



**1 February 2023**

## **Professor Sibongile Muthwa of Nelson Mandela University is set to address the Future of Higher Education Dialogue hosted from Tokyo, Japan, today**

Professor Sibongile Muthwa, Vice-Chancellor and Principal at Nelson Mandela University, who is also the Chairperson of Universities South Africa (USAF), will address the fourth seminar of the ongoing **The Future of Higher Education Dialogue** being hosted at the University of Tokyo in Japan, today, **1 February 2023** from **15:00 to 16:00 -- SA time**.

She will be leading a discussion titled *Nelson Mandela University in its Context*, in a series of seminars that started on 16 December 2022, and continues until 1 March 2023. The Future of Higher Education Dialogue, hosted by Tokyo College of the University of Tokyo, is being held in recognition of the vast changes that the world is experiencing in its multiple environments as a result of factors including globalisation, shifts in the boundary conditions of truth, the effects of technology, geopolitical uncertainties, and calls for 'decolonisation'. This seminar series explores the impact of these factors on the future of higher education.

Three other global scholars have presented at the series to date. Professor Muthwa follows closely on the heels of Professor Andre Keet, the Chair of Critical Studies in Higher Education Transformation and Deputy Vice-Chancellor at Nelson Mandela University, who, on 18 January 2023, addressed the Dialogue on *Emergencies and the Tasks of Critical University Studies*.

The Dialogue also featured Dr Hilligje van't Land, Secretary-General at the Paris-based International Association of Universities, whose talk, titled *Higher Education at a Crossroads: Envisioning Future Scenarios for the Field and for Society*, kickstarted the event on 16 December. On 25 January, 2023, Professor Elisa Reis of Political Sociology at the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro in Brazil spoke on *Knowledge Production as a Public Good: Challenges and Opportunities*.

Other scholars lined up to address the series include Professor Ira Harkavy, Founding Director, Barbara and Edward Netter Center for Community Partnerships at the University of Pennsylvania in the United States. He will speak to the topic: *Realising the Democratic Mission of Universities in a Time of Global Crisis* on 8 February. Professor Sabelo Ndlovu-Gatsheni, Chair for Epistemologies of the Global South, Bayreuth University in Germany, will lead the discussion on *The Politics of Knowledge and the Imperative of Decolonization: Reflections from Africa* on 15 February, and Professor Yuto Kitamura from the Graduate School of Education at The University of Tokyo will conclude the series with an address on *Regional Collaboration to Promote "Knowledge Diplomacy"* on 1 March.

USAF's former Chief Executive Officer, Professor Ahmed Bawa, who is now a visiting Professor at Tokyo College, is moderating this dialogue. Access to Professor Muthwa's seminar may be obtained by registering through this link: ["The Future of Higher Education" #4 Nelson Mandela University in its Context - Tokyo College \(u-tokyo.ac.jp\)](https://u-tokyo.ac.jp)

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