



## DE+AFRIKA+4IR+

DESIGN EDUCATION | AFRIKA | 4TH INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

### **CONFIRMATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH DHET RULE FOR CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS:**

#### **DEFSA 2021 Conference**

Title: **DE+AFRIKA+4IR+ DESIGN EDUCATION/AFRIKA /4TH INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION**

DEFSA 16th Conference Proceedings

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#### **Editors**

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This letter serves as a confirmation that the conference organization and conference proceedings, ISBN: 978-0-620-97912-2(e-book), adhered to the DHET rule on Conferences and Conference Proceedings. The conference proceeding is published by the Design Education Forum of Southern Africa (DEFSA) on the following website: [www.defsa.org.za](http://www.defsa.org.za).

The 16th DEFSA Conference was hosted by the University of Johannesburg and Inscape Education Group from the 5<sup>th</sup> to the 7<sup>th</sup> of October 2021. This was the first virtual conference hosted by DEFSA. The theme of the conference: DE+AFRIKA+4IR+: DESIGN EDUCATION/ AFRIKA/ 4TH INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION, challenged design academics to self-reflection and explore forward-thinking approaches by addressing the past, present and future of design education while considering the Fourth Industrial Revolution in the context of Afrikan scholarship.

The initial call for abstracts published on the DEFSA web site and circulated to member institutions resulted in the submission of 55 abstracts. 45 abstracts were accepted for full papers, 9 for short papers and 1 was rejected. A final total of 36 full papers were received for the second review. Over the two days of the conference the 36 papers were presented, representing eleven public and private Higher Education institutions that offer design education in South Africa and Kenya.

All abstracts and full papers for the conference and subsequent publication, were selected using a double-blind peer review process which ensured that both authors and reviewers remained anonymous during the process. The double-blind peer review of the full paper was completed prior to the conference by a group of academics drawn from nine institutions representing the disciplines of Architecture, Communication Design, Education, Fashion Design, Fine Art, Graphic Design, Jewellery Design, Interior Design, Photography and Visual Studies. A list of the peer reviewers is included in the Conference Proceedings. Authors received feedback in the form of peer review reports.

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**Hosted by University of Johannesburg & Inscape Education Group**

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Improvements and corrections to papers could be implemented prior to the conference but were necessary for acceptance in the Conference Proceedings. Authors were asked to reflect and report on the reviewers' comments by highlighting the changes that they made in response to the report. Ultimately 34 papers have been published in the 16th DEFSA Conference Proceedings.

We hereby confirm that:-

1. A variety of public and private Institutions of Higher Education in South Africa offering Design Education contributed to the compilation of papers in this conference proceeding.
2. More than 66% of papers presented at the conference and published in the conference proceeding emanate from various public and private Institutions of Higher Education in South Africa offering Design Education, aligning to DHET requirements of *more than 60% of contributions to the conference proceedings must emanate from multiple institutions*.
3. The 43 peer reviewers, all of which are design educators, are from various design disciplines in a variety of public and private Institutions of Higher Education in South Africa.
4. A rigorous double-blind peer review was adopted for both the abstracts and the final presented and published papers.

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