DEASA CONFERENCE AND 50TH AGM IN SWAZILAND.

Conference Dates: 18–19 September, 2015

AGM Date: 20 September, 2015

Conference Venue: Institute of Distance Education (IDE),

Conference Theme: Celebrating 50 years of DEASA widening access to education:
A reflective lens

DEASA (Distant Education Association of Southern Africa) is a vibrant organization that strives to become the regional powerhouse in Open and Distance Learning (ODL). Its major aim is to enable members to share information, to collaborate in obtaining and developing quality distance education courses in identifying areas of need, and to organize relevant professional development activities.

THE AIM OF THE CONFERENCE

The aim of the conference is to bring together academic, policy makers, practitioners and scholars from the Region and beyond, to share research findings and experiences in ODL relating to the extent to which ODL has enhanced access to Education For All.
Sub-Themes

1. Leadership
This sub theme focuses on change management and how visionary leadership plays a pivotal role in promoting sustainable ODL provisioning. It also celebrates the diverse leadership in ODL Institutions that has enhanced access and equality to education in Southern Africa Development Community (SADC). Therefore, the authors are expected to demonstrate the role of leadership in transforming ODL institutions in the context of global and continental policy signals.

2. Capacity building/development
Under this sub-theme authors will be expected to reflect on how SADC has capacitated its citizens through ODL, challenges faced and success stories of ODL enhancing access and equality to human development.

3. Policy
Under this sub theme, authors are expected to explore policies that are formulated and implemented for ODL, challenges faced in implementing the policies, processes for formulating the policies and the benefits of such policies in a dynamic and rapidly changing ODL environment.

4. Quality Assurance
Under this sub theme, authors are expected to debate on quality assurance implementation and its structures in ODL institutions, mechanisms, the challenges experienced and success stories linked to quality ODL development and delivery.

5. Information and Communication Technologies
Under this sub theme, authors are expected to debate on how ICT and ODL have uplifted disadvantaged groups, rural communities, illiterate populations or even entire countries to become members of the knowledge and economic society.

6. The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)
2015 being the end target date, in this sub theme, the authors are expected to debate on how ODL institutions have influenced the achievements of the MDGs, and can be instrumental in framing post-2015 MDG’s.
Call for Abstracts and Papers

Abstracts are invited for the theme and sub-themes herein described.

The presentations shall be in the form of:

Theoretical or best practice papers based on research and review;
- Case Studies;
- Poster Presentation;
- Keynote Address;
- Audio-Visual, CD-Rom and Internet Demonstration.

Deadlines for Call for Abstracts and Papers are as follow:

3rd Call for Extended Abstracts: 10 July, 2015
Due date for Extended Abstracts: 17 July, 2015
Results on Extended Abstracts: 22 July, 2015
Submission of full papers: 14 August, 2015

The Conference will be organized in sessions to include:

Opening and keynote address sessions;
Plenary sessions;
Parallel sessions.

All papers will be peer reviewed before being published in the conference proceedings.

Language use:

The conference will be mainly conducted in English. However, provision will be made for translations in French and Portuguese.
**Registration Fees:**

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<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>US Dollar</th>
<th>Rand</th>
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<tr>
<td>DEASA Members</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non-DEASA Members</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>1200.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Students</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>300.00</td>
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Contact details of recommended hotels. Please note that individuals should make their own bookings.

### ACCOMMODATION

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<th>CONTACTS</th>
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<th>DOUBLE (E)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BETHEL COURT (19 kms from venue)</td>
<td>Tel: 24161977/ 24162378 <a href="mailto:reservations@swazibethelcourt.com">reservations@swazibethelcourt.com</a> <a href="http://www.swazibethelcourt.com">www.swazibethelcourt.com</a></td>
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<td>793</td>
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<td>Esibayeni Lodge (4 kms from venue)</td>
<td>Tel:25184860/25184848/9 <a href="mailto:reservations@esibayenilodge.com">reservations@esibayenilodge.com</a> <a href="http://www.esibayenilodge.com">www.esibayenilodge.com</a></td>
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<td>Tel: 25052226 <a href="mailto:bookings@globalvillage.co.sz">bookings@globalvillage.co.sz</a> <a href="http://www.swaziglobalvillage.com">www.swaziglobalvillage.com</a></td>
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<td>806</td>
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<td>Lugogo Sun (20 kms from venue)</td>
<td>Tel: 24164000 <a href="mailto:royalswazi.hotel@suninternational.com">royalswazi.hotel@suninternational.com</a> <a href="http://www.lugogo.com.sz">www.lugogo.com.sz</a></td>
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<td>2135</td>
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<td>Sibane Hotel (20 kms from venue)</td>
<td>Tel: 24162704 <a href="mailto:reservations@sibanehotel.co.sz">reservations@sibanehotel.co.sz</a> <a href="http://www.sibanehotel.com">www.sibanehotel.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>The Royal Swazi Sun Hotel (20 kms from venue)</td>
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**NOTE:** E1 = R1 (SA Rand)

**NOTE:** Transport will be available and is **FREE** for delegates who require it. Plus, delegates will be transported from the airport to their respective hotels. Then during the conference and AGM they will be transported from the hotel to the venue and back to the hotel.
Conference Secretariat:

All communication concerning the DEASA conference should be sent to:

Mr PL Biswalo
Chairperson, DEASA Communication Technical Sub-Committee
Private bag No. 4
Kwaluseni Campus
Matsapha, Swaziland.
Telephone: +268 25170312
Email: pbiswalo@uniswa.sz

NOTE:

Countries which require a VISA are Angola and the DRC

Mark your calendar and save the dates:

DEASA 50th Anniversary
September 18 - 20 September, 2015
University of Swaziland
Kwaluseni, Matsapha
We look forward to seeing you there.