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we succeed



Saide  
Enabling Successful  
Open Learning for All

# SIYAPHUMELELA FIRST-YEAR EXPERIENCE WORKSTREAM 2026 WEBINAR SERIES

An Online Facilitated Dialogue with Prof John Gardner:  
"The South African First-Year Experience: A Component of the Global Quest for Justice for First-Year Students"

REGISTER TODAY

PRE-WEBINAR SURVEY



11 May 2026  
14h00 -16h00



Virtual on  
MS Teams



First-Year Experience (FYE) initiatives/ programmes are important vehicles for student success. The Siyaphumelela FYE Workstream Series brings together a network of interested persons and a community of practitioners across higher education institutions to encourage conversations that will improve the FYE at your institution and to share best practices.

This year, the Siyaphumelela FYE Workstream presents an online facilitated dialogue with Prof John Gardner. Prof Gardner invites us to reflect on our roles as innovators in South African first-year higher education. He will outline the origins of the FYE movement in the United States, provide a global overview of the FYE, and then focus on its role in South Africa in advancing student success and social justice. We look forward to your participation



**GUEST SPEAKER**  
Professor John Gardner

Professor John Gardner is an educator, university professor, and administrator, non-profit organization founder, author, public speaker, consultant, public intellectual and thought leader, change agent, student retention specialist, first-year, sophomore, transfer, and senior year students' advocate, and initiator and scholar of multiple undergraduate education reform movements. He serves as Founder and Executive Chair of the John N. Gardner Institute for Excellence in Undergraduate Education. The Institute was founded by John and his wife, Betsy O. Barefoot, in October 1999.

## Siyaphumelela FYE Workstream Team



ENQUIRIES: Dr Ephraim Mhlanga, Saide

ephraimm@saide.org.za