working experience in their relevant fields.

Contact us

Email: admissions@strathmore.edu
Tel: 0703 034 203/232/297
www.strathmore.edu



**Strathmore
UNIVERSITY**

Conference Speakers:



Dr. Darla K. Deardorff
Chairholder of the UNESCO Chair
on Intercultural Competence,
Stellenbosch University



Dr Charles Kebaya,
Machakos University,
Kenya.



Dr Gera de Villiers,
Stellenbosch University,
South Africa



Dr Allison Witt
University of Illinois Urbana-
Champaign, USA



Werner de Wit,
Stellenbosch University,
South Africa



Mr Jeremy Solomons,
Managing Partner,
JSA Consulting (Rwanda) Ltd,
Rwanda



Professor Patrice Kabeya Mwepu,
Rhodes University,
South Africa



Mr Roberto Vale,
Singapore Management University,
Singapore



Milton Nyamadzawo,
Institute for Economics & Peace,
East and Southern Africa



Dr Atom Victor Ntui,
University of Buea,
Cameroon



Dr Monica Gakii Ituma,
Chuka University,
Kenya



Mr Cyprian Nanji,
University of Buea,
Buea



Professor Joanne Hughes,
Queen's University,
Belfast Northern Ireland



Mr Bongumusa Walter Ngema,
Cape Peninsula University
of Technology,
South Africa



**Dr Magdalene Adhiambo
Ngala-Dimba,**
Strathmore University,
Kenya



Wanah Bumakor
Cultural Infusion,
Cameroon



Dr Leslie van Rooi,
Stellenbosch University,
South Africa



Mr Siphilangenkosi Dlamini,
University of the Free State,
South Africa



Dr. Jennice McCafferty-Wright,
Missouri State University,
USA



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France



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Strathmore University,
Kenya



Ms Jacqueline Irimu,
EDU Africa,
Kenya



Dr David Thuka,
Kenya

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Contact us:

Email: UNESCO-ICC@sun.ac.za

Website: www.sun.ac.za/english/unescochair-icc/