

## SASCE BRACES ITSELF FOR THE 4TH WIL AFRICA INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

The WIL-AFRICA INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE, a premium event on Co-Operative Education and Work-Integrated Learning has been held with overwhelming attendance in 2015, 2016 and 2018. As we emerge from the covid19 pandemic, the 4<sup>th</sup> WIL-AFRICA CONFERENCE will create a platform to share experiences on Co-Operative Education and Work-Integrated Learning (WIL) implementation.

Powered by SASCE, in partnership with the Buffalo City TVET College, Walter Sisulu University and Battle of Municipalities (BOM) Talent Search, the WIL Africa Conference promises perspectives from Africa, Australia, Thailand and the United Kingdom.

True to its form, the conference will create a platform for different voices of Government, Comprehensive Universities, Universities of Technology, Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) colleges, industry, Sector Education and Training Authorities (SETAs) as well as students, to give an integrated perspective on WIL.

With less than 15 days left to the conference, countdown has indeed begun.

The conference will be hosted at the International Convention Centre in East London, South Africa from 27-30 September 2022. Under the theme, Co-Operative Education and work-integrated learning (WIL) implementation, the conference will explore different sub-themes namely : (a) Current practice in WIL: Challenges and opportunities, (b) WIL Innovations: Insights learned from the Covid19 Pandemic, (c) Developing Skills for Employability, (d) WIL, Recognition of Prior learning (RPL) and Articulation, (e) Partnerships for implementing and Sustaining WIL and Internship programs.

The Minister of Higher Education Science, and Innovation, Dr Blade Nzimande will officially open the conference. Our international speakers include Dr Sampan Silapanad, Co-Chair at World Association for Co-Operative Education (WACE) and President for Western Digital Technologies Inc, Thailand, who will give an illustration of how partnerships can raise the bar on youth employability.

The conference plenaries will also interrogate how further and higher education can develop a curriculum that is fit for the future of work, especially in the African context, address how WIL could be used as a vehicle to help articulation between TVETs and Universities as well as interrogate ideal funding models for Work-Integrated Learning.

Delegates will also have the opportunity to experience Work-Integrated Learning (WIL) in action as TVET WIL students will be working in various capacities during the event.