

CoE-MaSS weekly seminar series

THE DST-NRF CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE IN MATHEMATICAL AND
STATISTICAL SCIENCES (CoE-MaSS) WOULD LIKE TO PRESENT
A SEMINAR BY

Prof Loyiso Nongxa

*(Centre for Mathematical and Computational Science (CMACS),
University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa)*

“Mathematical and Statistical Challenges of (Big) Data Science”

Friday, 3 March 2017
10h30-11h30



Broadcast live from:
Videoconferencing Facility, 1st Floor
Mathematical Sciences Building, Wits West Campus

How to connect to this seminar remotely:

You can connect remotely via Vidyo to this research seminar by clicking on this link:
<http://wits-vc.tenet.ac.za/flex.html?roomdirect.html&key=y0SSOwFsvsidbzig4qFdWXvvQtyl>
and downloading the Vidyo software before the seminar.

**You must please join in the virtual venue (called “CoE Seminar Room (Wits)” on Vidyo)
strictly between 10h00-10h15. No latecomers will be added.**

Important videoconferencing netiquette:

Once the seminar commences, please mute your own microphone so that there is no feedback from your side into the virtual room. During the Q&A slot you can then unmute your microphone if you have a question to ask the speaker.

Title:

Mathematical and Statistical Challenges of (Big) Data Science

Presenter:

Prof Loyiso Nongxa, Centre for Mathematical and Computational Sciences (CMACS), University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa, Loyiso.nongxa@wits.ac.za

Abstract:

The hype around Big Data clouds serious and necessary discussions about the theoretical underpinnings of Data Sciences. The latter is an emerging discipline and in order to be well established it needs strong theoretical foundations which are at the intersection of Computer Science, Mathematics and Statistics. This talk identifies some of the foundational concepts as well as emerging research areas that have been spurred by the interest in Big Data. Students and staff in all three departments encouraged to attend.

About the Speaker

Prof Nongxa is the former Vice-Chancellor of the University of Witwatersrand. He hails from the Eastern Cape where he completed his basic schooling and thereafter went on to earn a doctoral degree in Algebra from the University of Oxford in the United Kingdom. A number of academic papers in the field of abstract algebra bear his name. Prof Nongxa worked at the University of Lesotho and the then University of Natal as a lecturer. Subsequently he entered the area of leadership accepting positions at the University of Western Cape and finally at WITS University as DVC of Research and then Vice-Chancellor. Throughout this period he has been at the forefront of spearheading initiatives to encourage the upliftment of mathematics within all communities in South Africa. Currently he serves the Centre of Excellence (Mathematical and Statistical Sciences) at WITS as its Founding Director. In addition, Prof Nongxa is the current Chairperson of the Board of the National Research Foundation (NRF).