

# THE UNIVERSITY LANGUAGE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT OFFICE(ULPDO)

Cordially invites you to register for a

## LANGUAGE RESEARCH AND AI ETHICS WORKSHOP

 16-17 APRIL 2026

 08:00 - 16:00

 UKZN HOWARD COLLEGE CAMPUS:  
UNITE BUILDING

[CLICK TO REGISTER](#)

### ABOUT THE WORKSHOP

The University Language Planning and Development Office invites you to a workshop on Language Research and AI Ethics. This workshop is designed to create a critical and contextually grounded space for postgraduate students to engage with artificial intelligence beyond its use as a tool, and to reflect on its broader implications for language research. It will provide an overview of key issues at the intersection of AI and language, with particular attention to ethics, representation, power, and knowledge production in the context of African languages. The workshop will encourage participants to think critically about how AI shapes research practices, whose knowledge is represented, and how language data is produced and used. The target audience includes postgraduate students, language practitioners, researchers, and others interested in engaging responsibly and reflexively with AI in language-related work. The workshop will be facilitated by Prof. Nokhanyo Mdzanga from the University of the Western Cape, whose work in multilingualism, African languages, and critical approaches to knowledge production provides valuable insight into ethical and contextually relevant engagements with AI in language research.



**FACILITATOR**  
**PROF. Nokhanyo Nomakhwezi**  
**Mdzanga**

Nokhanyo Nomakhwezi Mdzanga is an Associate Professor in Language Education at the University of the Western Cape, where she also serves as Coordinator of the Centre for African Languages Teaching (CALT). Her area of specialisation is in language education, particularly language across the curriculum, multilingualism, and the teaching of African languages in teacher education programmes. She previously held several academic leadership roles at Nelson Mandela University, including Professor, Deputy Dean in the Faculty of Education, and Director of the School for Initial Teacher Education. She has served as deputy chair for the Community of Practice for the Teaching and Learning of African Languages in higher education institutions. Her research continues to focus on multilingualism, African knowledge systems, and the integration of innovative approaches in education, including the use of AI-informed technologies. She is actively involved in collaborative, interdisciplinary research and has contributed to projects such as the Scientific Literacy Strategy and the Read Me to Resilience project. Her recent work also includes facilitating national collaborations through CALT, supporting teaching innovation, academic writing, and the development of African language teaching resources across universities. She serves as an Associate Editor for Critical Studies in Teaching and Learning journal and has contributed to editorial work in education-focused journals, including Education Research for Social Change journal.